



The Légionnaire

Tidewater Post 327

705 Lesner Avenue

Norfolk, VA 23518

Service Officers: (757) 227-5296 (Fax) 961-5537

Club Room Phone: (757) 587-2641 Post Office: (757) 937-3146

WEBSITE: www.legion327.com

E-Mail: amlg327@yahoo.com

MAY 2024

POST OFFICERS

Commander: Roger Kelly
1st VCDR: Byron Pianalto
2nd VCDR: Linda P. Blaker
3rd VCDR: (DJ) Derrick Johnson
Adjutant: Evan Glendinning
Finance: David Seate
Service Officer: Bob DeChamplain
Chaplain: Keith Palmer
Sgt-at-Arms: Michael Encalade
Historian: Paulmichael Youngmills

Exec Board

Tim Gonyea
Michael McCann
Bryan Blaker

LEGION RIDERS

Director: Keith Palmer
Asst Dir: (DJ) Derrick Johnson
Secretary: Jackie Wilson
Treasurer: David Seate
Safety Officer: Keith McCauley
Chaplain: Mike Moranha
Sgt-at-Arms: Dennis Rosario
Road Captain: TBD

Exec Board

Al R. Gnome

SAL SQUADRON

CDR: Fred Vaccarella
1st VCDR: Wayne Turner
2nd VCDR David "Benski" Vernon
Adjutant: James Doty Jr
Treasurer: Jeff Evans
Chaplain: Rocky English / Frank White
1st Sgt-at-Arms: Gary Stull
Historian: Evan Glendinning

Exec Board

Steve Gower
Milo Cross
Kenneth O'Bryan

AUXILIARY

President: Kathy Morrison
Vice President: Helen Lynum
Secretary: Angie Hernandez
Treasurer: Martha Martin
Chaplain: Marcia Brothers
Sgt-at-Arms: Patty Hibner
Historian: Teresa Clay

Exec Board

Mary Taggart
Laquetta Joe
Jeanne Hartman

COMMANDER: 3rd Notice: Election for Post Officers for 2024-2025 will be held at the Post Monthly Meeting May 14th.

If you are running for an office, please have your letter of intent in the Post by May 12th. You must be present to vote. Great job to First Vice Commander Byron Pianalto and Post Adjutant Evan Glendinning for again getting Post 327 to 97% membership again this year! Please continue to help them with anyone you know that may have not renewed yet for 2025 and thank you again to everyone recruiting new members again this year. I want to thank everyone for another great year here at Post 327! We look forward to starting off the summer and end our fiscal year on a high note with our annual Memorial Day Picnic! So come on out and enjoy some great food and fun at the Legion! For God and Country Roger Kelly

FIRST VICE COMMANDER: With new and renewed Members for 2024 we are currently just over 97% of our goal for 2024, let's keep those renewals coming in. You are now able to renew online for 3 years, if you renew before 1 July you can renew at the current rate of \$40 before the dues go up to \$50.00 on 1 July 2024 for the 2025 Membership year. If you don't want to do the 3 year renewal online you may come into the Post Office and pay for the 3 years I will do the renewal for you. Remember this needs to be done before July 1st. This is for Post Members only. **Remember anytime you are at the Post you are required to have your Membership card**

in your possession. Post, Auxiliary and SAL Members can also use legion.org/renew to renew your Membership online, there are links for the Auxiliary and Sons on this website. For God and Country, Byron Pianalto

SECOND VICE COMMANDER: Memorial Day is on its way!! The first of our summertime Picnics is on Sunday 26 May. Setup will start at 10AM. We will need plenty of volunteers, if you would rather help from home, we need desserts & sides!! Please have all food donations at the Legion no later than 12:30. The picnic starts at 1:00 PM and runs till 4:00. We will need a cleanup crew!! Plenty of opportunities for volunteering that day!! As usual the Sons are manning the grills and the ALA will serve!

Trivia Night is the 31 of May and will have a "springtime" theme!! For God and Country, Linda P. Blaker

THIRD VICE COMMANDER: It is May already!! Elections are upon us! We are looking for some great people to help lead us into the new Legion year! If you want to make a difference, be a part of the solution, nominate for an Officer position. And when you vote...vote for the best person you think can and will do the job for the Legion. I just hope I have made my piece of the puzzle better and have been fair across the board. We know we can't please everyone, but we try! All Positions are available including this one!

Bring your friends and sign them in to the Club, let them know what we do and how we have fun! I will be calling on your help soon to lend a hand in landscaping our property. This not only to comply with the City of Norfolk in the event we are approved to replace our sign...but to make it look better and more inviting overall!

As always, I truly thank you for your support, suggestions, and comments. For God and Country, Derrick Johnson (DJ)

ADJUTANT: Hello everyone, this is my second to last newsletter input for Post Adjutant. I am running for Chaplain for the fiscal year 2024-2025. Speaking of which. If you would like to run for a position. Please submit your letter of intent in by no later than 5 PM on Sunday May 12th. This will give me enough time to make ballots for the May meeting. Any Letters of Intent submitted after 5 PM on Sunday May 12th, won't be put on the ballot. However, nominations are still welcome during the election time during the meeting. During the meeting would be prime time to nominate a fellow legionnaire that you think may be a good fit for the position. Every position has at least one person running for it, except for 1ST Vice Commander. Please consider running for 1ST Vice Commander! Also, you will not hurt anyone's feelings if you put in for a position and then there are now multiple people running for that position. We encourage people to run and people to come and choose their Post Officer. Also, we do have 14 committees. There are ways to be involved besides being a post officer. Also, if you lose the election, you can still be involved with one of the committees. Some of which need a chairman/woman. If you want to run for a position, I highly encourage, that you put in a letter of intent. If you have any questions on the duties and responsibilities of each position, they are listed in the constitution and by-laws. You can find those documents on our website legion327.com and if you still have questions after reading those documents, feel free to reach out. I hope that we get more people involved! It allows us to make a bigger difference in the community and allows us to have more fun along the way. I hope all is well with everyone! Stay safe and I hope to see everyone at the next post meeting for elections! For God and Country, Evan Glendinning, Post Adjutant

SERVICE OFFICER: During the period April 2023 through March 2024 service officers spoke with 2554 veterans, spent 3763 hours, and logged 6868 miles. I want to thank all the service officers for the hard work they do. Post Service Officers are available Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 1000-1500. Closed holidays. For God & Country, Bob DeChamplain

CHAPLAIN: Remembering our fallen heroes this Memorial Day. • Tradition, "Communities across the nation host parades each year, often involving military personnel and members of veterans' organizations. Americans also observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries and memorials. In the United States, the American Legion has named the Friday before Memorial Day as National Poppy Day, reflecting a tradition that began after World War I – and is mirrored in many European and Commonwealth commemorations of Remembrance Day."

- The American flag should be hung at half-staff until Noon on Memorial Day, then raised to the top.
- Congress passed legislation in 2000 encouraging all Americans to pause for a National Moment of Remembrance at 3:00 p.m. local time.

Lord, we thank you to all who have served and sacrificed for freedom. John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. For God and Country, Keith "Klutch"

Palmer

LEGION RIDERS: Hello everyone, Please welcome Sean Ropp Chapter 327 newest American Legion Rider joined April's 2024 during our monthly meeting. Thank all 327 riders who participated during the 10th Annual 4 Seasons Poker Run on Saturday, 13 April 2024.

Events:

- Saturday, 4 May 2024 Legacy Run Fish Dinner fundraiser Chapter 190, Portsmouth, VA from, 12-5pm.

-The Jake Hardison Challenger Jamboree on May 10 - 12, 2024. Chapter 327 will support and participate at the event on Saturday, May 11, 2024, Azalea Ocean League, 1130 Pineridge Rd. We will be joining over 350 special needs players for a weekend of baseball and fun at 9:30 am during the Opening Ceremony. The children are looking forward to seeing all the motorcycle riders who would like to interact with the players who are waiting for their team to play.

- Saturday, 11 May 2024 the American Legion Riders Chapter 280 Annual Poker Run. Registration 11:30 @ big Woody's Great Bridg, riders - \$20 and passenger \$5 dollars, Kick Stands Up (KSU) @ 12:30 pm. Creek Bar – Deep Creek there will be live music by FOXGLOVE, also best and worst hand, and door prizes.

Chapter 327 American Legion Riders are always looking for new riders to join. We meet the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Keep both wheels on the ground and be safe, For God and Country. Keith Palmer, Riders Director.

ATHLETIC OFFICER: No input at this time.

SQUADRON COMMANDER: Greetings to the American Legion Family and Friends! May is here and it is abloom with a myriad of flowers and their colors.

3rd NOTICE: Election night will be May 13th at the regular scheduled SAL meeting night. Run for an Officer position or volunteer for one of the SAL's many committees or endeavors. We want "new" blood and encourage new members to get excited and to get involved. "New" blood brings new ideas and concepts. It is up to you members to keep our national award-winning Squadron to flourish and to continue our outstanding support of all the American Legion programs and for which the American Legion stands for. Like a lot others you may be busy in your personal family life or career but if you can only dedicate an hour or so per month you are benefiting our Veterans, their families, and our community. What better way than to get your family involved in a patriotic moral driven organization like the American Legion? The American Legion was sanctioned by Congress in 1919 and is the world's largest Veteran Organization. Get excited, Be The One!



Based on the last membership report dated April 4th we are stymied at 85.65%. Gentlemen, we need your help to find 31 more memberships renewals or new members. The \$15.00 we retain helps us build our charity account. Here are a few examples of what we are donating in May: \$5000 to Tunnel to Towers, \$1000 to Shred Fest, \$500 to an injured member who has a pregnant wife with their 1st child. He has been out of work due to work-related injuries. We

were able to buy 50 boxes of Girl Scout cookies that were sent to our deployed troops via the USO. We have been able to support our Tidewater Food Bank. We add our dues revenue to our other fundraisers like our monthly dinner nights.

Chef "Benski" aka 2nd Vice Commander David Vernon knocked it out of the park again with his Southern Style Ham dinner April 19th. May will be Italian Night. We will have Spaghetti in meat sauce with Salad, Garlic Bread, and dessert. The last time we had this dinner we literally had to scrape the bottom of the pot for sauce and had to cook more pasta. Our dinner night is May 17th from 6 pm until we sell out. Thank each and every one of you that support our dinner nights and therefore our charity fund. We would not be able to contribute to our charity accounts without your faithful and loyal support.

I personally want to thank all of you that volunteer your time and energy to help during our SAL dinner nights.



Prayers for all who are sick and/or bedridden due to medical issues. Update on SAL Past 1st Vice, Dave Samson, he is out of the hospital and we wish him a speedy recovery. Prayers for all our military families especially those families that have a family member deployed. Not to sound corny but pray for the USA because we are in troubled times right now with all of the worldwide conflicts threatening our safety and freedom.

VAVS/CDCE: I attended the quarterly VAVS meeting. The Post donated \$500 to Hampton VA Medical Center (HVAMC) VA&R accounts. Post Adjutant Evan Glendinning has a current needs list. Please take the time to peruse the list and see how you can help.

VE&E: The Post donated \$500 to HVAMC supportive of Veteran Education, Employment and Homeless accounts. In addition, VE&E includes help for those women and men suffering from PTSD, Mental conflict and drug and/or alcohol issues and suicide prevention. For God and Country, Fred Vaccarella

ALA PRESIDENT: This is the third notice for TALA Unit 327

Officer Elections for 2024-2025 year. Elections will be held at the May regular meeting on 5/7/2024. We encourage anyone interested to run for office. All Officers are open for election. President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian, Sgt. At Arms and three executive committee members. The Nominating committee is composed of Helen Lynum, Carla Sherrill and Phillisa Marable. You can make your intent known to them or there is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule or on the board across from the ALA office. The Easter egg hunt was held after the printing of the April newsletter. We filled 600 Easter eggs with candy and hid them on the post grounds. We had approximately 30-40 children. They had a blast and especially enjoyed the Easter Bunny making an appearance. The Auxiliary would like to thank the Legion family for all their help we couldn't have done it without you.

The Veterans from the VA hospital came for the fish fry and all the fixings to go with it. We would like to thank the Girl Scouts from troop 60 for donating cookies to the veterans. Special thanks to Angie our chef for frying up the delicious fish, also a special thanks to John

Shenk for being our MC and calling bingo. I personally would like to thank the many volunteers that helped to pull this together so our Vets could get out of the hospital and have a good time we couldn't have done it without all the volunteers.

Our dinner this month will be on May 3, 2024 and will consist of chicken enchiladas, Mexican rice and Mexican corn and dessert all for the low price of \$10.00.

The date of the day of the French Soldier has not been confirmed yet. We will have a ceremony at the cemetery with a reception following at the Post as soon as we have a firm date we will let you know. Poppy day is the Friday before Memorial Day which will be on 5/24/2024. There will be poppy cans on the bar for donations.

For God and Country, ALA President Kathy Morrison

HONOR GUARDS CORNER: Hello from the Honor Guard. April has come and gone so quickly. This month we participated in the annual Auxiliary dinner for Veterans from the Hampton VA hospital. The Honor Guard was called upon to honor several veterans with burial honors. Members of the Honor Guard helped Ghent School celebrate the military children on Purple Up Day. May has several days we can honor our military and Veterans; 8th Victory Day, 18th Armed Forces Day, 24th National Poppy Day and 31st Memorial Day. Armed Forces Day is to celebrate active duty military. Thank you to all those that answered the call to serve. Hope to see you at the Portsmouth Memorial Day Parade. It is one of the oldest in the nation. In closing, please stay alert for children playing outside as the weather continues to warm up. Thank you for your continued support of the Honor Guard. Please contact Otha Newton with request or questions. For God and Country, Mary Taggart

CLUBROOM MANAGER: Message from the Chef: Greetings, everyone! I want to express my gratitude for the support our kitchen has received since opening for lunch and dinner service. In this message, I aim to outline our kitchen's objectives, constraints, and procedures. It's important to note that our kitchen is not a typical restaurant; it is a privilege granted by the establishment.

Our kitchen is primarily operated by a single individual who juggles multiple roles - from taking orders and cooking to serving and washing dishes. While we occasionally have volunteers, their availability varies. As a result, there may be delays in fulfilling orders, as our dedicated staff strive to provide top-notch service and quality meals. Your patience and understanding are greatly appreciated.

We are constantly adapting to meet the needs of our customers, enhancing our organization, menu offerings, specials, and operating hours. We now provide dietary options such as keto, vegetarian, and pescatarian dishes to ensure inclusivity for all guests.

During the summer season, our kitchen hours are as follows:

Lunch:

- Monday to Thursday: 12:30pm to 2:30pm with daily specials

Dinner:

- Monday to Thursday: 5:30pm to 8:45pm with a limited menu on Wednesday

- Friday: 6pm until sold out or 8pm

- Saturday: 6pm to 9pm

- Sunday Breakfast: 9am to 12pm; Sunday dinner hours vary based on volunteer availability with a limited menu

If you are interested in volunteering in the kitchen, please reach out to Chef Benski. Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we strive to provide a welcoming dining experience for all.

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<i>1</i> 7:00 PM 40/8 Promenade @ Post 327	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 6:00 PM ALA Dinner - Chicken Enchiladas	<i>4</i> 7:30 PM Karaoke - Ricky Still
<i>5</i> 9:00 AM Breakfast 1:00 PM Legion Bowling	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> 7:30 PM ALA Reg Mtg w/ Elections	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 6:00 PM Dinner - Stuffed Peppers	<i>11</i> 7:30 PM Karaoke - Ricky Still
<i>12</i> 9:00 AM Breakfast	<i>13</i> 7:00 PM Son's Executive Mtg 7:30 PM Son's Reg Mtg w/ Elections	<i>14</i> 6:30 PM Post Executive Mtg 7:30 PM Post Reg Mtg w/ Elections	<i>15</i> 6:30 PM VVA Chapter 48 Reg Board Mtg	<i>16</i> 6:30 PM Legion Riders Mtg	<i>17</i> 6:00 PM SAL Dinner - Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce	<i>18</i> Karaoke - TBD
<i>19</i> 9:00 AM Breakfast 12:00 PM Karaoke Fun & Proper Flag Disposal	<i>20</i> 7:00 PM Honor Guard Mtg	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> 1:00 PM -6:00 PM Blood Drive	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 6:00 PM Dinner - Herb Grilled Pork Chops	<i>25</i> 7:30 PM Karaoke - Ricky Still
<i>26</i> 1:00 PM Memorial Day Picnic	<i>27</i> MEMORIAL DAY	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> 6:00 PM Dinner - BBQ Chicken Breast 7:30 PM Spring Time - Trivia	