



The Légionnaire

Tidewater Post 327

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Norfolk, VA 23518

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AUGUST 2025

POST OFFICERS

Commander: (DJ) Derrick Johnson
1st VCDR: Byron Pianalto
2nd VCDR: Linda Blaker
3rd VCDR: Rob Sullinger
Adjutant: Gary Flasekegaard
Finance: David Seate
Service Officer: Bob DeChamplain
Chaplain: Desh Nendze
Sgt-at-Arms: Mike Encalade
Historian: Paulmichael Youngmills

Exec Board

Sean McDonnell
Keith "Klutch" Palmer
Joseph DeCosta

LEGION RIDERS

Director: Keith Palmer
Asst Dir: (DJ) Derrick Johnson
Secretary: Philissa Marable
Treasurer: David Seate
Safety Officer: Keith McCauley
Chaplain: Mike Moranha
Sgt-at-Arms: Kenneth Parker
Road Captain: OPEN

Exec Board

ALR Gnome

SAL SQUADRON

CDR: Alan J. "AJ" Cole, Sr
1st VCDR David Vernon (Benski)
2nd VCDR David Laws
Adjutant: James Doty Jr
Treasurer: Jeff Evans
Chaplain: Rocky English
1st Sgt-at-Arms: Gary Stull
Historian: TBD

Exec Board

Steve Gower
Cliff Carney
Kenneth O'Bryan

AUXILIARY

President: Crystal Cross
Vice President: Carla Sherrill
Secretary: Charlotte Cole
Treasurer: Leslie Laws
Chaplain: Irene Mabry Moses
Sgt-at-Arms: Sally Newman
Historian: Suzanne Fields

Exec Board

Mary Taggart
Helen Lynum
Laquetta Joe

COMMANDER: Legion Family, I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to every single volunteer who helped make our 4th of July Picnic such an incredible success. It was truly one of the largest and most impactful events our Post has hosted in recent memory. Together, we served hundreds of community members, veterans, families, and friends—and the camaraderie and spirit displayed reminded all of us what it means to be part of the American Legion Family. Your hard work, dedication, and patriotism made it all possible. Thank you for everything you do. I also want to highlight an exciting new development at Post 327. The formation of our Gaming Committee. This committee was established to help manage and oversee our gaming operations, ensuring transparency, compliance, and continued financial support for the programs we champion. The committee is composed of dedicated Legionnaires who will help ensure that the proceeds from our gaming activities are used in alignment with our mission and values. By now, you should have received your renewal notice for the 2025–2026 membership year. If you haven't sent it in yet, I encourage you to renew today. Staying active keeps your voice strong and

supports the programs that serve our veterans, youth, and community. Plus, early renewals make you eligible for a special prize drawing—don't miss out! August also brings with it an important event on the national stage: the American Legion National Convention, where Legionnaires from all over the country will gather to shape the future of our great organization. During this convention, Commission and Committee meetings are held to discuss vital topics related to our Four Pillars:
Americanism
Children & Youth
Veterans' Affairs & Rehabilitation
National Security
Reports will be given, and resolutions will be voted on that will shape our legislative priorities for the upcoming year. We'll also recognize outstanding individuals and programs, including winners from the Oratorical Contest, Boy's State, and American Legion Baseball, as well as the Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the Year. At the conclusion of the convention, we'll elect a new National Commander to lead us into the next chapter. If you ever get

the opportunity to attend a national convention, I highly recommend it. It's an eye-opening experience that reinforces the national scope and strength of The American Legion. Thank you for your continued support, service, and commitment to our mission. Let's keep the momentum going strong. For God and Country, DJ Derrick Johnson
Commander, American Legion Post 327

FIRST VICE COMMANDER: We have started our 2026 renewal at the July 4th picnic. We also will be holding a drawing for a PUFL (Paid Up For Life) Membership if you renew before or during the Labor Day picnic. Drawing will be held during the meeting on Sept 9th. The Post has added a new method of paying your dues, if you have Zelle through your bank or the app on your phone, you can also come to the office and pay, or you may go to our website: legion327.com and select PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES. Once I receive notification of your payment I will mail your Membership card to the address on file. You can also renew online at legion.org/renew for 1 year or 3 years with a credit card. Remember anytime you are at the Post you are required to have your Membership card in your possession or a digital image of your Membership card on your phone. For God and Country, Byron Pinalto

SECOND VICE COMMANDER:

August All Friday Events Start at 7:45 PM
Magnetic Chess Scheduled: Aug 1, 2025
Cactus Creek - Danny Lowton Scheduled: Aug 2, 2025
Jenga tournament Scheduled: Aug 8, 2025
John Jessy Karaoke Scheduled: Aug 9, 2025
Checkers tournament Scheduled: Aug 15, 2025
AJ the KJ Scheduled: Aug 16, 2025
Play (or bring) Board game Scheduled: Aug 22, 2025
Up N the Air - Heather Fry Scheduled: Aug 23, 2025
Bar Bingo Scheduled: Aug 25, 2025
General knowledge Trivia Scheduled: Aug 29, 2025
For God and Country Linda P. Blaker

THIRD VICE COMMANDER: Greetings Post 327 members & families. What an amazing month July was! We had fantastic July 4th Picnic/party and an amazing turnout of friends and family. Thanks to the many volunteers that participated and made the day a success. We appreciate all of you! Queen of Hearts had it's first winner! Congrats Sue McDermott on your win! We continue with repairs and upgrades throughout the Post bldg and grounds. With that said, there will be a volunteer opportunity for August. We will be holding a field day event on August 23rd from 900 to 1200 to prepare for the Labor Day picnic the following weekend. Please let me know if you can help. As always, there is a 3rd Vice suggestion box located in the lobby. Please feel free to write down any suggestions, gripes, concerns, etc. For God and Country, Rob Sullinger 3rd Vice Commander

ADJUTANT: Be the One ... Be pro-active and checkup on Vets your friends and neighbors you have not heard from. The SUMMER HEAT is upon us. ONE OF OUR Charitable donations in DEC we paid for this in full National Night Out will be hosted again this year by the Norfolk Police Department, and Huntersville Civic League, **Tuesday, August 5, 2025, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM**, at the Huntersville Recreation Center - Athletic Field, **830 Goff Street**, Norfolk. The opening ceremony will begin at 6:00 PM. This year's theme is Mardi Gras! Think of colors purple, green and gold, beads and king cake! For God and Country Gary Flaskegaard.

SERVICE OFFICER: Effective September 30, 2025, and to the extent permitted by law, the Secretary of the Treasury shall cease issuing paper checks for all Federal disbursements, inclusive of intragovernmental payments, benefits payments, vendor payments, and tax refunds, except as specified in section 4 of this order.

The Secretary of the Treasury shall support agencies' transition to digital payment methods, including by providing access through the Department of the Treasury's centralized payment systems to:

- (i) direct deposits;
- (ii) debit and credit card payments;
- (iii) digital wallets and real-time payment systems; and
- (iv) Other modern electronic payment options.

Veterans must Transition to electronic payments by September 30, 2025

I want to thank all the service officers for their hard work. **Post Service Officers are available Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 1000-1500. Closed holidays.** For God and Country, Bob DeChamplain

CHAPLAIN: Chaplain: Be the One..."We are Here for Each Other "Don't miss out! Starting August 28th at 7:30 pm a class called HOMEFRONT will be held at the Post. This free six-week military mental health class is for veterans, active service-members, and military family members. The curriculum is from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and the goal is to educate on mental health identification and coping strategies, effective communication and problem-solving skills, and how to care for yourself and support others with compassion. Visit this link to register: <https://forms.gle/Jqi7xeB3Hy9avjod9> or just show up on August 28th Also, if you haven't already, please complete the Chaplain Survey! This is a great way to let me know of any recommendations on military mental health or religious initiatives, programs, or events you would like to see held at the Post. If there is anything I can help with, or if you just need to talk, please feel free to contact me chaplain327@gmail.com.

For God and Country, Desh Nendze

LEGION RIDERS: Tidewater Post 327, Let's Congratulate Chapter 327 American Legion Rider of the Year 2025, Kenneth Parker. A huge thank you to the American Legion Riders Jack, Rob, Keith "Cowboy" and Kenny for their participation and support on Friday, July 18, 2025, at the hospital in Gloucester to celebrate Drenna Workman Ringing of the Bell for her last Chemotherapy treatment, and also on Saturday, July 19, 2025, a special thanks for your participation in the Funeral Escort of William Chan funeral service.

Upcoming Events:

-15-16 th August VA Fun Run Post 176, Springfield, VA.

*17 – 21 August 2025, the National American Legion Legacy Run

2025. Start South Boston and end in Tampa Bay, Fl.

Registration

is easy: <https://register.legion.org/riders/registration>.

On 26 through 28 September, VA ALR 15 th Annual State

Rally Post 53, 22 West 8 th Street Fron Royal, VA 22630

(High Mileage/Safety

Award and the Department of Virginia, Rider of the Year Award.

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 "Klutch" Palmer, Riders Director.

ATHLETIC OFFICER: No input. For God and country, Jeff Evans, A. O

SQUADRON COMMANDER: If You Want It Done, Call A Son" isn't just a catchphrase—it's the heartbeat of Squadron 327. Our members are more than participants; they're the living legacy of the values we uphold. Every opportunity we're given is a chance to live the SAL "Ten Ideals" and pay tribute to our Fathers and Grandfathers—the very reason many of us chose to walk this path. I invite you to reach out anytime to explore how we can continue to "sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness"—not just in ceremony, but in action, and stop by our office in the Social Quarters to sign up for a committee role or volunteer for an upcoming activity. For God and Country, Alan J. "AJ" Cole, Sr., Squadron 327 Commander

ALA PRESIDENT: Hello everyone! Our August meeting is on the 5th at 7pm and we hope to see you there and continue the momentum that started at our last meeting in July! The Post had a great July 4th picnic, and it was great to see so many ALA volunteers! I believe it was said we had 19 ALA volunteers at the picnic and a huge THANK YOU to all that helped! We had members helping with membership, serving food, assisting at the door, and helping in many ways to help our Post 327 family make the picnic a success. I'd like to add a special shout out to the ALA members from Unit 60 that

came out and supported the picnic by volunteering with the 327 family! School will be starting before we know it and it is time to think about school supplies. We are collecting school supplies until August 9th to distribute to local Norfolk Elementary Schools. A list of supplies is Posted on the ALA Unit and Post 327 Facebook pages and is scrolling on the screen in the clubroom. We have a lot of supplies left from last year, so the list is geared towards the items we are short on at this time. All donations are greatly appreciated, and we will get them to the schools for this August school year start. The ALA is happy to say we are back to having fundraiser dinners and our first dinner of this year will be on August 22nd. The menu will consist of Surf and Turf Skewers over rice pilaf with coleslaw, sweet corn, cornbread, and of course we will have a yummy dessert for you! The year is off to a great start and there are lots of opportunities on the horizon for our members to participate in and we look forward to working with you and making this a wonderfully successful year. For God and Country, Crystal Cross For God and Country, Crystal Cross, Unit 327 President

HONOR GUARDS CORNER: The Honor Guard is proud to serve The Legion and our community. We are excited to help the Post celebrate the Coast Guard's 235th birthday on August 4th. On August 7th, we observe Purple Heart Day, a time for our nation to honor and remember the sacrifices of our courageous military members. As school is about to start, please remember to stop for school buses and be aware of children going to and from school. If you need our services, feel free to contact Otha Newton. Please remember to "Be the One." If you have any questions or requests, please reach out to Otha Newton. For God and Country, Mary Taggart



CLUBROOM: Hello Everyone! Wow!!! July has been a hot and busy month. We had a lot going on here. We really appreciate everyone who volunteered their time to help our events run smoother. As you noticed, we have a new staff, and they are learning the house rules and becoming aware of their responsibilities. I also want to Thank those who came in Wednesday and had their membership cards ready for our newest member of our staff to check. It is in the house rules; you must have your membership cards with you when entering the Post. We appreciated your patience and consideration. We noticed there is some confusion when signing in a guest. **You must print the guests' full name, full street address** (ex: 2222 Holiday Ln. Norfolk, Va.), Post number, and the member **Must Print their Full Name as written on their membership card** (ex: Jason Bourne). We noticed members and guests are writing in cursive. This is not the proper way of filling out the log page. Thank you for understanding.

For God and Country, Clubroom manager, Angie Hernandez

AUGUST 2025

AMERICAN LEGION CALANDRA Holidays in United States

Aug 2025 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27		<div>TO VIEW OUR CALENDAR ON-LINE SCAN QR CODE WITH YOUR CAMERA OR GO TO TIDEWATERPOST327.ORG</div>		31	1	2
9am - BreakFast @ 11am - EXECUTIVE 2pm - UNIT 5	4 COAST GUARD 6pm - US COAST GUARD 7:30pm - Post 5 Legion	5 7pm - ALA Regular Mtg @	6 7pm - 40/8 Promenade @	7	8	9
10 9am - BreakFast @ 1pm - 2nd Dist. Plan Mtg	11 7:30pm - SONS REGULAR	12 6:30pm - EXECUTIVE 327 7:30pm - POST REGULAR	13 12:30pm - ARROW 6:30pm - COMPLIANCE	14	15	16
17 9am - BreakFast @ 1pm - BOWLING ANNUAL	18 7pm - Honor Guard	19	20 6:30pm - VVA CHAPTER	21	22	23
24 9am - BreakFast @	25 6pm - RASON RADIO	26	27	28	29	30
31 1pm - LABOR DAY PICNIC	1 Labor Day 7:30pm - Post 5 Legion	2 7pm - ALA Regular Mtg @	3 7pm - 40/8 Promenade @	4	5	6
				7:30pm - NAMI @ HALL	2pm - YOGA Donation @ 5:15pm - QUEEN OF 7:45pm - GENERAL	6pm - DART BANQUET @