



The Légionnaire

Tidewater Post 327

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MAY 2026

POST OFFICERS

Commander: (DJ) Derrick Johnson
1st VCDR: Byron Pianalto
2nd VCDR: Keith Shanesy
3rd VCDR: Rob Sullinger
Adjutant: David Seate
Finance: Janet Sullinger
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: Robinson 'Rob' Douglas

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: Attention all Legionnaires, May is here, and with it comes one of the most important times of the year for our Post—elections and the beginning of our busiest season. First, a Third reminder that Post Officer Elections for the 2026–2027 term will be held during our May Post Meeting. This is your opportunity to help shape the future of Post 327. I strongly encourage all members to attend, participate, and cast your vote. If you are interested in serving or would like to nominate yourself for a position, now is the time to step forward. Our strength as a Post depends on engaged and committed leadership. If you wish to be nominated for a District Position, please send your request to the Adjutant. Second, we are entering the “busy season” at the Legion. The calendar is filling up quickly with events, activities, and opportunities to connect with fellow veterans, families, and our community. Be sure to stay informed by checking:

- * Our monthly newsletter
- * Post calendar and website
- * Facebook page and electronic boards in the Club Room

We have a great lineup of events planned, and there is something for everyone. Don't forget to use the Volunteer Signup QR code in the Post—getting involved is one of the best ways to strengthen our organization and enjoy what we do. As always, these events

don't run themselves. Your participation—whether attending or volunteering—makes all the difference. Let's continue to build momentum, support one another, and represent the values of the American Legion with pride. For God and Country, Derrick Johnson Commander

FIRST VICE COMMANDER: Our Post Membership has reached our goal of 1040 Members this year. I want to thank everyone that has renewed and all those that have recruited new Members to reach our goal. However we still have over 200 Members that have not paid their 2026 dues. 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 can 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 or purchase a PUFL (Paid Up For Life) 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 Pianalto

SECOND VICE COMMANDER: Greetings All Post 327

Members, April was definitely a busy month at the Post. We do not have a jam packed schedule this month, and for good reason. We have a few huge events coming in May.

May 2nd, Whiskey Tide is playing the clubroom.

May 9th, The Blue Lords will be playing the clubroom.

May 18th is clubroom bingo. We will welcome Bobby Henline and Friends back on May 23rd for a fantastic Adult Comedy Show.

Please do not bring your children to this event.

May 24th is our annual Memorial Day picnic. The cost for the picnic is \$5.00 per person, children under 12 are free. We are open to the public for this event. Foxglove will be performing outside under the tent for this event. To clear up any rumors about the charge for the picnic, this money does NOT go to the post. Any and all money collected for the picnic, gets split between the Legion Family Organizations that show up to assist. I will be posting a volunteer sign up list on the Second Vice door.

Please put what organization you are volunteering for on this signup sheet. I have also received the very early information from the City of Norfolk about the Grand Illumination Parade. I will get a list up for this also, so that we can get our application in early and save us a bit of money on the registration. I want to submit our application no later than July 1st. Please talk to me if you have questions. We continue to explore more events to appeal to our diverse membership. Movies With Maegan on Sunday evenings seems to be a hit as does the clubroom bingo.

For God and Country Keith Shanesy, 2nd Vice Commander

THIRD VICE COMMANDER: Greeting and Happy Spring Post 327 members! With the changing season and the beautiful weather, this begins our Post picnics. With this comes a lot of prep work. We will have a field day on May 16th starting at 9:00 AM to get ready for the comedy show with Bobby Henline and our Memorial Day Picnic. There will be a lot of volunteer opportunities for the month of May and all help is much appreciated. I would like to once again remind members and their guests to be respectful to our staff and volunteers. There have been several instances of this kind of behavior. Our staff and volunteers show up for the betterment of our Post. For God and Country, Rob Sullinger, 3rd Vice Commander .

ADJUTANT: Third Notice: Elections are fast approaching. The elections will be held on the 12th of this month. If you would like to run for office, please submit a letter of intent by either dropping it off at the Post or you may email it

to amlg327@yahoo.com or adjutant327@gmail.com by **5 PM on May 1st**. The following positions are open: Commander, 1st Vice Commander, 2nd Vice Commander, 3rd Vice Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Service Officer, Chaplain, Sergeant of Arms, Executive Board (3 members). If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, feel free to reach out and we will do our very best to help you out! We need your Letter of Intent by May 1st, so we can make enough ballots. If you would like to read a description of the duties and responsibilities of each elected position, a copy is in the mail office. Nominations can also be made off the floor on election night. Also, please be mindful, being elected to a position is a yearlong commitment (Service Officer and Finance Officer is a two-year commitment). For God and

Country David Seate, Adjutant.

SERVICE OFFICER: GI Bill Benefits: The rulings (Rudisill v. McDonough and Perkins v. Collins) potentially enable millions of Veterans to receive additional education benefits under both the Montgomery G.I. Bill and the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill. Veterans may be eligible under either court decision for an additional 12 months of benefits, up to a total of 48 months. VA is taking three steps to help Veterans in the wake of these rulings. • First, VA is no longer requiring Veterans to formally request a VA assessment of their eligibility under Rudisill. VA will automatically assess their eligibility under this decision. • Second, VA is reviewing eligibility under both Rudisill and Perkins for any Veteran who has less than three months of benefits left and who is either enrolled in school or was enrolled in the last six months. Focusing on these high-priority cases will ensure that no current or recent students will be left

without benefits if they qualify for additional benefits under either decision. • Third, VA is updating its automated adjudication systems to apply the Perkins decision. Once this is complete, VA will review all Veterans' files for additional entitlement under Perkins. To reduce delays, VA has been automatically approving the initial 36 months of benefits for eligible Veterans and will notify them of any additional entitlement under Perkins or if additional action is needed. I want to thank all the service officers for their tireless efforts. Post Service Officers are available Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 1000-1500. Closed holidays. For God & Country, Bob DeChamplain

CHAPLAIN: Happy May, Legion Family. As we step into this month, we're reminded of the strength we share, not just in service, but in how we continue to show up for one another. As part of my continued mission to make this Post a place of mental health support and healing, I encourage each of you to embrace the "Be The One" initiative, reach out, check in, and look out for one another. Small actions can make a lasting difference. I'm also excited that our Veterans Engagement Program (VEP) is underway and picking up speed. In partnership with the School of Social Work at Norfolk State University, this free program offers two virtual mental health sessions and one in-person group session at the Post each month. This is more than a resource, it's a commitment to ensuring no one in our Legion family stands alone. If you're interested, you can sign up here:

https://nsugradstudies.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_elp6PXqskLp6ALA

And did you know the *National Day of Prayer* is an American Legion program and part of our CPR?! In recognition of this meaningful day, I invite you to join me at the Post Gazebo on Thursday, May 7th at Noon for a brief time of reflection and prayer. This is an opportunity to come together and lift up one another, our community, and our nation. If you have any questions about this event, please let me know. For God and Country, Desh Nendze, Chaplain

LEGION RIDERS: Rider's Officers' nominations need to be submitted to the Director or Assistant Director at our next meeting May 21, 2026, and may submit nominations from the floor.**(Cancelled) Post 280 May 8, 2026, Golf Tournament fundraisers have been cancelled due to lack of participation.

-The ride in April turned out to be a wonderful day and rode to Berry's located in Walnut Island, North Carolina. Pat and Kenny rode three hundred, while getting great wind therapy.

-Chapter 327 had two riders participate with the Old Dominion Honor Flight escort of two buss loads of veterans escorted to Quantico Virginia. We would like to thank the Old Dominion Honor Flight for everything they do for these heroes.

-May 9 – 10, 2026 American Legion Riders Leadership Legacy ride, this is a ride to organize a safe route for all riders. This ride is open to any riders who may not be attending the 9th Annual Virginia Legacy Run Colonial Beach, Va 18 -20 June 2026. All the riders brief is 6pm 18th June. Encouraged riders and supporters to register before May 30th. Registration fee \$25.00. Late fee is \$25.00. -American Legion Post #190 Pre-Memorial Day Celebration Day Party Sunday, May 24, 5PM to 10 PM, donation: \$20 dollars. We are always looking for new members to join the Chapter 327 family! We meet on the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Come see what we're all about. Keep both wheels on the ground and stay safe. For God and Country, Keith Palmer *Riders Director*.

For God and Country, Keith Palmer, Riders Director

ATHLETIC OFFICER: Good morning everyone. It was great seeing our co-ed softball team at the post after their games. They play Friday night at Northside Park. Their schedule is posted on the hallway bulletin board. Till next month...For God and Country, Jeff Evans, Athletic Officer

SQUADRON COMMANDER: Third Notice! 2026-27 Elections will be held at the May 21st meeting. It isn't too late to submit a "Letter of Intention" to any member of the Executive Board; OR drop it off at the Squadron Office at Tidewater Post 327; OR send an email to salsq327@gmail.com; OR add your name to one of the posted lists outside the S.A.L/A.L.R Office and the Post 2ndVCDR's Locker (the old Armory). Nominations will be accepted from the floor. Remember, "Decisions are made by those who show up." — President Josiah Bartlet, The West Wing. It's your turn to steer. The Hullabaloo membership table was a success. We helped a lot of Vets, had a lot of fun, and we're already looking forward to next year's event. Plenty of volunteer opportunities this month. Check the schedule or contact me. For God and Country: Alan J. "AJ" Cole, Sr.

HONOR GUARDS CORNER: Happy Legion Family Election Month! Please remember to come out and vote. Your voice matters. In April, we partnered with a local school to recognize military children during their annual activities. We also provided burial honors for several service members. May is full of important observances. We honor military spouses on Military Spouse Appreciation Day, observed each year on the Friday before Mother's Day; this year it falls on May 8. We recognize the sacrifices and steadfast support they give to service members and families. May 10 is Mother's Day. Shout out to everyone who fills a mother's role in someone's life.

May 16 is Armed Forces Day, a time to salute the men and women currently serving in the United States Armed Forces. May 22 is National Poppy Day, and Monday, May 25 is Memorial Day, a solemn occasion to honor the men and women who died while serving in the military.

The Honor Guard continues its commitment to supporting, educating, and honoring members of our community and the Legion Family. Please contact Otha Newton with any questions or request. For God and Country, Mary Taggart

ALA PRESIDENT: 3rd Notice for TALA Unit Officer Elections for the 2026-2027 year to be held May 7th at 7pm at the regular meeting. The nominating committee members are Jane Evans and Sue Hopkins. Please see one of them with your intention to run of Office or email the Unit at talaunit327@yahoo.com. We encourage everyone interested to run for office, all positions are open for election, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Sgt. At Arms, Historian and 3 Executive Committee members. The April VA Fish Fry dinner was a great success, and we thank everyone that helped and came to enjoy the wonderful food. There were so many people that helped across the entire Legion Family, and we are very grateful for all your support with the Vets from VAMC Hampton in the Hall and in the Social Quarters. They had a great time with good food, bingo with canteen buck prizes, and receiving ditty bags and blankets. We would like to say big THANK YOU to Jerry for getting the Poppy cans spiffed up, and just in time for National Poppy Day! We will be set up for Poppy donations at Post's Memorial Day Picnic. The Poppy funds are restricted funds utilized only to support the welfare of veterans, active military personnel, and the families of veterans and active military personnel where financial and medical need is evident, the rehabilitation of hospitalized military service personnel returning home and awaiting discharge who require treatment in service hospitals, the welfare of the families of veterans, and the rehabilitation of veterans honorably discharged. We will need volunteers for the Post's Memorial Day Picnic to help set up, serve and with cleanup and help with Poppy donations. We hope to have a great turn out of ALA members to support the Legion Family as they have provided tremendous support for our events! For God and Country, Crystal Cross, Unit 327 President.

The Juniors are holding a meeting on May 3rd from 12pm to 2pm. We will be painting patriotic rocks to hand out to the community. We will also be painting rocks for Mother's Day gifts. Please wear appropriate clothing as we will be using acrylic paints. For God and Country, Christina Stang, Auxiliary UNIT 327 Juniors coordinator.

CLUBROOM MANAGER: Good afternoon, everyone, the warm weather is upon us. Just a few reminders for our wonderful members and visitors. You Must always have your membership card and Identification card with you when entering the building. All bottles should have first and last name and full date on bottle (example: 04/17/2026). Bottles are allowed to remain behind the bar for 90 days from the date they were placed behind the bar. Afterwards. The bottles will be removed and placed in a separate room, will hold for 14 days, and then bottles will get emptied. Members who have a guest with them must fill in the log sheet. Please print All information. Guests must leave when you leave unless another guest signs them back in. Please be mindful, members are responsible for their guests.

For God and Country, Clubroom Manager, Angie Hernandez

MAY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
<p>NO Breakfast Today</p> <p>12pm - ALA JUNIORS</p> <p>1pm - Bowling @ JEB</p> <p>5pm - Movies</p>	<p>7:30pm - Post 5 Mtg @</p>	<p>Cinco de Mayo</p> <p>6:30pm - ALA Exec M</p> <p>7pm - ALA Reg M</p>	<p>8am - Hampton VA</p> <p>7pm - 40/8 Mtg @</p>	<p>12pm - CHAPLIAN</p>	<p>5:15pm - Q of H @</p> <p>6pm - ALA Dinner</p> <p>8pm - 90s</p>	<p>6pm - DART BANQUET</p> <p>7:30pm - Whiskey Tide</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p>Mother's Day</p> <p>9am - Breakfast</p> <p>1pm - Bowling @ JEB</p>	<p>7pm - Honor Guard</p> <p>7:30pm - Clubroom</p>	<p>6:30pm - AMLG Ex M</p> <p>7:30pm - AMLG Reg M</p>	<p>1pm - Blood Drive</p> <p>6:30pm - VVA Ch 48</p>	<p>6:30pm - CIVIC</p>	<p>1pm - ALA FRENCH</p> <p>5:15pm - Q of H @</p>	<p>11:15am - USSVI MTG</p> <p>7:05pm -</p>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>NO Breakfast Today</p>	<p>Memorial Day</p> <p>6pm - RASON Mtg @</p>		<p>6:30pm - 757NSAG</p>		<p>5:15pm - Q of H @</p>	<p>7pm - Bobby Henline</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>NO Breakfast Today</p> <p>1pm - Memorial Day</p>	<p>NO Breakfast Today</p>				<p>5:15pm - Q of H @</p>	<p>Happy birthday!</p> <p>6pm - Great Gatsby</p>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<p>9am - Breakfast</p> <p>1pm - Bowling @ JEB</p>	<p>7:30pm - Post 5 Mtg @</p>	<p>6:30pm - ALA Exec M</p> <p>7pm - ALA Reg M</p>	<p>7pm - 40/8 Mtg @</p>		<p>5:15pm - Q of H @</p>	
31	1	2	3	4	5	6



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