The Légionnaire

Tidewater Post 327

705 Lesner Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23518

Club Room Phone (757) 587-2641 **WEBSITE: www.legion327.com**
Post Office: (757) 937-3146 FAX: (757) 961-5537 **E-Mail: amlg327@yahoo.com**

NOVEMBER 2026

POST OFFICERS
Commander: Bob DeChamplain
1st VCDR: Alan Cole Sr (AJ)
2nd VCDR: Keith Shanesy
3rd VCDR: Colleen Lemond
Adjutant: Tracy Cortez
Finance: Janet Sullinger
Service Officer: Lee Goldman
Chaplain: Desh Nendze
Sgt-at-Arms: Inocencio Gaitan
Historian: Paulmichael Youngmills

Exec Board
Robert Sullinger
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: OPEN
Sgt-at-Arms: Kenneth Parker
Road Captain: OPEN

Exec Board
ALR Gnome

SAL SQUADRON
CDR: Alan J. "AJ" Cole, Sr
1st VCDR: Dawson Montagna
2nd VCDR: David Vernon (Benski)
Adjutant: James Doty Jr
Treasurer: Jeff Evans
Chaplain: Rocky English
Sgt-at-Arms: David Laws
Historian: Robinson 'Rob' Douglas

Exec Board
Steve Gower
Cliff Carney
Kenneth O'Bryan

AUXILIARY
President: Crystal Cross
Vice President: Kathy Morrison
Secretary: Charlotte Cole
Treasurer: Chrystal Odle
Chaplain: Jackie Miller
Sgt-at-Arms: Sally Newman
Historian: Maria Gaitan

Exec Board
Mary Taggart
Sheila Pyatt
Laquetta Joe

****

COMMANDER: November is National Veterans and Military Families Month, a time to honor and remember the service and sacrifices made by our nation's heroes and their loved ones. Here at American Legion Post 327, there's much going on both at the Post and throughout our community as we come together to show our appreciation and respect. Veterans Week will be observed from November 4 – 11, culminating with the Veterans Day Parade—a proud tradition that unites veterans, families, and supporters from across the area. We encourage everyone to come out, participate, and help us celebrate the service and dedication of those who have worn the uniform. Please take a moment to check the other sections of this newsletter, as well as our social media pages, for more details on upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and ways you can get involved. Whether it's lending a hand, attending an event, or spreading the word, your support helps keep our Post strong and visible in the community. Together, we continue to uphold the values of the American Legion—Service, Patriotism, and Community. Thank you again for everything you do. Your commitment honors the values of the American Legion and ensures our Post remains a cornerstone of service.
For God and Country, Robert "Bob" DeChamplain, Commander

FIRST VICE COMMANDER: We're nearing our next membership goal date and we're only about halfway to the goal. Please renew if you haven't already and encourage others to renew or join to help keep Post 327 Legion Strong!
Holidays are fast-approaching and there are plenty of ways to participate and support the post and the community.
Follow us on Facebook, check flyers at the post, or see the post events scheduling on the clubroom TV.
Get quick access to post scheduling and reporting volunteer hours at http://legion327.com/mobilewelcome
(Need assistance putting an icon on your home screen? Ask me!)
Happy Thanksgiving!
For God and Country, Alan J. "AJ" Cole, Sr., 1st Vice Commander
1stvicecommander327@gmail.com

SECOND VICE COMMANDER: Greetings All Post 327 Members!
November has arrived! We do have many events going on this month before we enter the holiday season. I have heard your requests and ideas and have worked to get more entertainment into the clubroom. Please come out and support these new endeavors.
We have a Grover Gaming event on November 5th; all members are welcome and encouraged to come out and see what Marcy has planned this month!

-November 10th is the Marine Corps Birthday.
-November 11th is Veterans Day! I know for many of us this is a normal workday, however, please take a moment to thank your Veteran! The Post will be providing dinner for all Veterans on the evening of November 11th in the Hall.
-Thursday Night Football on the big screen - Nov 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th.
-Sunday Football on the big screen - Nov 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th.
-Monday night football on the big screen -Nov 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th.
-Wednesday Night Football on the big screen - Nov 25th.
-Friday Night Football on the big screen - Nov 27th.
-The Blue Lords will be playing live in the clubroom on Nov 7th.
-Cam Head and the Noisemakers are live in the Clubroom on November 14th.
-Whiskey Tide are live in the Clubroom on November 21st.
-DJ Mike will be in on November 6th for Music Trivia. November 13th for Karaoke and November 20th for Music Trivia.
For God and Country, Keith Shanesy

THIRD VICE COMMANDER: Greetings Post 327 members. We will be receiving and installing a new walk-in cooler and freezers for the clubroom and kitchen in the November. There will be volunteer opportunities for moving items and the old freezers out in prep for the new arrivals. Please see me if you would like to volunteer to help. Due to the installation of the new equipment, there may be interruptions to the clubroom and kitchen hours. Please be patient with us as we continue to make the social quarters a better place for everyone.
For God and Country, Colleen Lemond, 3rd Vice Commander

ADJUTANT: November 25th, from 10 am to 2 pm, a blood drive will be held in the hall. Please see me or email me at adjutant327@gmail.com if you are interested in donating. Your gift of blood donation could save a life. For God and Country, Tracy Cortez, Adjutant

SERVICE OFFICER: I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler weather as we roll into fall. As always, I wish to thank all of our dedicated Service Officers for all of the hard work they do.
Please note that The Department of Veterans Affairs is pleased to present the "2026 VA Federal Benefits Guide for Veterans, Dependents, Survivors, and Caregivers."
Don't know what VA benefits and care are available? Not sure which you're eligible for? The annual Federal Benefits Guide provides information on benefits and services currently available by law and regulation.
The updated handbook contains a comprehensive listing of VA programs, including phone numbers and websites for easy reference. The Federal Benefits Guide hosts a wealth of information on most VA benefits and services, including:
Compensation,
Life insurance,
Pension and fiduciary services
Education benefits,
Economic development and employment,
Home loan guaranty programs and housing assistance
Mental health resources
The handbook will help Veterans, service members and their families understand the full scope of available VA resources so that they can make the most of life after service. It provides details on eligibility requirements for each benefit, and because VA serves different generations of Veterans, outlines the qualification guidelines for distinct periods of service to clarify eligibility for Veterans with service spanning both peace and wartime periods.
The VA Federal Benefits Guide is available in both print and digital formats. Veterans and family members can access the booklet on VA's website, providing instant and convenient access to the wealth of information it contains. A limited number of printed copies may be available at your local medical center, Vet Center or regional office. To find the nearest VA facility, go to www.va.gov/find-locations.
The information in this guide is validated by VA as of Oct. 10, 2026. For the most up-to-date information, Veterans and family members should visit www.va.gov, or go to the specific links provided in this publication to access information on the program that they are interested in, as regulations, payments and eligibility requirements are subject to change. You can also call VA at 800-827-1000 from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET Monday through Friday to speak with a representative.
For God and Country, Lee Goldman

CHAPLAIN: Happy November, Legion Family!
As the weather gets colder and the holidays approach, November is a perfect time to reach out to our fellow Legion Family members. While this season brings joy to many, it can also be difficult for others. A simple phone call or cup of coffee can make a meaningful difference. Be the One to reach out and remind someone they are not alone! Our next "Be the One" Committee Meeting is Saturday, November 14 in the Post Hall 1:00-2:00 PM, where we will focus on Buddy Checks during the American Legion's National Buddy Check Week and the "Talk to 10" pledge. Buddy Checks also count toward our Post's CPR, so come help us meet this important goal while supporting our fellow Veterans. We'll also discuss the possible creation of a Post Women's Veterans Group! Everyone is welcome!
Earlier that same day, November 14 from 10:00 AM to Noon, we will host a Thanksgiving Wreath Self-Care Class at Bloom OV (9547 Shore Drive), a great new Veteran-owned flower shop in East Beach. This is a great opportunity for creativity, relaxation, and self-care! Space is limited to just 10 participants, and the first 10 Legion Family members to pay the $10 class fee will reserve their spots. I can accept cash, Venmo, or Cashapp. Please email or call me with any questions. We hope you can join us!
Looking ahead, mark your calendars for our annual "Be the One" Training on Wednesday, December 9, from 5:30–7:00 PM in the Post Hall. This training focuses on the Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS), providing valuable knowledge to help recognize suicide risk and connect individuals with support. Whether you are attending for the first time or refreshing your skills, your participation matters! This training also contributes to our CPR, but more importantly, it gives us tools that could help save a life.
As we enter this season of gratitude, let us remember that one of the greatest gifts we can give is our time, compassion, and willingness to care for one another. Be the One to reach out, Be the One to listen, and Be the One to make a difference! Wishing you and your families a safe, blessed, and Happy Thanksgiving!
For God and Country, Desh Nendze, Chaplain
Chaplain327@gmail.com 757-828-6712

LEGION RIDERS: The American Legion Riders Chapter 327 are wishing all Active Duty, Reservist and Veterans. A Happy Veterans Day.
Chapter 327 American Legion Rider would like to thank everyone who supported the Riders Breakfast held on Sunday, September 20, 2026.
Chapter 327 rider and supporter's, 1st Annual Safety Training ride while on the road a huge success, led by Keith "Ditch" McCauley riders Safety Officer.
The riders will be giving out 50 turkeys (1 per family) to the community on Sunday, November 22, 2026, 12 noon at Post 327.
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: Pool league is going strong, and all our teams are doing well! Here are a few upcoming events:
Comedy Show & Afterparty – November 7: Doors open at 6:00 PM; show starts at 7:00 PM. Tickets are $30. Come out and support the Post!
Kids' Christmas Party – December 12: Join us from noon to 3:00 PM. We welcome donations of new, unwrapped gifts to help make Christmas special for the kids. Sign-up sheet will be outside the hall.
Location for Both Events: American Legion Post 327, 705 Lesner Avenue, Norfolk, VA.
I'm also looking for volunteers to help plan next year's golf tournament. Contact Michael Encalade, Athletic Officer, if you'd like to help.
Stay tuned for announcements about joining one of our teams!
For God and Country, Mike Encalade, Athletics Officer

SQUADRON COMMANDER: And, BOOM! The fall/winter holiday season is upon us. It's easy to forget to renew your membership during these busy weeks. Take care of it before your key fob fails on January 1st.
Keeping up with post scheduling and reporting volunteer hours is easier when you have quick access to the calendar and reporting volunteer screen via
http://legion327.com/mobilewelcome
(Need assistance putting an icon on your home screen? Ask me!)
Almost everything you do in support of the post and the community counts in one of the categories, and the post counts on your reporting. If you're not sure, ask - or report it and let staff figure it out.
"Eagle Pride" raffle tickets are available until Thanksgiving Day. Support this squadron fundraiser by purchasing or assisting in selling tickets. Winner will be drawn at Thanksgiving Dinner.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Want it done, call a Son. Be that Son.
For God and Country, Alan J. "AJ" Cole, Sr., Squadron 327 Commander SAL327Commander@gmail.com

HONOR GUARDS CORNER*:* Hello from the Honor Guard. As the holiday season approaches, remember family and friends near and far. Many of us have loved ones deployed, stationed away, or facing a tough time of year. Call or visit them if you can.
The Honor Guard serves the Legion Family and our community. During October, we assisted a submarine reunion during their wreath laying, welcomed veterans for the Hampton Veterans Hospital at the Auxiliary Annual fish fry, and participated in Post 327 quarterly Post Everlasting. In November, we will celebrate the birthdays of the Marine Corps and American Legion Auxiliary on the 10th. On Veterans Day, November 11th, we honor all who served our country. We also celebrate both the National Military Family Month and Warrior Care Month in November. They are observed annually to honor and support service members, veterans, and their loved ones. American Education Week runs November 16–20. This week recognizes teachers, support staff, administrators, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, substitute teachers, and others in our public schools who support our youth.
Here's an interesting fact: After World War I, the National Education Association and American Legion discovered that 25 percent of WWI draftees were illiterate, and 9 percent were physically unfit. In 1919, they met to find ways to build public support for education. Both groups adopted resolutions to raise awareness about education's importance. In 1921, the NEA Representative Assembly in Des Moines, Iowa, called for a week each year to spotlight education. The first American Education Week was observed December 4–10, 1921, with the NEA and American Legion as cosponsors.
For God and Country,
Mary Taggart

CLUBROOM MANAGER: Hello everyone, the holidays are among us. We have so much going on for these holidays and will need volunteers. Just want to clear up some confusion that has been brought to our attention. Bartenders CAN NOT pour more than a double shot of alcohol which is equivalent to 2 ounces. Our hours of operation are as follows. Monday – Saturday 12pm till -12am. Sunday 9am-11pm during week breakfast is served other Sundays is 12pm-12am. Bartenders can start calling last call fifteen minutes prior to closing. She/he will close at these hours if there are less than ten people and business in the clubroom is slow. We are still having issues with patrons throwing beer bottles in the clubroom trash cans. This makes it hard for the cleaning crew to dump it in the dumpster because of the heavy weight. Please take your empty beer bottles to the bar. We are also having issues with members leaving trash in the parking lot. We are still picking up trash in the parking lot from patrons littering. There is a trash can in front of the building, please use it. Thank You. Once again, this is a drug free environment. No drugs are prohibited inside or outside of the establishment.

For God and Country, Clubroom Manager, Angie Hernandez

2nd District Calendar, AMERICAN LEGION CALANDAR, Holidays in United States — Nov 2026 (Eastern Time - New York

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Daylight Saving Time NO Breakfast Today 15:30 - Club 327	2 19:30 - Monday Night 19:30 - Post 5 Mtg @	3 Election Day 18:30 - ALA Exec M @ 19:00 - ALA Reg M	4 19:00 - 40/8	5 19:00 - Grover Event 19:30 - Thur Nite FB	6 17:15 - QUEEN OF 20:00 - DJ Mike Music	7 18:00 - Comedy Show 19:30 - Blue Lords
8 09:00 - Breakfast 15:30 - Club 327	9 19:30 - Monday Night	10 16:00 - Auxiliary 18:00 - USMC Bday 18:30 - AMLG Ex M @ 19:30 - AMLG Reg M @	11 Veterans Day 09:00 - Veterans Day 18:00 - Veterans Day	12 18:30 - CIVIC LEAGUE 19:30 - Thur Nite FB	13 17:15 - QUEEN OF 20:00 - DJ Mike	14 19:30 - Cam Head &
15 Cam Head & The 09:00 - Breakfast 15:30 - Club 327	16 19:00 - Honor Guard 19:30 - Monday Night	17 19:00 - SAL Exec M @ 19:30 - SAL Reg M	18 18:30 - VVA Ch 48 Mtg	19 18:30 - ALR Mtg @ 19:30 - Thur Nite FB	20 17:15 - QUEEN OF 20:00 - DJ Mike 70s &	21 11:15 - USSVI MTG @ 19:30 - Whiskey Tide
22 09:00 - Breakfast 15:30 - Club 327	23 18:00 - RASON Mtg @ 19:30 - Monday Night	24	25 Wednesday Night 10:00 - Blood Drive	26 Thanksgiving Day 19:30 - Thur Nite FB	27 Black Friday Friday Night Football 17:15 - QUEEN OF	28
29 NO Breakfast Today 15:30 - Club 327	30 19:30 - Monday Night					5

To receive text alerts, text **AL327** to **78859**

TO VIEW OUR CALENDAR ON-LINE SCAN QR CODE WITH YOUR CAMERA