



The Légionnaire

Tidewater Post 327

705 Lesner Avenue

Norfolk, VA 23518

Club Room Phone (757) 587-2641

Post Office: (757) 937-3146 FAX: (757) 961-5537

WEBSITE: www.legion327.com

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OCTOBER 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: As we step into October, I want to begin with a heartfelt thank-you to every volunteer who made our Labor Day Picnic a tremendous success. From the early-morning setup crews to the grill teams, activity coordinators, Auxiliary, SAL, Riders, and every member who pitched in wherever needed—you showed exactly what Post 327 is all about. Your dedication, teamwork, and pride in service created a welcoming, memorable day for our veterans, families, and community. I am deeply grateful for the spirit you bring to this Post.

New House Rules have been approved and are posted. Please familiarize yourselves with the changes. The Post Constitution and By-Laws have been modified, and the proposed changes are posted on the website. We will be voting to accept the changes at the October meeting. October is an ideal time to reach out to veterans in our community. A simple invitation can bring someone back into the Legion family. Let's keep strengthening our ranks by helping the first vice with member renewals and welcoming new members.

As we move toward Veterans Day and the holiday season, our mission remains clear, serve veterans, support families, and strengthen our community. Your continued involvement keeps Post 327 strong, active, and proud.

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, American Legion Tidewater Post 327

FIRST VICE COMMANDER: Why should I renew my American Legion membership early?

American Legion membership may run through December 31, but there are plenty of good reasons not to wait until the last minute to renew.

Renewing early:

- Keeps you in good standing.
- Keeps your membership benefits uninterrupted.
- Gives you one less thing to remember — or budget for — during the busy holiday season.
- Helps your Post by reducing the time and expense involved

in sending reminders and following up with members who haven't yet renewed. Early renewals also help the Post meet important membership goals and allow your dues to begin supporting Legion programs and activities sooner.

Most importantly, an early renewal is a simple way of saying, "I'm still here. I still support my Post, our veterans, and the work of The American Legion."

So, if you haven't renewed yet, why wait?

Visit me at the Post if you want to renew in person; OR complete a renewal envelope at your convenience; OR or renew online!

Renew early — and help keep Post 327's membership strong! For God and Country, Alan J. "AJ" Cole, Sr., 1st Vice Commander

SECOND VICE COMMANDER: Greetings All Post 327 Members!

October is upon us. We do have many events going on this month before we enter the holiday months.

Thursday Night Football on the big screen - Oct 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th.

Sunday Football on the big screen - Oct 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th.

Monday night football on the big screen - Oct 5th, 12th, 19th, and 25th.

Bad Habit will be playing live in the clubroom on October the 10th.

The Navy Birthday will be celebrated in the clubroom on October 13th.

DJ Mike will be in on the 17th for DJ and the 31st for our post Halloween Party. Get your best costume ready! Prizes for Best Male, Best Female, and Best Couple.

Whiskey Tide will be live in the clubroom on October 24th.

If you have not already signed up for the Fall/Winter dart league, the sign up sheet is on the 2nd Vice door. The new season kicks off October 7th.

For God and Country, Keith Shanesy 2nd Vice Commander

THIRD VICE COMMANDER: Greetings Post 327 members. Effective 1 October 2026 there will be a fee for using the Legion Hall. A new Venue Rental Contract has been prepared to reflect this. The contract will be signed by the renter and Clubroom Manager at the time of rental. This does not include military functions and a Celebration of Life for a member which will be exempt from all fees.

Please do not put cigarette butts on the ground outside of the building. There are cigarette receptacles by the front door and also on the side of the building at the entrances to both doors. Please do not help yourselves to the drinks in the reach in coolers behind the bar in the hall. These are purchased by the VSOs for clients or by a person who has rented the hall for an event. It is very disconcerting for the person who purchased

the water or drinks to find they have disappeared. Thank you. For God and Country, Colleen Lemond, 3rd Vice Commander

ADJUTANT: It is time to get our blood donation program up and running. If you are interested in donating blood, please sign-up at the Post. For God and Country, Tracy Cortez, Adjutant

SERVICE OFFICER: Greeting post 327. I hope that everyone enjoyed their Labor Day holiday. Post Service Officers are available Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 1000-1500. We are closed on holidays. As always, I would like to thank all of the Service Officers for all the hard work they do in supporting our Veterans.

Did you know that you can turn your military skills into a thriving trucking career? With VA funding and fast-track programs, success on the road is within reach. Go to FreedomHaulers.dot.gov to start your journey today!

-Up to 100% tuition coverage for approved programs.

-\$70K average annual earnings for truckers under President Trump.

-7.42% increase in annual earnings under President Trump.

-Veterans with the right military experience may be able to skip CDL skills and knowledge tests. For God and Country, Lee Goldman, Post Service Officer

CHAPLAIN: October Greetings Legion Family!

Fall is here! One of my favorite times of the year and a great opportunity to get out and do a Buddy Check! A quick coffee, lunch date, apple cider by a campfire, or a quick phone call could make a huge difference in someone's life.

Thank you so much to those who attended the Advanced Directives and Future Planning Workshop. I hope everyone received some helpful information. The Be the One Committee will be meeting again soon, and we are planning our Be the One Training for this month. As soon as the training schedule is released, I will announce the day and time for this event which will be held in the Post Hall. We have some great upcoming mental health opportunities coming up for those who are interested!

As always, if you have any ideas for me or the Be the One Committee or if you just need to talk, please contact me at chaplain327@gmail.com or 757-828-6712.

For God and Country, Desh Nendze, Chaplain

LEGION RIDERS: The American Legion Riders Chapter 327 are wishing all a restful, peaceful, and fun Labor Day Weekend. Thanks for all that you do!

Upcoming events:

1) Thanks to all Chapter 327, American Legion Riders who supported Kathy and William Wright's daughter's funeral services.

Chapter 327 American Legion Rider would like to thank everyone who supported the Riders Breakfast on Sunday,

September 20, 2026.

The 9th through 10th of October 2026, Columbus Day weekend, the rider's annual safety training while on the road in Luray, VA. Chapter 327 rider and supporter's, 1 st Annual Safety Training ride while on the road from the 9 th through 10th of October 2026, Columbus Day weekend in Luray, VA. 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.

SQUADRON COMMANDER: Why should I renew my S.A.L. Squadron 327 membership early?

- Stay in good standing.
- Keeps membership benefits uninterrupted.
- One less thing to remember — or budget for — during the busy holiday season.

So, if you haven't renewed yet, why wait? Come and see Squadron 1st VCDR Dawson Montagna - Renew early — and help keep Squadron 327's membership strong!

A special raffle prize is being prepared by our 2nd VCDR - do your part by volunteering to be part of the ticket sales team!

Want it done, call a Son. Be that Son.

For God and Country, Alan J. "AJ" Cole, Sr., Squadron 327 Commander

ATHLETIC OFFICER: Good Evening Legionnaires, I would like to take a moment to thank all the volunteers who helped with last Friday's dinner, especially Lara for preparing a great meal. We truly appreciate everyone's hard work and the continued support of our Legionnaires.

Our Senior Softball Team is currently in Las Vegas competing against 38 other teams in their bracket. We'll share the results once the tournament is completed.

The Pool League is also in full swing, and we're looking forward to a great season.

Upcoming Events:

-Athletic Banquet: Postponed until a later date. A new date will be announced soon.

-Comedy Show – November 7th: Doors open at 6:00 PM, and the show starts at 7:00 PM. Tickets are only \$30, featuring three great comedians. Please see the flyer posted outside the hall for more information.

Thank you again for your continued support of the Athletic Department and American Legion Post 327.

Respectfully, Michael Encalade Athletic Officer

HONOR GUARDS CORNER: Happy Fall from the Honor Guard members. We're thrilled to wish the U.S. Navy a Happy Birthday on October 13. As they celebrate 251 years of unwavering courage and dedication to our nation. In September, we had the privilege of rendering final honors to

our fellow veterans and standing alongside a sailor marking the end of their service. As members of the Legion Family, we know the power of community: reach out to your brothers and sisters in arms, check in with fellow veterans and their families, and strengthen the bonds that hold us together. For any requests or questions, contact Otha Newton.

For God and Country, Mary Taggart

ALA PRESIDENT: Happy Halloween month!

Membership eligibility requirements have changed! Visit <https://www.legion-aux.org/eligibility>

to determine if your relatives and friends fit into the new guidelines, or contact me if you have any further questions. The ALA is hosting the veterans from the Hampton VA Medical Center on October 2nd 2026 for our semi-annual fish fry to show our appreciation to them. We are asking for donations of desserts for this event. We will also be selling fish dinners in the clubroom. The dinner will include fish, mac and cheese, coleslaw, hushpuppies and dessert for \$12.00. If you can spare a couple of hours to volunteer for this event, I am sure the veterans from the VA would appreciate it. We will need volunteers for the clubroom and the hall.

On October 24th we will be having our annual trunk or treat in the parking lot from 1-4 or until the candy runs out. Let's see your spookiest costume and decorated cars. The kids will love it. There will be a donation box in the clubroom for donations of candy.

For God and Country, Kathy Morrison

CLUBROOM MANAGER: Hello everyone, can you believe Fall Season is upon us. I just have a few issues I would like to address. First, please be patient during shift change. The bartenders are trying their best to take care of you. It has been on the scroll on the tv monitors for a couple of years that there will not be any service during shift change. Some of you have been a bit impatient with our bartenders and becoming rude when it isn't necessary. Second, if you are sharing a locker with anyone, and the person whose name is assigned to that locker isn't here, the bartender is not Allowed to open the locker for you. Once again, we are having issues from members who have an issue showing your membership cards when asked. Everyone knows the house rules. You must have it with you when entering the building. You must present your membership when asked by the bartender, management, and or officers. Finally, it is stated in the house rules that the jukebox will not be turned on during football on Sundays. God and Country, Angie Hernandez, Clubroom Manager

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To receive text alerts,

text **AL327** to
78859

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



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				Thu		Fri		Sat			
				1		2		3			
				20:00 - Thur Nite FB		14:30 - ALA FISH FRY					