



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

E-Mail: amlg327@yahoo.com

SEPTEMBER 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 move into September, Post 327 continues to stand strong on the pillars that define who we are: service, camaraderie, and commitment to our veterans and community. This month marks the beginning of our fall outreach season, and I want to thank every member who has stepped forward to support our programs, attend meetings, and keep our Post active and engaged.

September is a time of remembrance and reflection. Patriot Day reminds us of the unity and resolve that emerged from one of our nation's darkest moments on 9/11. As Legionnaires, we honor that spirit by continuing to serve—whether participating in community events or simply checking in on a fellow veteran who may need a hand.

Membership remains a top priority. If you know a veteran who hasn't visited the Post in a while, invite them back. A personal outreach call or a friendly conversation can make all the difference. Our strength comes from our members, and every new or returning face adds to the legacy we carry forward.

We also have several important programs and events on the horizon, including preparations for Veterans Day and ongoing support for our veterans. I want to thank the Chaplain for

standing up and chairing the new Be The One Committee. The committee will need assistance; more information will come from Desh. These efforts reflect our commitment not only to tradition but to the evolving needs of today's veterans and their families.

Thank you for your continued dedication to Post 327. Together, we keep our mission alive—serving veterans, supporting our community, and honoring the values that make the American Legion a cornerstone of service. For God and Country. Bob DeChamplain, Commander

FIRST VICE COMMANDER: There is still time to renew your membership for 2027 and be entered for the drawing for a free PUFL membership.

Enter In Person OR Online. I'm providing weekly updates for office hours on Facebook and by text. Contact me if you need to be added to either one. A sign in the lobby is also being updated weekly. Together, we can make this a successful and memorable membership year.

Tip of the Month: Take a photo of your ID and keep it handy on your phone. Valid for use at the post, and less wear and tear

on the card. For God and Country, Alan J. "AJ" Cole, Sr. Post 327 1st Vice Commander

SECOMD VICE COMMANDER: Greetings Post 327 Family!

We are winding down from a very busy Summer! We have one more huge event coming up on September the 6th with the Annual Labor Day Picnic.

We do have a busy month of September coming up and a few new things.

September the 11th will mark the 25th anniversary of 9/11. On that clear September morning, nearly 3,000 innocent lives were taken in acts of unimaginable cruelty. We remember those who lost their lives in New York, at the Pentagon, and aboard United Airlines Flight 93. They were mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, friends, coworkers, first responders, and fellow Americans. They were people who began that day expecting an ordinary morning—and whose families were left with an empty chair that could never truly be filled.

We will be observing this somber day on September the 11th at 7:45pm. Even though it is not a celebration, we will have a cake to commemorate this anniversary. Please be respectful during the ceremony.

September 26th we will have DJ Mike in the clubroom. This will be a 1970's themed night. Put on your boogie shoes and your Pimp of the Year outfits and come join us. We will have cash prizes for Best Male, Best Female, and Best Couple. You can only enter one category, so give your outfits some thought! Entertainment for September is as follows:

September 6th - Labor Day Picnic 1-4pm

Whiskey Tide outside

September 9th - NFL on the Big Screen

September 10th - NFL on the Big Screen

September 11th - 9/11 Anniversary

September 12th - DJ Mike Karaoke

September 13th - NFL in the clubroom

September 14th - MNF on the Big Screen

September 17th - TNF on the Big Screen

September 18th - Air Force Birthday

September 19th - Cam Head and the Noisemakers in the clubroom

September 20th - NFL in the clubroom

September 21st - MNF on the Big Screen

September 24th - TNF on the Big Screen

September 26th - DJ Mike 1970's Party

September 27th - NFL in the clubroom

September 28th - MNF on the Big Screen

For God and Country, Keith Shanesy, 2nd Vice Commander

THIRD VICE COMMANDER: Greetings Post 327 members.

There are volunteer opportunities for the Labor Day picnic on Sunday September 6th and hope you can come and help out. There is a sign-up sheet located on the hall door listing what volunteer positions are needed. You asked and we listened. The free drink lottery is now being offered every day

by the bartenders. Stop in and see if the last 2 numbers on your membership card match the numbers drawn for the day. The new menu for the kitchen is now out and posted outside the kitchen door. We will be adding some new items as they become available. The Juniors members can now get a key fob to make it easier to log their volunteer hours. They can swipe their fob at the beginning and end of the event on the fob reader located outside the post office located in the hall to record their hours.

For God and Country, Colleen Lemond, 3rd Vice Commander

ADJUTANT: Please be sure you are reporting your volunteer hours. If you need assistance from me, just ask when you see me or email me at adjutant327@gamil.com For God and Country, Tracy Cortez, Adjutant

SERVICE OFFICER: Greetings all. I hope everyone is enjoying their summer.

Please note that the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's Office of Investor Education and Assistance, in partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), will provide an interactive program on Never Stop Learning: Protect Your Nest Egg on August 25, 2026 at 12pm ET.

This presentation is part of the SEC's "Take Charge Tuesday" series, and this session will cover investing basics such as risk and return and the latest changes from SECURE Act 2.0.

You'll learn how diversification can reduce the risk of investing and how to monitor your accounts and research investments and investment professionals. You will also learn how to spot the red flags of scams, including relationship scams that can begin with a single random text.

Please join us and be sure to check out the free financial planning tools and resources on the SEC's webpage, www.investor.gov/veterans.

For God and Country, Lee Goldman

CHAPLAIN: September Greetings Legion Family!

So many exciting things are starting to happen as Fall begins to arrive! The Be the One Committee met, and I am very excited about the energy and opportunities we have to help our fellow veterans. We have some great upcoming mental health opportunities for those who are interested.

First, we will have a Be the One table at the Labor Day picnic. Please stop by, say hi, and grab a brochure and a giveaway!

Next, in connection with our VEP (Veterans Engagement Program), we will host a Group Therapy session focusing on positive coping skills and self-care. Even if you are not part of VEP, please feel free to join us on Saturday, September 19th at 2:30 PM in the Hall. If you are interested in joining VEP for its final month, you can access our link

at https://nsugradstudies.iad1.qualtrics.com/ffe/form/SV_elp6PXgskLp6ALA. The Virginia Department of Veterans Services will be conducting their site visit soon, and we are honored to have been a part of this mission.

Finally for September, we will host an Advanced Directives & Future Planning Workshop on Saturday, September 26th from

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM in the Hall. Confirmed presentations include Sentara, an attorney, a financial consultant, and an insurance agent. I am also hoping to secure a service officer and a funeral home. All are invited to attend this impactful presentation.

As always, if you have any ideas for me or the Be the One Committee, 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) Chapter 327 American Legion Riders Breakfast will be held on Sunday, September 20, 2026, from 9 AM to 12 PM at 705 Lesner AVE, Norfolk. The cost is \$12 dollars a person.

2) 25-26 September, VA ALR 16th Annual State Rally Chapter 79 South Hill, VA (High Mileage/Safety Award and the Department of Virginia, Rider of the Year Award.

For additional information contact Rick Millard, ALR 79 email address: spectrumtel.millard@gmail.com.

3) Chapter 327 rider and supporter's, 1st Annual Safety Training ride while on the road the 9th 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: Squadron 327 continues to grow. July was a great month with 11 new members and one transfer in. 2027 Renewals are going well. Working together we can create a stronger base to support our veterans and community. Increasing numbers is only part of the equation. Increasing participation is essential. Live up to our purpose. Want it done, call a Son. Be that Son.

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

Squadron 327 Commander
SAL327Commander@gmail.com

ATHLETIC OFFICER:

HONOR GUARDS CORNER: Hello from the Honor Guard! We hope your summer was enjoyable and filled with moments with those you love. Our team enjoyed a quieter season, and we're grateful our members had time to reconnect with family and friends while recharging for what's ahead.

As we head into fall, we're asking everyone to stay connected. Especially now that school is back in session and colder weather is coming, now is the perfect time to reach out to your buddies and their families. A simple check-in, a phone call, a text, or a coffee can make all the difference. We know that cooler months can be isolating, especially for those who thrive on activity and community. Let's make sure no one feels alone. This September, we also pause to honor and remember:

September 11 – Patriot Day — We hold close those we lost and express our deep gratitude to the first responders and service members who answered the call.

September 18 – Air Force Birthday and POW/MIA Day — The Air Force celebrates 79 years of service. We're proud to honor every Airman, past and present, who has worn the uniform.

POW/MIA Recognition Day History

POW/MIA Recognition Day was established in 1979 and is observed on the third Friday in September. The POW/MIA flag represents the enduring commitment to those who served and those still unaccounted for. Designed in 1971 by commercial artist and WWII Army veteran Newt Heisley at the request of Mary Hoff, wife of a missing Navy pilot, this flag has become a powerful symbol of remembrance. Mrs. Hoff never sought a patent or commercial ownership right to this flag. Congress officially recognized it in 1990. By 1997, it was designated to fly on six federal holidays, and in 2019, the requirement expanded so the POW/MIA flag now flies at prominent federal buildings every day the American flag is displayed.

The Honor Guard is here to support our Legion Family and community. If you'd like to join, have a question, or need to request services, please reach out to Otha Newton.

For God and Country, Mary Taggart

ALA PRESIDENT: Where did the summer go? Poof it's already over and the kids are back in school, with that being said please be mindful of the school buses traveling in your neighborhoods so we can keep the children safe.

I want to thank the post family for your generous donations for our annual back-to-school drive. We stuffed over 200 backpacks for the six schools that we donate to. I want to thank everyone who came to pack the backpacks we had a great turnout of volunteers and could not have done it without your support. Please make sure to log your volunteer hours. The Labor Day picnic is fast approaching and as always volunteers are what make our picnics a great success. There are many opportunities to volunteer your time.

We will be hosting the Hampton VA hospital veterans on Friday October 2nd for the semi-annual fish-fry to show our appreciation for them and will need volunteers for this event. Sign-up sheets will be posted later this month.

The auxiliary sponsored 15 veterans from the VA Hospital to attend a tides game on September 1st. Thanks go out to the post for their donation for food for the vets while they are at the game.

Our dinner for September is on 9/25/2026 we will be serving Chicken Marsala made by our own Cathy Conte with roasted Zucchini and a side of spaghetti with marinara sauce with garlic bread. There will be a mystery dessert as well. You don't want to miss this dinner it is yummy. All this deliciousness for the low price of \$12.00,

Please keep our President Crystal Cross in your thoughts and prayers. For God and Country, Kathy Morrison

September 2026

Sep 2026 (Eastern Time - New York

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
		18:30 - ALA Exec M @ 19:00 - ALA Reg M	19:00 - 40/8			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
NO Breakfast Today 15:30 - Club 327 19:00 - Movies	Labor Day 19:30 - Post 5 Mtg @	18:30 - AMLG Ex M @ 19:30 - AMLG Reg M @		18:30 - CIVIC LEAGUE		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
09:00 - Breakfast 15:30 - Club 327 19:00 - Movies		19:00 - SAL Exec M @ 19:30 - SAL Reg M	18:30 - VVA Ch 48 Mtg	18:30 - ALR Mtg @	17:30 - SOFTBALL	11:15 - USSVI MTG @ 14:30 - Veterans
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
09:00 - Riders 15:30 - Club 327 19:00 - Movies	19:00 - Honor Guard		18:30 - 757NSAG ?			13:00 - Advance
27	28	29	30	To receive text alerts, text AL327 to 78859 TO VIEW OUR CALENDAR ON-LINE SCAN QR CODE WITH YOUR CAMERA OR GO TO TIDEWATERPOST327.ORG 		
09:00 - Breakfast 15:30 - Club 327 19:00 - Movies	18:00 - RASON Mtg @					