

THE VERDE VALLEY BUGLE CALL

Post 25 Cottonwood AZ
480 S. Calvary Way



POST
25
COTTONWOOD AZ

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



January 2026

Newsletter@alpost25az.org

Editor: David Kauppinen (USN)

Commander: Bill Tinnin (USA)

First Vice Cdr: James Galczynski (USN)

Adjutant: John Scott (USN)

Executive Committee: Keith Vogler (USMC) - Jamie Galczynski (USN) - Winifred Follett (USAF)

Finance Officer: DeDe Dexter (USAF)

Second Vice Cdr: Vacant

Sergeant-at-Arms: Dave Bickel (USA)

Previous issues of this newsletter are available at <https://alpost25az.org>

Adjutant Message



Renewals for 2026 were due by January 1st. If a delinquent member has not paid his/her dues by January 31, then he/she shall be suspended from all Post privileges, and lose all his/her accumulated consecutive years. The Bartenders started checking member ID cards on January 1. To restore your membership drop off \$50 at the bar or see me to renew your card. To renew on-line, go to <https://www.legion.org/renew>.

John Scott, Adjutant

SAL Squadron Commander Message



We currently have 117 SAL members and so far, 88 members have renewed their 2026 membership. If a Squadron member did not pay by January 1, he has lost access to membership privileges. These privileges will not be reinstated until the 2026 dues are paid. The Bartenders started checking member ID cards on January 1.

Membership dues are \$40.00. To renew your membership, see Rick Shriver or Vinny Berdar. Membership dues can also be paid by mail to: American Legion Post 25

Attention Rick Shriver, 480 S. Calvary Way Cottonwood AZ 86326. Checks should be made out to "American Legion Squadron 25".

The revised SAL Constitution and Bylaws have been approved by the Squadron Adjutant and are now available for viewing or download on our webpage <https://alpost25az.org/sal.html>

Rick Shriver, Squadron Commander

Auxiliary Fundraising



The American Legion Child Well-Being Foundation Challenge is our chance to make a real difference for children who need us. Every small effort you put in becomes part of something bigger - something filled with compassion, purpose, and community. Let's take this on together with enthusiasm and heart. Your participation matters, and together we can create something truly inspiring. "This challenge isn't just about raising funds, it's about lifting up the young people who depend on us - children who deserve stability, hope, and the knowledge that their Legion family stands firmly behind them. Every dollar we raise becomes more than a donation, it becomes a message: You matter. You are not forgotten. We are here for you. And when our Post comes together - Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders - we are unstoppable. Each group brings its own energy, passion, and spirit of service. When we combine that strength, we create something powerful enough to change lives. So let's take on this challenge with pride. Let's show what our Post can do when we rally around our kids. Let's make this year's contribution to the Child Well-Being Foundation our strongest yet. Together, we can give these children the support, stability, and opportunities they deserve. Together, we can make a difference that lasts. Keep putting your change in the white piggy banks. Thank You !! We have until April 15 to get our Donation in. I think the Riders are in the lead.



A heartfelt thank you to all our members who helped make this year's ALA Christmas Craft Fair and Bake Sale such a tremendous success. Your generosity, creativity, and hard work truly shined. From the beautiful handmade crafts to the delicious baked goods, every contribution reflected the spirit of giving that defines our Legion Family. Because of your efforts and the incredible support from our community, we received wonderful donations and raised an impressive amount of money. These funds will go directly toward supporting our programs and helping those who depend on us, especially during the holiday season. We could not have done this without each and every one of you. Whether you baked, crafted, donated, worked a table, or simply showed up to support, you made a difference. Thank you for your dedication, your teamwork, and your holiday spirit. Together, we continue to show what the American Legion Family can accomplish when we unite for a purpose. With Gratitude The ALA Craft Fair and Bake Sale Committee.

Peggy Miller, Auxiliary Executive Committee and CWF Chairman

Upcoming Post Activities – January 2025

Legion Family meeting dates and additional information can be found on the Post Calendar at <https://alpost25az.org> and <https://www.facebook.com/AmLeg.Post.25>

- The following meals will occur on Thursday Bingo nights this month from 5PM to 6:30PM:
 - January 08 - DogTown and Beyond: Food Truck
 - January 15 - Boy Scout Dinner: Brats
 - January 22 - Auxiliary Dinner: Chili Cook Off
 - January 29 - Chicken Wings
- January 17 - Concealed Carry Weapons (CCW) Class 4-8 pm.
See [US Concealed Carry Registration](#) If registering on-line, Post members should leave the Credit Card spaces blank and use Coupon Code "ALP25", or register at the door prior to 4 pm.
- January 27 - Red Cross Blood Drive 10 am - 3 pm

Military Technology - Artificial Intelligence Command and Control

On December 17, 2025, the Shadow Operations Center-Nellis, or ShOC-N, concluded its 2025 Experimentation Series with Capstone 2025, a pivotal event designed to enhance joint and coalition interoperability and accelerate progress in command-and-control modernization. As the culminating event of a series of rigorous experiments, Capstone 2025 focused on artificial intelligence applications for Command and Control (C2), human-machine teaming, kill chain automation, and multi-domain operations at Nellis Air Force Base. See [Capstone 2025 - Dynamic Targeting Coalition Integration](#)

Military History

Medal of Honor Action: July 7, 1944, Saipan, Marianas Islands **Citation:** For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Captain Ben L. Salomon was serving at Saipan, in the Marianas Islands on July 7, 1944, as the Surgeon for the 2nd Battalion, 105th Infantry Regiment, 27th Infantry Division. The Regiment's 1st and 2nd Battalions were attacked by an overwhelming force estimated between 3,000 and 5,000 Japanese soldiers. It was one of the largest attacks attempted in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Although both units fought furiously, the enemy soon penetrated the Battalions' combined perimeter and inflicted overwhelming casualties. In the first minutes of the attack, approximately 30 wounded soldiers walked, crawled, or were carried into Captain Salomon's aid station, and the small tent soon filled with wounded men. Realizing the gravity of the situation, Captain Salomon ordered the wounded to make their way as best they could back to the regimental aid station, while he attempted to hold off the enemy until they were clear. Captain Salomon then grabbed a rifle from one of the wounded and rushed out of the tent. After four men were killed while manning a machine gun, Captain Salomon took control of it. When his body was later found, 98 dead enemy soldiers were piled in front of his position. Captain Salomon's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself his unit and the United States Army. (Ref. <https://www.cmozs.org/recipients/benjamin-l-salomon>)

