

THE VERDE VALLEY BUGLE CALL

Post 25 Cottonwood AZ
480 S. Calvary Way



POST
25
COTTONWOOD AZ

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



September 2025

Newsletter@alpost25az.org

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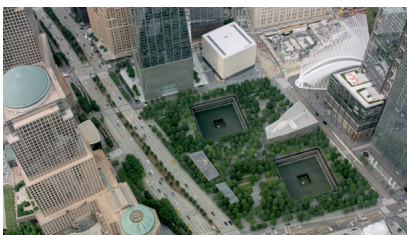
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Previous issues of this newsletter are available at <https://alpost25az.org>



9/11/25 Patriot Day honors the 2,977 people killed in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New York City, Arlington, Virginia, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The National September 11 Memorial & Museum commemorates the event each year with a ceremony on the Memorial plaza, where family members read the names of the victims of the 9/11 attacks and the 1993 World Trade Center bombing.



The 24th anniversary ceremony, scheduled for September 11, 2025, will include six moments of silence to mark the times when the World Trade Center towers were struck and fell, the Pentagon was attacked, and Flight 93 crashed.



The 9/11 attacks, which killed nearly 600 more people than the attack on Pearl Harbor, were the deadliest on American soil since that event and prompted a profound national response. The National Archives safeguards records related to the attacks, including those from the 9/11 Commission and the George W. Bush Presidential Library. The defense community and organizations like the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars reaffirm their commitment to remembering the lives lost and the sacrifices made on that day.

Adjutant Message



Hello Members of Post 25: Our current Active Membership is at 400 members with early renewal numbers for 2026 now at 215 members. All of these “Early Birds” who have renewed between July 1 and October 31 have an “Early Bird” stamp applied to their card which gives the member a free “Early Bird” Dinner hosted by the Post in November. There’s still time to take advantage of this! To renew, you have several options:

- 1) On line with a credit card at <https://alpost25az.org/> (see Announcements on first page).
- 2) Using the pre-addressed envelope you received, mail a \$50 check to “American Legion Post 25, 480 S. Calvary Way, Cottonwood, AZ 86326”.
- 3) Drop off the envelope with \$50 cash or check at the Post; just give it to the bartender who will place it in my mail slot at the bar. I can mail the membership card to you or leave it at the bar for you to pick up. If you would like your card laminated, just sign your card and catch me or the bartender who can laminate it for you.
- 4) I’m in/out throughout the week with “Office hours” typically Monday and Wednesday from 1200-1600 and at most Legion Events including the Fish Fry on Fridays. My email is: adjutant@alpost25az.org

John Scott, Adjutant

Auxiliary President Message



American Legion Auxiliary Annual Yard Sale will be on September 26th and 27th from 7:30 am to 2 pm. The donations drop-off deadline is September 15th. Clean non-broken items will be accepted, however, if you wouldn't buy the item please don't bring it. All proceeds will go to the National Auxiliary Emergency Relief Fund.

MEMBERSHIP - Do you need to renew your Auxiliary Membership? Every member that renews by September 7th gets a free entry ticket for the \$200.00 prize. We will draw the winner at our monthly meeting on Sept 8th at 5 pm. To renew, stop by the Post and ask for Lisa or DeDe. Also, renewing before Oct 31st gets you a free Early Bird Dinner Stamp.

DeDe Dexter, President Unit 25

SAL Squadron Commander Message



Thursday September 11th – there will a “9/11 Commemoration” starting at 4pm, followed by the Sons Sloppy Joe and Tater Tots Dinner starting at 5pm.

Reminder: renew your 2026 SAL membership today. To qualify for the free Early Bird dinner, your membership card must be picked up by October 31, 2025.

We would like to Welcome our new members who joined the in Sons August: Justin Peterson and Michael Nelson.

Rick Shriver, Squadron Commander

New Members

Post 25 welcomes the following new Legion members:



ARMY



MARINES



NAVY



AIR FORCE



COAST GUARD

James Ybarra-USMC

Dana Smercheck- USAF

Upcoming Post Activities – September 2025

Legion Family meeting dates and additional information can be found on the Post calendar <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:
 - September 04 - Commander's dinner: Chicken Wings
 - September 11 - Sons dinner: Sloppy Joes and Tater Tots
 - September 18 - Air Force dinner: SOS (creamed chipped beef on toast)
 - September 25 - Auxiliary dinner: Lasagna, salad and roll
- September 11: Patriot Day 9/11 Commemoration 4PM
- September 26 and 27: Yard Sale 7AM

Military Technology



Paratroopers Make History With Army's First Drone-on-Drone Strike - Aug. 27, 2025 | By Army Capt. Jennifer French, 173rd Airborne Brigade. The Army destroyed a fixed wing drone aircraft in flight using a first-person-view drone carrying an explosive charge (claymore mine). The strike took place earlier this month during the Army's Unmanned Aerial Systems and Launched Effects Summit, held Aug. 11-15 at Fort Rucker, Alabama. The success came after weeks of training. Paratroopers flew for hours each day, building muscle memory while rehearsing how to engage a fast-moving

aircraft. Once on the ground at Fort Rucker, the operators flew daily in changing weather, preparing for a target that could appear anywhere across the range. Technical skill proved to be as important as piloting.

The team was soldering, disassembling, reassembling, and performing quality assurance around the clock while rehearsals were underway. While tactical units and technicians may not share the same language, they do share an intellectual curiosity and desire to succeed. With the right kit, paratroopers will be able to utilize a low-cost system with preexisting munitions to execute a wide variety of mission tasks, and have the power to protect their unit from an endemic threat.

Every year the Army produces leaders at all levels who are better educated now than ever before.

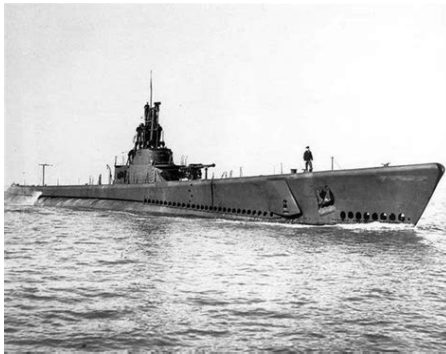
The drone demonstration showed that innovation doesn't have to come from the top.

[https://www.defense.gov/News/Army First Drone-on-drone Strike/](https://www.defense.gov/News/Army%20First%20Drone-on-drone%20Strike/)

Military History

Loss of a WWII Submarine

Gato Class submarine USS Flier (SS-250) departed Fremantle, Australia on August 2, 1944 with orders to proceed via Balabac Strait to the South China Sea. While on route an Ultra radio message was



received about a southbound Japanese convoy, so speed was increased and the bridge watch doubled as the ship threaded its way through Balabac Strait. On August 13 at ~2200 near Comiran Island, Flier struck a mine on the starboard side. Diesel fuel, water and debris rained down on the bridge while yells and screams came from below. Air rushed out of the conning tower hatch (propelling some crewmen out through the hatch), and she sank within 30 seconds. At least 15 men of her 86 man crew found themselves in the water without life jackets and facing a swim for their lives. Commander John Crowley led his crew of survivors for the 12 mile swim to Mantangule Island. Only 8 men survived the 17-1/2 hour swim, five of them with the assistance of a floating palm tree.



The group made a 7ft X 4ft foot raft and island hopped in search of food and water until reaching Bugsuk Island. There they were found by friendly guerrillas of the Bolo Battalion who were armed with a mixture of rifles, blow guns, and bolos. Using their sailboat, the guerrillas took the survivors to Brookes Point, Palawan Island where there was a team of U.S. Army coast watchers. The survivors used an Army radio to arrange evacuation by the submarine USS Redfin (SS-272) on August 31, 1944. The survivors were taken to Australia where they eventually recuperated from their ordeal and went on to other assignments. The wreck of the

USS Flier was discovered in the spring of 2009 near Balabac Island, Philippines, at a depth of over 300 feet. (Ref. <https://archive.navalsubleague.org/1996/to-sink-and-swim-the-uss-flier>)

Interviewer: Can you tell me about your tasks in the military?

Me: I carried out daily biological decontamination at critical military facilities using a specialized mobile hydraulic dispensing unit

