

THE VERDE VALLEY BUGLE CALL

Post 25 Cottonwood AZ
480 S. Calvary Way



POST
25
COTTONWOOD AZ

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



August 2026

Newsletter@alpost25az.org

Editor: David Kauppinen (USN)

Commander: John Scott (USN)

First Vice Cdr: David Kauppinen (USN)

Adjutant: Marilyn James (USN)

Executive Committee: Keith Vogler (USMC) - Clint Lisk (USAF) - Winifrid 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>

Commander Message



Moving Forward: Hello fellow American Legion Family members! Welcome to the new American Legion 2027 Fiscal Year. A month has passed since starting transition to the newly elected Executive Committee. We have been quite busy planning, surveying issues, and doing maintenance. A full update will be presented at the General Meeting meeting on August 17th. Lots to report!

Membership Update: We have already processed a significant number of existing membership renewals for fiscal year 2027. In addition, we have a lot of new and transfer members, so a lot to process. As our Adjutant is not yet onboard, I've been standing in and should have this caught up in the next two weeks. Remember that members who renew by October 31st will receive the "Early Bird" stamp on their card which entitles them to a free dinner (usually December). The big advantage is that this card is good for 18 months until December 2027! We'll be contacting all the renewal, new, and transfers to campaign for this membership.



Volunteer Opportunities: Last month's volunteer project was painting two picnic tables. Thanks to the Sheriff's Office Trustees, this project is done. There will be lots more volunteer projects as we move forward.

John Scott, President

Auxiliary President Message



Why It Matters to be an Auxiliary Member: Every veteran has a story. Every sacrifice has weight. Every act of service - whether on the battlefield or in the community - deserves recognition. I joined the American Legion Auxiliary because I wanted to help carry that responsibility. Additionally, I believe that through compassion, dedication, and unity, we can continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of veterans and their families. Service is not just what we do - it's who we are. As long as there are veterans who need support, the American Legion Auxiliary will be there. See [Why I Joined the American Legion Auxiliary](#) for the rest of this story. Hope to see you at the next meeting, each second Monday of the month at 5:00 PM.

Peggy Miller, ALU President

SAL Squadron Commander Message

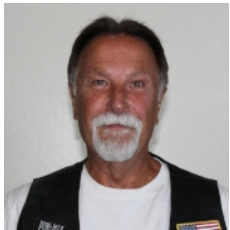


The Sons will not have any meetings in August. We will resume our meetings on Tuesday September 8th, due to Labor Day on Monday September 7th.

Membership Cards for 2027 are available at the Post. Dues are \$40.00. To renew 1) see Rick Shriver or Vinny Berdar, 2) mail a check to: "American Legion Squadron 25" Attention Rick Shriver, 480 S. Calvary Way Cottonwood AZ 86326, or 3) renew on-line at <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/SAL-Renew>

Rick Shriver, Squadron Commander

American Legion Riders Director Message



Hello everyone. This is a short list of upcoming activities Post 25 ALR members will be involved with. As you have probably seen, there is a beautiful Mini-Bike on display at the Post. It will be raffled off on Labor Day, September 7th @5:30 pm during the Pot Luck meal. Purchase your chance(s) to win at the bar for \$10.00 per ticket. Remember, Christmas is just around the corner.

On August 29th the ALR will be at the VA in Prescott serving up hot dogs and burgers to the veterans there. This is an annual event that District 8 ALR does. The Appreciation Dinner that ALR 25 provided was on July 25th. I hope those that attended had a good time.

Respectfully, Gary Wilharm, ALR Chapter Director

Veterans Service Officer Message



Keep your address, phone number, email and emergency contact current so you don't miss important VA health care and benefit information. Here are three ways you can update your information:

- 1) Online: www.va.gov/health-care/manage-health or www.va.gov/change-address,
- 2) In person: Visit Building 7 Eligibility and Enrollment Office in Prescott. For questions call 928-445-4860 ext. 6235, 3) Call the Health Eligibility Center: 877-222-8387

(toll-free). Have your Social Security number ready.

Jamie Galczynski, VRO

Officer Profile

Executive Committeeperson - Clint Lisk



Clint has been a member of the American Legion for 5 years and Post 25 for 3 years. Currently he is on the Executive Committee. He served in the Air Force from 1966-1970 as a Tech Sergeant (E-6) and in the Arizona Air National Guard from 1980-1998. His military occupations were USAF Security Police, USAF Combat Security Police, Parachute and Fabrication, and Air Crew Life Support. Clint was stationed at Williams AFB in Arizona, Schofield Barracks in Hawaii, Phan Rang AB and Bien Hoa AB (RVN), Seymour-Jackson AFB in North Carolina, and Nellis AB in Nevada. Clint is married, lives in Sedona, and has 1 son. As a civilian he worked for the Arizona Department of Public Service for 20 years. His hobbies include reading, crossword puzzles, and video games.

July General Meeting Speaker

During the meeting last month Marie Champagne gave a presentation about Legal Shield protection for your family, business, and personal identity. This is a 'work from home' opportunity which includes training and a personalized website. If interested, text 623-332-3408 (no calls please), or email mchampagne90@yahoo.com. Ref. <https://mchampagne.legalshieldassociate.com/>

Upcoming Post Activities – August 2026

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:
 - August 06 - Food Truck: Dog Town
 - August 13 - SAL: To Be Determined
 - August 20 - Boy Scouts: Chicken and Waffles
 - August 27 - Auxiliary: Sub Sandwiches and Chips
- August 7 - Purple Heart Day: Recipients get a no cost Fish Fry Dinner, please let us know who you are
- August 9 - Shuffleboard Breakfast (New!) at 9AM, Eggs, Bacon, and Biscuits \$8, Bar Open 9:30AM
- August 18 - Taco Tuesday (New!): Noon to 3PM
- August 22 - Kitchen Annual Cleaning, 8 AM (volunteers needed, cleaning and moving heavy objects)
- August 23 - Concealed Carry Weapons (CCW) Class 8AM - 12PM
See [US Concealed Carry Registration](#) If registering on-line, Post members should leave the Credit Card spaces blank and use Coupon Code "ALP25". You can also register at the door prior to 8AM.

Preventing Credit Fraud - No Cost to You

Protect yourself from identity theft by implementing a "Credit Freeze" at each of the three major credit bureaus individually. A credit freeze does not affect your credit score nor prevent existing creditors from accessing your report; it blocks new creditors and fraudsters from accessing the accounts.

1. Equifax: <https://www.equifax.com/personal/help/article-list/-/h/a/place-lift-remove-security-freeze/>
2. Experian: <https://www.experian.com/help/credit-freeze/> or call 1-888-397-3742
3. TransUnion: <https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze> or call 1-800-916-8800

Military News



In 249 years of United States Navy history, there had never been a husband and wife who both earned Admiral rank until Keith and Yvette Davids. Rear Admiral Keith Davids was a Navy SEAL for over three decades; SEAL Team Two Platoon Commander, Naval Special Warfare Development Group, commanded SEAL Team One, led the Naval Special Warfare Center, directed the White House Military Office, and eventually commanded all of Naval Special Warfare. Rear Admiral Keith B. Davids retired on August 2, 2024, following a 34-year career.



His wife, Vice Admiral Yvette Davids started at the U.S. Naval Academy one year before Keith where they met on the sailing team. She became the first woman of Hispanic heritage to command a United States Navy warship when she took the helm of the missile frigate USS Curtis (FFG-38). Yvette later commanded the USS Bunker Hill (CG-52), and then Carrier Strike Group 11 which includes the flagship USS Nimitz (CVN-68). In 2024, she became the first woman ever to serve as Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy. She is currently serving as the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans, Strategy, and Warfighting Development at the Pentagon. The couple have twin sons, Kai and Kiernan. (Ref: Multiple Internet Sources)

Military Weaponry Life Extension



The Fairchild Republic A-10 Thunderbolt II, widely known as the "Warthog," is a single-seat, twin-turbofan, straight-wing, subsonic attack aircraft developed for the United States Air Force specifically for close air support (CAS) missions. The nickname "Warthog" originated from its rugged appearance and the distinctive snorting sound of its primary weapon, the 30 mm GAU-8/A Avenger Rotary Cannon.

Designed to survive heavy ground fire, the A-10 features 1,200 pounds of titanium armor protecting the cockpit and flight systems, allowing it to continue flying even after sustaining significant damage. It can carry up to 16,000 pounds of ordnance on eight under-wing and three under-fuselage stations, including bombs, missiles, and rockets, while maintaining the ability to operate from short, unpaved airstrips near front lines. Upgrades have extended the life to the late 2030's. See the 10 minute video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hVqaHrYVLM>

**I WISH MY SIBLINGS WOULD STOP
CALLING ME "SPOILED" JUST
BECAUSE I'M THE YOUNGEST
IN THE FAMILY. THE TRUTH IS,
MY PARENTS JUST KEPT HAVING
CHILDREN UNTIL THEY FOUND
THE ONE THEY LIKED. IT'S
REALLY NOT MY FAULT.**