

AMERICAN LEGION  
BICENTENNIAL POST 1976  
4206 Daniels Avenue  
Annandale, VA 22003  
Post Info Line: 703-941-9608  
Email: [rpcomm6759@aol.com](mailto:rpcomm6759@aol.com)  
Website: [www.post1976.org](http://www.post1976.org)



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# American Legion Post 1976

## Summer 2025

### NEWSLETTER





**VOLUME XLV ISSUE #3**

**Summer 2025**

## Post 1976 Officers

### POST 1976 LEGION OFFICERS 2025–2026

**Commander:** Lance Kent; [lancekent17@aol.com](mailto:lancekent17@aol.com)

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Cdr. (Membership):** Gretchen Trujillo;  
[thegretch61@verizon.net](mailto:thegretch61@verizon.net)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Cdr. (Events):** Vacant

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Cdr. (House Comm):** Tommy Kemp;  
[tomar1025warren@hotmail.com](mailto:tomar1025warren@hotmail.com)

**Finance Officer:** Bill Walters; [walters\\_bill@hotmail.com](mailto:walters_bill@hotmail.com)

**Chaplain:** Paul McComb; [pmccomb98@gmail.com](mailto:pmccomb98@gmail.com)

**Historian:** Allison Hoopes; [adlhoopes@yahoo.com](mailto:adlhoopes@yahoo.com)

**Service Officer:** Dorothy Hennessey Vigano  
703-898-6627; [dorothyvigano@yahoo.com](mailto:dorothyvigano@yahoo.com)

**Sgt. At Arms:** Andra Duskie; [aduskie@gmail.com](mailto:aduskie@gmail.com)

**Adjutant:** Vacant

#### MEETINGS:

Executive Board: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.  
General Membership: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.  
House Committee: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

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### SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 1976

**Commander:** Tom Uglietta; [tomug@verizon.net](mailto:tomug@verizon.net)

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice (Membership):** Mike Trujillo  
[mrt.mike@verizon.net](mailto:mrt.mike@verizon.net)

**Treasurer:** Tom Uglietta; [tomug@verizon.net](mailto:tomug@verizon.net)

**Adjutant:** Gary A. Indre

**MEETINGS:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

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### AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 1976

**Director:** Mike Trujillo; [mrt.mike@verizon.net](mailto:mrt.mike@verizon.net)

**Adjutant:** Joyce Landry; [catnaper520@yahoo.com](mailto:catnaper520@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer:** Vacant

**MEETINGS:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

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### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 1976

**President:** Pam McCarthy; [pmccarthy@new-age-inc.com](mailto:pmccarthy@new-age-inc.com)

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Membership:** Gretchen Trujillo;  
[thegretch61@verizon.net](mailto:thegretch61@verizon.net)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Joyce Landry; [catnaper520@yahoo.com](mailto:catnaper520@yahoo.com)

**Secretary:** Sharon Ogle; [share2520@gmail.com](mailto:share2520@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Patti George; [georgpjw@aol.com](mailto:georgpjw@aol.com)

**Chaplain:** Susan Dudding; [susan.dudding@yahoo.com](mailto:susan.dudding@yahoo.com)

**Historian:** Suzanne Weeden; [weeden.suzanne@gmail.com](mailto:weeden.suzanne@gmail.com)

**Sgt. At Arms:** Susan Bodnar; [selikhova@verizon.net](mailto:selikhova@verizon.net)

**MEETINGS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month, 7 p.m., except June, July (no meeting)

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**Club Manager:** Diane Ramsey  
703-941-9608; [rpscomm6759@aol.com](mailto:rpscomm6759@aol.com)

**Newsletter Editor:** Stephanie Kern; [slk04@hotmail.com](mailto:slk04@hotmail.com)

**Website Manager:** Dan Vigano; [daniel.vigano@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.vigano@gmail.com)

**Want to get the newsletter emailed to you? Email Diane Ramsey at [rpcomm6759@aol.com](mailto:rpcomm6759@aol.com).**

### **Commander's Corner**

It is with great honor and humility that I begin my term as Commander of American Legion Post 1976. I want to sincerely thank all of you for your confidence and support. It is truly a privilege to lead a Post so rich in tradition, strength, and dedication to service.

To our outgoing leadership: Thank you for your guidance and commitment. Your work has laid a strong foundation, and I intend to build on that legacy with care, energy, and purpose.

As your new Commander, my priorities are clear:

- Support our veterans with meaningful outreach and programs.
- Increase and strengthen our membership by staying active and welcoming.
- Increase membership participation in Post-related meetings and events.
- Engage the community through events, education, and service.
- And most importantly, honor the values of the American Legion: duty, honor, and country.

I know I won't be doing this alone. I am grateful to have such a passionate team of officers, volunteers, and members who are ready to serve alongside me. If you're reading this and haven't been active in a while, I encourage you to stop by the Post, attend a meeting, or join us at an event. Your experience, ideas, and fellowship are always welcome.

Even though Post 1976's Executive Board currently has outstanding Legionnaires serving on it, we are incomplete. We are looking for volunteers to serve as Second Vice Commander and Post Adjutant. Please let one of us officers know if you are interested.

It's no secret that our Post has gone through a rough patch over the previous 18 months due to a myriad of circumstances, most of which were out of our control. I truly believe that we are starting to turn things around to keep our Post open. This effort isn't mine alone. Nor is it just the Executive Board's efforts. It is going to take all of our members (Legionnaires, Sons, and Auxiliary) to restore our Post's success.

Let's move forward together with purpose, unity, and pride.

Thank you again for this opportunity to serve.

For God and Country,

*Lance Kent, Commander*

### **1st Vice's Report**

It is an honor to be back as your membership chairman.

Legionnaires who live near the legion: We need you all to attend General Membership meetings. Your voices need to be heard and your opinions matter. Please drop in and visit as we would love to see you.

Legion membership cards are in and the dues are \$45.00. You may renew online [here](#). If you don't have an account, you will be able to set one up. You may also remit your membership dues by either mailing them in or dropping them off at the Post: 4206 Daniels Avenue, Annandale, VA 22003.

To save the legion money, the board decided not to have an Early Bird party this year.

*Gretchen Trujillo, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander*

### **2nd Vice's Report**

*This position is currently vacant. Check out our post's calendar of events at [www.post1976.org](http://www.post1976.org).*

### **3rd Vice's Report**

No report this quarter.

*Tommy Kemp, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander*

### **Finance Officer's Report**

No report this quarter.

*Bill Walters, Finance Officer*

### **Chaplain's Report**

Blessings to the Legion family, veterans, and our military this summer. I hope this summer brings you relaxation and time with friends and family! While summer brings holidays and may bring vacation time, it can also be a busy time. Check on your fellow veterans. Be the One:

- To ASK veterans in your life how they are doing.
- To LISTEN when a veteran needs to talk.
- To REACH out when a veteran is struggling

On September 11, Patriot Day gives all of us time to reflect on the devastating terror attacks that took nearly 3,000 lives. We commemorate those who we lost and give thanks to the brave first responders who put their lives on the line. Let us take a moment on September 11th to consider what we stand for as a nation and how we can work together to make the world a better place for all.

A prayer for the anniversary of 9/11:

“O God, our hope and refuge, in our distress we come quickly to you. We come remembering those who lost their lives. We are mindful of the sacrifice of public servants who demonstrated the greatest love of all by laying down their lives for friends. We commit their souls to your eternal care and celebrate their gifts to a fallen humanity. We come remembering and we come in hope, not in ourselves, but in you. In commemorating this tragedy, we give you thanks for your presence in

our time of need and we seek to worship you in Spirit and in truth, our guide and our guardian. Amen.”

*Paul McComb, Chaplain*



**988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: Dial 988 and Press 1. Also available by text: 838255.**

Confidential and available every day, 24/7. The Lifeline has received more than 7.1 million calls. A trained responder will answer your call or text and will ask you a few questions. Your call is free and confidential, and you decide how much you want to share. For more information see the website at [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net).

### **Historian's Report**

No report this quarter.

*Allison Hoopes, Historian*

### **Service Officer's Report**

**Lost your DD-214? The National Archives will now email you a copy!**

I've worked with numerous veterans that have misplaced, lost, or need to replace their DD-214/discharge record. It has been a slow and painful process in the past.

NARA is now taking requests online and it will be emailed directly to you. You must have an email in order to receive your document. If you do not have an email, you can use mine (just let me know to look out for it) and I will print it off and leave it with the bartender on duty.

To order your DD-214, go to  
<https://vetrecs.archives.gov/VeteranRequest/home.html>.

Need help? Want to use my email? Give me a call at 703-898-6627.

*Dorothy Hennessey Vigano, Service Officer*  
[dorothyvigano@yahoo.com](mailto:dorothyvigano@yahoo.com)

### **Sargeant At Arms' Report**

No report this quarter.

*Andra Duskie, Sargeant At Arms*

### **Club Manager's Report**

No report this quarter.

*Diane Ramsey, Club Manager*

### **American Legion Auxiliary Report**

It's a great pleasure to be serving as your membership chairman for 2025–2026.

We achieved a 100% membership goal for 2024–2025. Thank you, Legionnaires, SAL, and Auxiliary, for your support. We couldn't have done this without all of your help.

The Auxiliary cards are in and dues are \$40.00. You may renew your membership online at [www.legion-aux.org/members](http://www.legion-aux.org/members). You may set up an account at this link also. You may also remit your membership dues by either mailing them in or dropping them off at Post 1976: 4206 Daniels Avenue, Annandale, VA 22003.

*Gretchen Trujillo, Auxiliary Ist Vice*

### **Sons of the American Legion Report**

Summer is here—time to get out and enjoy some sunshine.

The 2025 membership year is over for SAL renewals. Our Squadron had a total renewal and new member count of 127 members for the 2025

membership year. That is a couple short of our Department goal of 129 members for our Post, but it was five more than last year, so we should be proud of that increase. Any new members will now be applied to our 2026 membership year. Our Post now has membership cards for 2026 for all functions, so we can begin collecting renewals for the new year. The renewal cost is still \$30 for SAL members. Dual members pay only the state membership cost of \$15 for their dual SAL membership. If you would like to renew for 2026, you can place your renewal request in an envelope addressed to Mike T, with the \$30 renewal fee. The bartender on duty will provide the waiting renewals to me when I come into the Post home for meetings or just to visit, which I will then process and provide a 2026 membership card for the member renewing; it will be mailed to you unless you frequent the Post often and I can give it to or it can be posted on the board.

This year the SAL Squadron co-sponsored with the Riders Chapter the return of ThunderBash, a BBQ which we held on Sunday May 25, 2025. This turned out to be a highly successful effort, and with the Legionnaires and Auxiliary members helping with this endeavor we had a great celebration.

The Post continues with the monthly Trivia Contests, on the third Tuesday of the month. Sometimes the SAL cooks chicken wings and hot dogs on the day of the Trivia Contest, other times other units in the Legion provide a good snack for the attendees. So come out to the Post and enjoy some great food snacks, and participate in the interesting Trivia Contest, and have lots of fun answering the multiple-choice questions with a chance to win gift cards for the pair with the most correct answers. It is an enjoyable way to spend the evening with the Legion family.

SAL also participates in the monthly Legion Breakfast, held on the third Sunday of the month. SAL members do most of the cooking and are assisted by other Legion and Auxiliary members to distribute the breakfast plates and clean up after breakfast is over. This is a very fun occasion we can be proud of in our Post/Squadron, and the number of folks who come out for the Legion

Breakfast is very significant. Our Post is proud to turn out this breakfast each month.

SAL participates with other Post functions in donations to veterans events and supports many veterans activities. SAL provided a \$500 donation to the Riders Va. Legacy Run, as part of the Post's total donation of \$2,500 to the Va. Sate Riders Legacy Run. This money is provided to the National American Legion, which distributes this revenue to the children of needy veteran families to help them with college scholarships or similar family expenses that will help the kids toward good successful careers.

The SAL meeting is scheduled for the first Thursday of each month, at 7 p.m. We would like to hear any recommendations for events or any other worthwhile endeavors that we can undertake during the year which would benefit the Post.

The Squadron now has a substantial number of members who participate in person at the monthly meetings, but we also understand that some folks would rather participate remotely, so participation in the SAL meetings can be accessed using Zoom connectivity on your home computer. If you so desire to join us in the monthly meeting through Zoom, please follow the Zoom instructions sent in a message to all Squadron SAL members a brief time before the meeting, and you can log in to the Zoom meeting that way.

So please place the SAL meetings on your calendar, and hopefully you will join us for the next meeting.

Remember to be careful and stay safe.

For God and Country,

*Mike Trujillo, SAL 1<sup>st</sup> Vice*

### **American Legion Riders Report**

Well, Summer is here, and it's hot outside. It's time to get our bikes out and enjoy some rides.

As far as the events our chapter has been involved in, here are our current efforts:

Chapter 1976, in conjunction with the SAL function, hosted a BBQ over Memorial Day weekend, to have our Post continue with the ThunderBash celebration. We had it on Sunday May 25, 2025. It was a very successful effort, and we had a couple of bands play during the event. The Auxiliary and Legionnaires also helped out to make this a very enjoyable event.

We also had a few Riders and supporters from our Chapter ride in the Virginia Legacy Run back in June, which was a local run prior to the National American Legion Riders Legacy run held later this summer. The VA Legacy Run was held at the Natural Bridge area in Southwest VA the weekend of June 20, where we rode with about 200 other bikers from Virginia over the two-day weekend. The rides were through the woods and forests of Southwest VA and were beautiful rides, even if it was a little warm that weekend. Donations were collected for the Virginia Legacy Run, and Post 1976 donated a total of \$2,500, which our Chapter provided \$500 of that contribution. This money is combined with all donations from the VA Riders on this State Legacy Run, and given to the National Legacy Run, who set up scholarships for veterans' children. Hopefully, VA can collect more than last year, which totaled about \$120,000; it is for a very worthwhile cause.

The Chapter 1976 Riders meeting is scheduled for the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. The next meeting will be on August 21, 2025. We would like to hear any recommendations for events or other worthwhile endeavors that we can undertake which would benefit our Chapter and Post.

We will be looking into things to do at the Post as additional fundraisers. With this warm and even hot weather moving in, let's get out and ride.

RIDE SAFE!

For God and Country,

*Mike Trujillo, ALR Director*



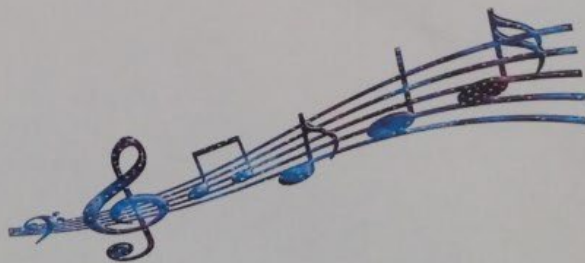
# Karaoke Night



**Come and Join the  
American Legion Post 1976  
for Karaoke, 1st Saturday of  
Every Month—Starts at 7pm**

**Food is served at 6:30 pm**

**Food, raffles, Jello shooters, and more.**



# ~ August 2025 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Lunches are served at the post Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 11-2					1  Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	2  Karaoke 7 p.m.
3	4 Coast Guard Birthday	5 House Committee Meeting 6:30  Executive Board Meeting 7 pm	6	7  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. SAL Meeting 7 pm	8  Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	9
10	11 Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	12 General Membership Meeting 7 pm	13	14  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	15  Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	16
17	18	19 Trivia Night 7 p.m. (food 6 p.m.)	20	21  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. ALR Meeting 7:00 pm	22  Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	23
24	25	26	27	28  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	29	30
31						

# ~ September 2025 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Labor Day	<b>2</b> House Committee Meeting 6:30 Executive Board Meeting 7 pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  SAL Meeting 7 pm Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	<b>5</b> Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	<b>6</b> DAR Meeting 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Karaoke 7 p.m.
<b>7</b> Swing Dance 6-9 p.m.	<b>8</b> Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	<b>9</b> General Membership Meeting 7 pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Patriot Day  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	<b>12</b> Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	<b>13</b> Mars Rodeo Band 6-10 p.m.
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Trivia Night 7 p.m. (food 6 p.m.)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  ALR Meeting 7:00 pm Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. Air Force Birthday	<b>19</b> National POW/MIA Recognition Day Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	<b>20</b> Taste of Annandale 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
<b>21</b> Legion Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	<b>22</b> September Equinox	<b>23</b> Rosh Hashana	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Quarterly Poker Tournament 2 p.m.
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	Lunches are served at the post Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 11-2			

# ~ October 2025 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Lunches are served at the post Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 11-2			1	2  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. <div>SAL Meeting 7 pm</div>	3  Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	4 DAR Meeting 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Karaoke 7 p.m.
5	6	7 <div>House Committee Meeting 6:30</div> <div>Executive Board Meeting 7 pm</div>	8	9  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	10  Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	11
12	13 <div>Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm</div> Navy Birthday/ Columbus Day	14 <div>General Membership Meeting 7 pm</div>	15	16  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. <div>ALR Meeting 7:00 pm</div>	17  Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	18
19 Legion Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	20	21 Trivia Night 7 p.m. (food 6 p.m.)	22	23  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	24  Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	25
26	27	28	29	30  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	31 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m. 	