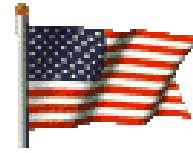


AMERICAN LEGION  
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*If you wish to receive the newsletter, please send your email address to [rpcomm6759@aol.com](mailto:rpcomm6759@aol.com) and we will email it.*

# American Legion Post 1976

## Fall 2025

## NEWSLETTER





**VOLUME XLV ISSUE #4**

**Fall 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.

### AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 1976

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

**Adjutant:** Joyce Landry; [catnapr520@yahoo.com](mailto:catnapr520@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; [catnapr520@yahoo.com](mailto:catnapr520@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**

Fellow Legionnaires, Sons, and Auxilliary Members: I'm proud to report that our post is beginning to move in the right direction. Membership numbers are improving, our events are seeing better attendance, and community engagement is growing stronger every week. This progress is a direct result of everyone's dedication and teamwork.

We are striving to host more events for our post members to enjoy. Events that we are currently hosting include:

- **Karaoke**—We now have two nights for our inspiring singers: the first Saturday and fourth Wednesday of every month. Start time for each is 7 p.m.
- **Texas hold 'em tournament**—Every Friday starting at 7:30 p.m. In order to qualify for the quarterly tournament, you must play in four weekly tournaments. The next quarterly tournament will be held on December 20th, starting at 3 p.m. Thanks to Susan Bodnar for serving as tournament director.
- **Trivia night** is held on the third Tuesday of every month. Bring a partner to win a chance of winning two \$25 gift cards. A thank you goes to Wade Leonard as the post's Trivia master.
- A new addition to our event calendar will be **Game Night**, which will be held every third Wednesday at 7 p.m. It is BYOG (Bring Your Own Game). If you don't have one to bring, that is fine. If there is a call for a specific game, we may be able to accommodate the request.
- Stay tuned for more events that will be coming soon.

We will be observing Veteran's Day in conjunction with our November General Membership meeting. The event will start at 7

p.m. The guest speaker will be Mr. James Holcombe, Jr.

FYI: The post will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day this year so our bartenders can enjoy time with their families.

We are also striving to provide a stronger presence within the community. If you are aware of a possible volunteer/donation opportunity, please let us know. A friendly reminder that we will be participating in the annual Toys for Tots donation starting in November. More information to follow.

Let's keep this momentum going—reach out to a veteran, invite them to a meeting, and remind them what it means to be part of the American Legion family. Together, we're building something stronger than ever.

For God and Country,

*Lance Kent, Commander*

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

Welcome to fall already. Time flies by far too fast! We are keeping everyone in our thoughts and prayers.

We had a fabulous summer and fall as we took a trip across the country. We got to see Mount Rushmore, Yosemite, and the Alamo.

I am almost caught up with processing membership. I don't know where we stand at the moment percentage wise. The Executive Board determined that we will have the Early Bird party after all. The deadline to be eligible is December 1, 2025. Those who renew by the due date will be entitled to two free beverages and light snacks will be provided. The date for the Early Bird party is January 17, 2026, at 1:00 pm.

We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and a joyous New Year. Please be safe during the holiday season and always.

*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**

May the Lord provide you encouragement and comfort always, but especially if you are enduring difficult times. Take care of each other—during the holidays reach out to a friend and to a veteran and ask how they're doing. This Autumn, may the Lord be a constant companion to all of us.

As we head into Autumn, here's a prayer by Rev. Doug Leonhardt. We thank you, Lord:

- for the touch of coolness in the air that gives us a new burst of energy
- for the coloring of trees that shows the creativity of the Divine Artist
- for the falling leaves that reveal the strength of the branches
- for the hues of fields that bring peace to our souls
- for the smiles on pumpkins that bring joy to children
- for the fall harvest which that brings us gratitude for the bounty of our land
- for this change of seasons that reveals the circle of life.

God of all seasons, as you transform the earth, transform us by your Spirit. Amen.

*Paul McComb, Chaplain*

## **Historian's Report**

No report this quarter.

*Allison Hoopes, Historian*

## **Service Officer's Report**

### **VA's Caregiver Support Program**

If you are a caregiver of a veteran enrolled in VA health care who is interested in receiving additional support from a professional care team or looking to enhance your skills as a caregiver, PGCSS may be right for you. You may also be eligible for a caregiver monthly stipend!

**Am I a General Caregiver?** A general caregiver is *any* person who provides personal care services to a veteran enrolled in the VA health care system who needs assistance with one or more activities of daily living or needs supervision or protection based on symptoms or residuals of neurological care or other impairment or injury.

**Steps for Enrollment:** Every Veterans Affairs facility is staffed with a [CSP team/Caregiver Support Coordinator](#). This team can help assist you with determining the resources and services available for you and assist you with enrolling in CSP programs. Call our closest CSP coordinator at 202-745-8000 ext. 55926

There is no formal application required to enroll in PGCSS. To enroll, complete the following steps:

1. Reach out to the facility [CSP team/Caregiver Support Coordinator](#) or request a referral from the veteran's provider.
2. Complete an intake with the facility [CSP team/Caregiver Support Coordinator](#). The veteran will need to agree to receive care from you as their caregiver, as you will be listed in their health care record.
3. Enroll and begin to utilize the support and services offered. Again, you could be eligible for an allowance on a monthly basis.

If you have specific questions or just need help, 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**

No report this quarter.

*Pam McCarthy, Auxiliary President*

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

OK, Summer is over, and it's getting cool outside.

The 2025 Membership has been completed. For 2026 Membership, we have received 21 renewals. 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 received renewals to me when I come into the post home, which I will then process and provide a 2026 membership card for the member renewing. It will be mailed to you unless you are a frequent member then I can give it to, or it can be posted on the board.

By the way, in October's General Membership meeting the officers decided to go forward with an Early Bird Celebration. Any member who renews by December 1, 2025, will be eligible to receive two free beverages in the Early Bird celebration, which is now scheduled for January 17, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

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 evening to spend 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 nice occasion we can be proud of in our 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.

The SAL meeting is scheduled for the first Thursday of each month, at 7:00 p.m.; the next meeting will be November 6, 2025. 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**

Hey, Summer is over and it is getting cool outside, but there's still time to get our bikes out and enjoy some rides.

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

We had a few Riders and supporters from our Chapter ride in the Virginia Legacy Fun Run on August 15th and 16<sup>th</sup>, which was a local run from Springfield Post 176 to South Boston, VA, prior to the National American Legion Riders Legacy run that began on August 16th in South Boston, VA, to Florida. It was an enjoyable ride, with good weather for the Fun Run. The Chapter 1976 fun run participants returned to Springfield, while the hundreds of Riders that were registered for the National Run continued on for their five-day trip to Florida.

The Riders Chapter 1976 also held a Chili Cookoff on Sunday, October 26, with prizes offered for the winners, along with other raffle prizes.

Chapter 1976 will also be involved with our Toys for Tots program, where the Chapter and other post functions will be collecting Toys for children, which will be distributed before Christmas.

The Chapter 1976 Riders meeting is scheduled for the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on November 20. 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 the cooler weather moving in, let us get out and ride.

RIDE SAFE! For God and Country,

*Mike Trujillo, ALR Director*



# ~ November 2025 ~


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

# ~ December 2025 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 House Committee Meeting 6:30 Executive Board Meeting 7 pm	3	4 SAL Meeting 7 pm  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	5 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	6 DAR Meeting 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	9 General Membership Meeting 7 pm	10	11  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	12 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	13 Army Navy Game 3 p.m. Legion Christmas Party/Karaoke 6 p.m. National Guard Birthday
14	15 First Day of Hanukkah	16 Trivia Night 7 p.m. (food 6 p.m.)	17 Game Night 7 p.m.	18  ALR Meeting 7:00 pm Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.	19	20 Quarterly Poker Tournament 3 p.m.
21 Legion Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	22	23	24 Karaoke 7 p.m.	25  Post Closed	26 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	27
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	Lunches are served at the post Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 11-2		



# ~ January 2026 ~

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