

**AMERICAN LEGION
BICENTENNIAL POST 1976**
4206 Daniels Avenue
Annandale, VA 22003
Post Info Line: 703-941-9608
Email: rpcomm6759@aol.com
Website: www.post1976.org



If you wish to receive the newsletter, please send your email address to rpcomm6759@aol.com and we will email it.

American Legion Post 1976

Summer 2026

NEWSLETTER





VOLUME XLVI ISSUE #3

Summer 2026

Post 1976 Officers

POST 1976 LEGION OFFICERS 2025–2026

Commander: Gretchen Trujillo; thegretch61@verizon.net

1st Vice Cdr. (Membership): Tom Ritchie;
ritchiefamily@ymail.com

2nd Vice Cdr. (Events): Alan Kravitz;
fcikravitz@gmail.com

3rd Vice Cdr. (House Comm): Tommy Kemp;
tomar1025warren@hotmail.com

Finance Officer: Luis Cruz; luisacruzjr2016@gmail.com

Chaplain: Vacant

Historian: Allison Hoopes; adlhoopes@yahoo.com

Service Officer: Dorothy Hennessey Vigano;
703-898-6627; dorothyvigano@yahoo.com

Sgt. At Arms: Ed Crowley; eddcrowley@hotmail.com

Adjutant: Vacant

MEETINGS:

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

SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 1976

Commander: Tom Uglietta; tomug@verizon.net

1st Vice (Membership): Mike Trujillo
mrt.mike@verizon.net

Treasurer: Tom Uglietta; tomug@verizon.net

Adjutant: Gary A. Indre

MEETINGS: 1st Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 1976

Director: Mike Trujillo; mrt.mike@verizon.net

Adjutant: Joyce Landry; catnaper520@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Vacant

MEETINGS: 4th Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 1976

President: Pamela McCarthy; iamsome12@gmail.com

1st Vice President, Membership: Gretchen Trujillo;
thegretch61@verizon.net

2nd Vice President: Joyce Landry; catnaper520@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sharon Ogle; share2520@gmail.com

Treasurer: Patti George; georgpjw@aol.com

Chaplain: Susan Dudding; susan.dudding@yahoo.com

Historian: Suzanne Weeden; weeden.suzanne@gmail.com

Sgt. At Arms: Susan Bodnar; selikhova@verizon.net

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

Club Manager: Diane Ramsey
703-941-9608; rppcomm6759@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Stephanie Kern; slk04@hotmail.com

Website Manager: Dan Vigano; daniel.vigano@gmail.com

Want to get the newsletter emailed to you? Email Diane Ramsey at rpcomm6759@aol.com.

Commander's Corner

Dear Legionnaires, SAL, and Auxiliary Members:

I am honored to be serving as your Commander once again and am thrilled to be working with a fabulous group of people. We hope that everyone had a safe and great July 4th!

We are keeping everyone in our thoughts and prayers. Please remember to perform buddy checks on one another. A phone call or an email can mean the world to another person.

We highly encourage all members to attend our general membership meetings. I hear a lot of good ideas around the bar but these ideas need to be heard by everyone. Your great ideas will fall on deaf ears if you don't use the Suggestion Box or attend General Membership meetings. Attendance is extremely poor to the point of embarrassment. It was impressive to see many Legionnaires join us at our April general membership meeting. Please continue to come to these meetings so that you will know what is going on at Post 1976.

We are a team and together we can make Post 1976 great again. Let's find ways to make it flourish and rebuild it back to the way we once were.

Elections were held in May and installation was held in June. The Rotary Club placed flags all around the legion and on Maple Avenue near the Memorial Day holiday — the view was breathtaking.

For God and Country,

Gretchen Trujillo, Commander

1st Vice's Report

No report this quarter.

Tom Ritchie, 1st Vice Commander

2nd Vice's Report

No report this quarter.

Check out our post's calendar of events at www.post1976.org.

Alan Kravitz, 2nd Vice Commander

3rd Vice's Report

No report this quarter.

Tommy Kemp, 3rd Vice Commander

Finance Officer's Report

No report this quarter.

Luis Cruz, 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, District 17 Chaplain
pmccomb98@gmail.com*

Historian’s Report

No report this quarter.

Allison Hoopes, Historian

Service Officer’s Report

No report this quarter.

Dorothy Hennessey Vigano, Service Officer

Sargeant At Arms’ Report

No report this quarter.

Ed Crowley, Sargeant At Arms

Club Manager’s Report

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Annandale Rotary Club for all of their support. We truly appreciate your efforts in recruiting new members, choosing our Post as your meeting place, and once again organizing the Flags for Heroes display for the second year in a row.

On a personal note, I would especially like to thank president Jim Holcombe, Kate Walter, and Marty Mandelberg for their dedication and leadership. Their commitment, hard work, and community spirit have made a meaningful difference. This is exactly the kind of leadership we need to continue building strong partnerships and serving our community together.

Thank you all for everything you do!

Diane Ramsey, Club Manager

American Legion Auxiliary Report

No report this quarter.

Pam McCarthy, Auxiliary President

Sons of the American Legion Report

No report this quarter.

Mike Trujillo, SAL 1st Vice

American Legion Riders Report

Moving forward, the Riders monthly meeting will now be held on the fourth Tuesday of every month, at 7 p.m. We hope to see you at the next one on Aug. 25.

RIDE SAFE!

For God and Country,

Mike Trujillo, ALR Director



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.

~ August 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Lunches are served at the post Mondays and Wednesdays 11-2						1 DAR Meeting 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Karaoke 7 p.m.
2	3	4 House Committee Meeting 6:30 Executive Board Meeting 7 pm Coast Guard Birthday National Night Out 6-9 p.m. Annandale Shopping Center	5	6 SAL Meeting 7 pm	7 Purple Heart Day Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	8
9	10 Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	11 General Membership Meeting 7 pm	12	13	14 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	15 Celebration of Life for Pat Blackmore 2 p.m.
16 Legion Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	17	18 Trivia Night 7 p.m. (food 6 p.m.)	19	20	21 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	22
23	24	25 ALR Meeting 7:00 pm	26	27	28	29
30	31				Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	

~ September 2026 ~

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

~ October 2026 ~

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