



DURAN Y GALLEGOS AMERICAN LEGION POST 69
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**ALCOHOL
 AWARENESS
 MONTH**

Commander David Stevens		
1st Vice Jim Hambor	2nd Vice Commander Robert Jaramillo	3rd Vice Commander Rick "Ponch" De La Rosa
Finance Officer Rudy Chavez	Chaplain Pepé Mendoza	Adjutant Steve Marsh
Sergeant-at-Arms Rudy Chavez	Service Officer Martin Abeyta	Historian Vacant
Executive Committee: Phil Baca, Pro Padilla, Eddie Santillanes		
Immediate Past Commander, Dee-Dee Chapman		

On Saturday, April 12, Post 69 was supposed to have an election for Post officers! As it turns out, no election is needed as all nominees were unopposed! ***Congratulations to the new officers!***

Summer is right around the corner and warmer weather is here! Before too long we will be turning on the air conditioners so there will be some changes in the lounge! Mainly, the door going out of the lounge will remain closed, no propping it open. This is for the benefit of everyone. Please listen to the Bartenders when they ask you to close the door.

Our membership has gone over 100 percent and we continue to gain new members! Please welcome all new members to our Post Home!

We will continue to monitor activities in the Post and welcome any new ideas! Remember, this is your Post!

Until next month!

David Stevens
 Post Commander

APRIL 2025

CONGRATS!

MEMBERSHIP



AMERICAN LEGION HONOR GUARD

Honoring Fallen Comrades

February 26, 2025 - Accorded comrade Robert Lee Vigil Full Military Honors at Santa Fe National Cemetery.

February 28, 2025 - Accorded comrade Robert Sorsen Full Military Honors at Vista Verde cemetery.

March 13, 2025 - Accorded comrade James Lullie Full Military Honors at Vista Verde cemetery.

March 14, 2025 - Accorded comrade Boyce McNally Full Military Honors at Vista Verde cemetery.

March 27, 2025 - Accorded comrade Aubrey Romino Full Military Honors at Vista Verde cemetery.

March 27, 2025 - Accorded comrade Efren Ruiz Full Military Honors at Vista Verde cemetery.

**Post 69 Children's Easter
Egg Hunt on Saturday,
April 12, 11 AM-1 PM!
Ages 0-12 are invited to
participate.**



BLOOD DRIVE

at Post 69, Saturday, April 19, 10 AM to 3 PM. Join us for a life-saving blood drive in memory of Nora and Robert Jaramillo, Jr. Please consider giving the Gift of Life! To make an appointment, call Valerie at 505-918-2346. Thank you!



Correction from the March Newsletter – It was The American Legion's **106th** Birthday on March 15, not the 105th as noted last month.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Teach God's Little Children

Dear friends! I just can't believe that the month of April is now upon us. It seems like only yesterday we turned the page of an old year, to a new and ever challenging year of 2025. April ushers in a new Spring Season as well. But most importantly, we celebrate the very religious Holydays starting with Passover (Jewish Faith) on the 12th of the month. Followed by the Christian Holydays of: Palm Sunday on April 13, followed by Holy Week starting with Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and the Resurrection of our Lord, known as Easter Sunday, on the 20th.

If your family has been blessed with little ones, their attention is usually focused on Easter Sunday, as a day which they receive easter candies, stuffed animal toys, hunting for easter eggs in their backyards or parks, getting together with family and friends for a day of festivities. This at times overshadows the true meaning of Easter Sunday, which is the Resurrection of our Lord, in which he sacrificed His life for us, to have a new beginning, a rebirth in which we have a forgiving Father, and a new direction for a better personal life.

Friends, this is a perfect time to teach your little ones and those not knowing the meaning of what Easter Sunday really is. Yes, the Easter Bunny has a place which he gives us material things that might last for only a few days or less. But Almighty God, with His Son, and the Holy Spirit, has given us Forgiveness for our Sins, and a new direction of Hope and Love and a start to a new beginning.



Dear friends, I want to personally wish all those in the Duran y Gallegos American Post 69 Family/Familia, a Blessed Easter Season, as well as those individuals reading this article, a safe and accident-free month.

Sincerely in Christ,

Pepé Mendoza, Chaplain
Duran y Gallegos
American Legion Post 69



President Rosie Apodaca		
1st Vice President Angie Duran	2nd Vice President Linda Benevidez	Secretary/Treasurer Theresa Montoya
Chaplain Just Jo Hecker	Historian Theresa Montaño	Sergeant-at-Arms Peggy Martinez
Executive Committee: Debra A. Archuleta, Mary Lou Lopez, Joyce Maestas		

Nominations for Unit 69 officers will be held Wednesday, April 9, 5:30-7 PM, at the Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center and elections in May for the 2025-2026 Auxiliary year. Any current member interested may run for any office listed above.

TIME TO REGISTER FOR GIRLS STATE , JUNE 1-6, 2025

ENMU campus in Portales, NM from Sunday, June 1 - Friday, June 6.
Check-in is Sunday, June 1 from 10 AM - 1 PM in the Eddy Hall dorm.
Check-out is Friday, June 6 from 10 AM - 12 PM.



Register your attendance by
May 26 to reserve your spot!
[https://www.alanmgirlsstate.org
/be-prepared](https://www.alanmgirlsstate.org/be-prepared)

We are happy to announce the continued partnership of the New Mexico American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary for a combined NM Staters program in 2025. Young women and men that have completed their Junior year in high school will be receiving a more robust government experience with the combined leadership of the New Mexico American Legion Auxiliary and the New Mexico American Legion!

Each summer, every American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program operates with the same patriotic values through a nonpartisan curriculum where students assume the roles of government leaders, campaigning in mock parties (often called “Federalists” and “Nationalists”) to become city, county, and state officials of their ALA Girls State. The program is a weeklong immersive learning experience, often held on a college campus where girls live in “cities” within a dormitory-like setting. The learning, experience, memories, and friendships last a lifetime.

College Credit Info

Attendees of New Mexico Staters are eligible to receive 3 college credit hours from Eastern New Mexico University. These credits are fully transferable and offered at no cost to attendees of NM Staters. A presentation from an ENMU representative will be given during session to answer any questions students may have on the credit hours, college life, ENMU or any other post graduation topics. Requirements to earn credits include participate in and complete the entire American Legion & American Legion Auxiliary New Mexico Staters session; complete the Legislation Project.



Commander Randolph Montoya		
1 st Vice Commander Vacant	2 nd Vice Commander Leonard Duran	Adjutant Michael Chavez
Finance Officer Danny Padilla	Chaplain Carlos E. Gurulé	Sergeant-at-Arms Daniel Montoya
Executive Committee: Randolph Montoya, Michael Chavez		
Historian: Vacant		

Hello Squadron members!

Officer elections will be held on Saturday, April 12, 8-9 AM. The only position open for voting is for the Squadron Commander. I am running for re-election as Squadron Commander, and the second candidate is Leonard Duran. Please come out and vote and then enjoy freshly made breakfast!



Our seasonal flea market starts up on Saturday, April 5, 7 AM-1 PM, then every first Saturday of the month till October. Clean out your garages and sheds; it's just \$10 for a space.

The Department of New Mexico American Legion Family invites you to the Homecoming Event for Joseph Navarrete, Sons of The American Legion National Commander, 2024-2025. There will be a New Mexican-style dinner at our Post on Friday evening, April 11, 6 PM, \$20 per person.

Thank you,

Randolph Montoya
SAL Commander

Sons of the American Legion monthly meetings held on the second Saturday of each month. Executive board meeting at 8 AM, membership meeting at 9 AM. Your support and input is so very important and always welcome!



Director Rick "Ponch" De La Rosa		
Assistant Director <i>Liz "DragonLady" Martinez</i>	Secretary <i>Veronica "Hitchhiker" Zapata</i>	Treasurer <i>Joyce "Bubbles" Maestas</i>
Sergeant-at-Arms <i>Lila "Enforcer" Rodriguez</i>	Road Captain <i>Ben "BenJammin" Martinez</i>	Chaplain <i>Jesus "Zap" Zapata</i>
Historian <i>Steven "Slick" Fernandez</i>	OWW Chair <i>Veronica "Hitchhiker" Zapata</i>	

Hello Everyone!

April Showers brings May Flowers! Well, let's hope that holds true; New Mexico Springtime the moisture! With that being said, it also brings out more motorcycles on the road! Please check twice for us motorcyclists and share the road. We will be out there more often, taking in the wind and enjoying our beautiful sceneries. It is now Springtime and I, for one, am loving it! Our Chapter enjoyed a beautiful short ride the other day. In doing so, we came across three different accidents. So again, be careful out there.

Our Legacy Gala last month was a success! It was nice to see everyone in a different setting! By that I mean, no leathers! Lol! Everyone had a great time and nothing but positive vibes throughout! Not to mention, the band was awesome! I want to thank all who were involved and participated in this great event.

We now have the R.E.D. T-shirts for sale on R.E.D. Fridays. I encourage everyone to continue to support this great event by wearing red on Fridays.

My challenge to all members as you come into our Post was to scan our Post premises for any small trash or debris and to dispose of it properly seems to be working out! I am not seeing any issues with this in the past month and with that, we all **Thank You**.

Dates to Remember:

- April 2 - ALR Chapter 10 Meeting
- April 4-5 - ALR State Meeting, Carlsbad, NM
- April 12 - Post 69 Elections
- April 12 - Post 69 SAL Elections
- April 26 - ALR Chapter 10 and Post 49
- Chapter 32: OWW Run

Your director,

Rick "Ponch" De La Rosa
Duran y Gallegos American Legion Post 69
ALR Chapter 10



APRIL 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 April's Fools Day	2	3	4 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY!	5 Gold Star Spouses Day 7 AM-1 PM – SAL Flea Market
6 1700 - Karaoke W/Allan	7	8 1200 - \$1.50 Tacos till gone!	9 Former POW Recognition Day 1830 – Riders Mtg.	10	11 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! 1900 – Live Music & Food	12 1100-1300 - EASTER EGG HUNT 0800-1030-Breakfast 0900-Finance/Exec. Comm. Mtg. 1100-General Mtg. 0900 – SAL Gen. Mtg.
13 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	14 Air Force Reserve Birthday	15 Purple Up! Day 1200 - \$1.50 Tacos till gone!	16	17	18 Good Friday It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! 1900 – Live Music & Food	19 TBD - Blood Drive
20 EASTER 1700 - April Birthdays, Karaoke w/Allan	21	22 Earth Day 1200 - \$1.50 Tacos till gone!	23 Army Reserve Birthday	24	25 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! 1900 – Live Music & Food	26
27 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	28	29 1200 - \$1.50 Tacos till gone!	30 National Military Brats Day			



Loyalty Day is observed annually on May 1. In the United States, National Loyalty Day is a special holiday meant for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States of America, and for the recognition of the heritage of American freedom. Loyalty Day was made an official reoccurring holiday on July 18, 1958, although it was first recognized on May 1, 1955. Loyalty Day has been honored with an official proclamation every year, by every president, since its inception as a legal holiday in 1958.

MAY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY!	3 7 AM-1 PM – SAL Flea Market
4 1500 – Cinco de Mayo Celebration 1700 - Karaoke W/Allan	5	6 1200 - \$1.50 Tacos till gone!	7 1830 – Riders Mtg.	8	9 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! 1900 – Live Music & Food	10 0800-1030-Breakfast 0900-Finance/Exec. Comm. Mtg. 1100-General Mtg. 0900 – SAL Gen. Mtg.
11 1000-1200 – Mother's Day Brunch 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	12	13 1200 - \$1.50 Tacos till gone!	14	15	16 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! 1900 – Live Music & Food	17 Armed Forces Day
18 1700 - May Birthdays, Karaoke w/Allan	19	20 1200 - \$1.50 Tacos till gone!	21	22	23 National Poppy Day It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! 1900 – Live Music & Food	24
25 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	26 1100 - Memorial Day Open House	27 1200 - \$1.50 Tacos till gone!	28	29	30 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! 1900 – Live Music & Food	31