



**DURAN Y GALLEGOS AMERICAN LEGION POST 69**

**9000 4<sup>TH</sup> St. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114**

**Website – <http://duranygallegospost69.org/>**

**Email – [duranygallegospost69@yahoo.com](mailto:duranygallegospost69@yahoo.com)**

**Bar/Hall Rentals 505-898-9918**



<b>Commander David Stevens</b>		
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Rick “Ponch” De La Rosa</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Vacant</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander Vacant</b>
<b>Finance Officer Vacant</b>	<b>Chaplain Pepé Mendoza</b>	<b>Adjutant Vacant</b>
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms Rudy Chavez</b>	<b>Service Officer Vacant</b>	<b>Historian Robert Jaramillo</b>
<b>Executive Committee: Dee-Dee Chapman, Pro Padilla, Eddie Santillanes</b>		

We are now starting the month of May. Boy is the year going by fast!

The Post is doing well except for a couple of problems that are going to be taken care of right now.

Everyone needs to understand that first and foremost, this is a Veteran’s Post, but it seems that a few people want to come in and treat it like their own little get away. Coming in, being belligerent, and causing trouble. That stops now!

When you enter Post 69, or any veteran’s post, we all need to show respect for what it stands for. Lately in our Post, customers come in and almost immediately start being loud, cursing and causing havoc with other customers. From now on, you will be told to leave with no re-entry until you have gone in front of the Executive Board. We are going to start showing respect for all customers! Thank you for understanding this situation.

Our membership is doing very well, and we still have a couple of weeks to get 22 more members so that we reach 100%. With everyone's help, it can be done.

Don't forget that on May 9 at 11 AM, we will be having our Installation of Officers for the entire Legion Family--Legionnaires, SONs, Auxiliary, and the ALR! Afterward there will be food and entertainment.

Until Next Month,

David Stevens  
Post Commander



**ARMED  
FORCES  
DAY**

**May 16, 2026**

**MAY 2026**



## AMERICAN LEGION HONOR GUARD

*Honoring Fallen Comrades*

April 14, 2026 -- Accorded comrade  
Ostacio De Herrera  
Full Military Honors at Our Lady of  
Sorrows in Bernalillo.

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### AMERICAN LEGION POST 69 WALL OF HONOR

Applications may now be  
submitted for the American  
Legion Post 69 Wall of Honor  
(application on next page).

Submit your application to  
Rick De La Rosa for review by  
the Wall of Honor committee.

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Now available  
at the bar,  
bottled Coca  
Cola for just  
\$2.75!

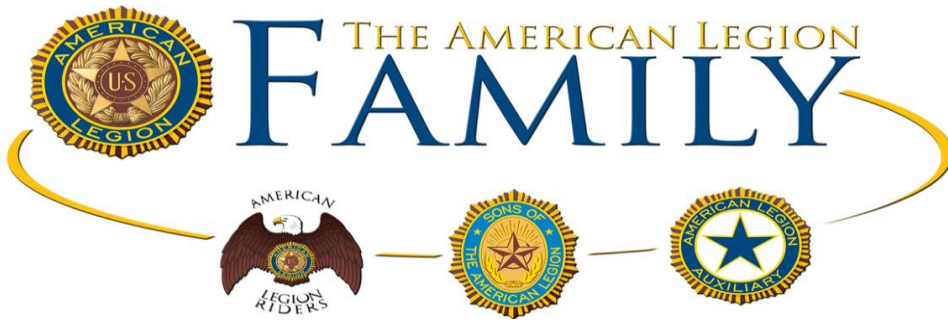
### NATIONAL COMMANDER WILEY PRAISES PRESIDENT'S ORDER THAT WILL EXPEDITE PSYCHEDELIC TREATMENTS FOR MENTAL HEALTH, OFFERING RELIEF TO GWOT VETERANS AND OTHERS DEALING WITH PTSD, TBIS AND OTHER INVISIBLE WOUNDS OF WAR.

President Donald Trump signed an executive order April 18 aimed at accelerating research and improving access to emerging therapies, including certain psychedelic treatments for mental health conditions affecting veterans.

The American Legion has long-supported, evidence-based research into innovative treatments for conditions such as PTSD, traumatic brain injury, chronic pain and severe depression; issues that continue to affect many who served, particularly those from the Global War on Terrorism.

"Thanks to the advancements of research, there is hope that these psychedelic drugs will serve as a pathway to and promise of a brighter future for our veterans and their loved ones," said American Legion National Commander Dan K. Wiley. "We must ensure that any treatment brought forward is grounded in sound science, proven safe and accessible through the Department of Veterans Affairs when appropriate."

Last October, The American Legion approved **Resolution 13** that calls for further research on the safety and efficacy of emerging therapies, including psilocybin, ibogaine root, lysergic acid diethylamide, 5MeO-DMT, cannabis and MDMA to treat PTSD, TBI and other ailments in veterans and their partners.



## AMERICAN LEGION POST 69 WALL OF HONOR

The American Legion **Post 69 Veteran Wall of Honor** is dedicated to recognizing and honoring the service of our nation's veterans. The engraved bricks placed within this memorial will serve as an everlasting tribute to the brave men and women who stepped forward in service to protect God and Country.

Each brick in our Veteran Wall of Honor will be inscribed with the name of a veteran as a lasting reminder of their dedication, sacrifice, and commitment in support of Freedom and Democracy. It is our hope that this Veteran Wall of Honor will continue to inspire future generations to follow the example of those who served.

The Veteran Wall of Honor will be conducted in phases as time and resources allow for its growth. Designated sections will be available to recognize veterans from the following branches of service.

CHOOSE ONE:

US ARMY	US MARINE CORPS	US COAST GUARD	US NAVY	US AIRFORCE	US SPACE COMMAND	MILITARY RESERVE UNIT	NATIONAL GUARD
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### Eligibility and Guidelines

1. Any veteran who served and was honorably discharged is eligible to be recognized.
2. The requestor must provide proof of military service.
3. The wording engraved on each brick must follow a uniform format and will be reviewed and approved by the Honor Wall Committee.
4. Each brick allows **three (3) lines**, with **up to 13 characters per line**.
5. The cost per brick is **\$100**.

### PURCHASER

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICATION WITH PAYMENT WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED.

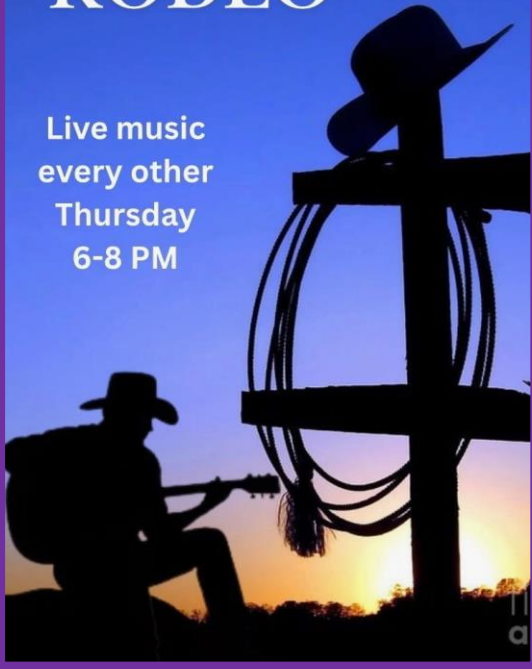
NAME													
BRANCH													
DATE OF SERVICE OR WAR ERA													

APPROVED:  
Wall Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Date approved \_\_\_\_\_

# RAMBLIN' R RODEO

Live music  
every other  
Thursday  
6-8 PM



April 30, May 14 & 28



We have a beautiful Post because we have dedicated members that give their all to help clean up outside and inside. A special thank you to the crew that worked on Tuesday the 21st cleaning our Post grounds: Joseph Lovato, Rick De La Rosa, Ed Garcia, Ed Padilla, Randy Montoya, and Phil Baca. They all brought their own tools and made it happen. Thank Gents!



## HIRING BARTENDERS

HIRING BARTENDERS WITH AT LEAST ONE YEAR OF EXPERIENCE

**APPLY TODAY!**

Email your resume to  
[jmaestas.post69@yahoo.com](mailto:jmaestas.post69@yahoo.com)

## HIRING BARTENDERS

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



***MAKE TIME  
TO GIVE THANKS,  
FOR THOSE THAT  
GAVE SO MUCH  
FOR US!***

Friends, this month of May is when we honor those military members who have given the supreme sacrifice for their grateful Nation, and the Freedoms we enjoy today, thanks to them. Those who have died in war and peace cannot be overlooked or forgotten. Memorial Day will be commemorated on May 25, with many remembrance services in the Albuquerque community. And if you can't make those, I invite you and your family to our Post 69 Memorial Day Program starting at 11 AM at San Carlos Cemetery. Our Honor Guard will start off our program. If you can't make any programs, I ask you to say a prayer of thanks for those who gave so much to maintain our Freedoms and Liberties we enjoy daily.

During this month we also share another blessed holiday, and that is Mother's Day on the 10th of the month, dedicated to all our dear mothers throughout the Nation. Those mothers who gave us the "Gift of Light" in this world. They sacrificed so much showing us right from wrong. Especially being there for us during our ups and downs in life's many challenges during our youth. Jeremiah 31:3 has a mother's thoughts reflected perfectly, in my opinion, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving kindness." So Dear Friends, if your mother is still living, visit or call her to express how much you Love her. And if your mother has passed, please make an effort to visit them where they have been laid to rest. Or if that is not possible, please say a special prayer for them on Mother's Day.

Before I close, I want to wish all the members of the Duran y Gallegos American Legion Post 69, Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, and American Legion Riders, and those reading this article, a safe and blessed month of May 2026.

Respectfully in Christ,

Pepé Mendoza, Chaplain  
Duran y Gallegos  
American Legion Post 69



<b>President</b> <b>Yolanda J. Montoya</b>		
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b> <b>Debra A. Archuleta</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b> <b>Virginia Sanchez</b>	<b>Secretary</b> <b>Rachel Montgomery</b>
<b>Treasurer</b> <b>Luz Abeyta</b>	<b>Historian</b> <b>Yvonne Lovato</b>	<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b> <b>Cathy Nieto-Martinez</b>
<b>Chaplain</b> <b>Debra Sandoval</b>	<b>Executive Committee: Annette Brown, Dee-Dee Chapman, Sadie Nieto</b>	

### Cinco de Mayo Celebration

Join us as we celebrate Cinco de Mayo on May 3, 2026, 4-7 PM with food, fellowship, and fun! This festive day honors Mexican heritage and unity. Members and guests are invited to enjoy refreshments, music, and a welcoming community atmosphere. \$10 Taco Bar. Do you think your Salsa is the best, if so, bring it for the Salsa Contest, \$10 entry fee! Stay for Karaoke and DJ Allen. 🎉 All are welcome!

### Poppy Month – Honoring Our Veterans 🌸

May is **Poppy Month** and **May 22 is National Poppy Day**, a time when we proudly distribute poppies in remembrance of the sacrifices made by our veterans. The red poppy is a symbol of courage and hope, inspired by the fields of remembrance following World War I. Please support our efforts by wearing a poppy and contributing to veteran programs. ❤️ “Wear a Poppy – Honor Their Sacrifice”

### Memorial Day Observance

We invite you to join us for a solemn observance of Memorial Day as we remember and honor those who gave their lives in service to our country. On May 25, 2026, at San Carlos Cemetery, followed by an open house at our Post. Let us come together in gratitude and remembrance. Bring a friend and discover how we continue to serve veterans, military, and our community.

**Auxiliary Car Show 🚗** Rev up your engines and join us for our **Auxiliary Car Show** on May 16, 2026, 8 AM-2 PM, set up at 7 AM! Bring your classic, custom, or daily driver and show it off 🏆 **Award Categories 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> by Ballot.**

💰 Entry Fee: \$20 per vehicle

🗳️ Ballot Voting: \$1 per vote (ballot box available)

🍔 Food: Burgers & hot dogs with sides available \$13

**Craft Vendors Welcome.** Bring your Shade and Lawn Chairs.

Enjoy live music in the Gazebo.

Fun for the whole family—participants and spectator’s welcome!

### Thank You for Your Support

Together, we make a difference through service, remembrance, and community spirit.

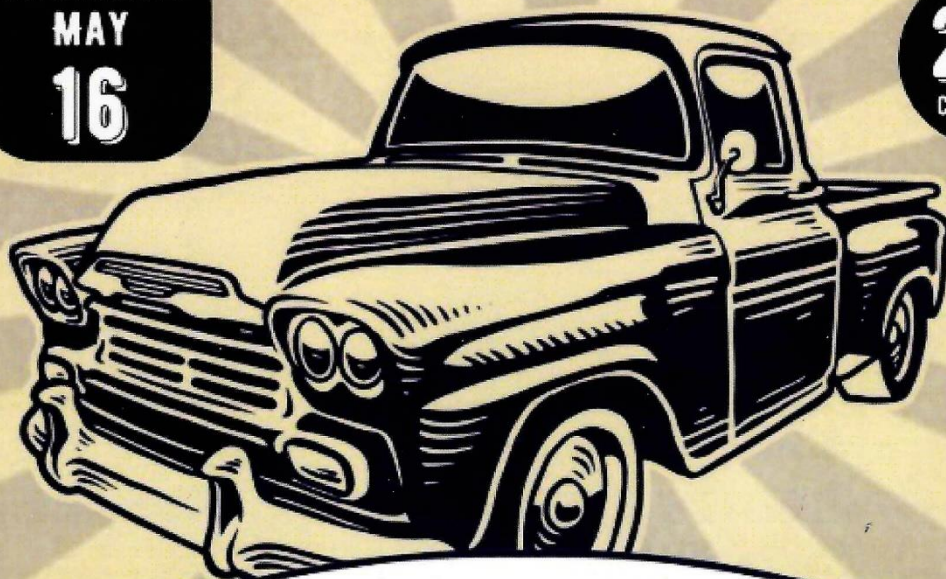
For more information, please contact: Yolanda J Montoya, 505-492-6210,  
[lymontoya810@gmail.com!](mailto:lymontoya810@gmail.com)

POST 69

# CAR SHOW

SATURDAY  
MAY  
16

20<sup>s</sup>  
CAR ENTRY



AMERICAN LEGION

9000 4TH ST ALBUQUERQUE NM 87114

8 AM - 2 PM

LIVE MUSIC • VENDORS • BBQ • CAR COMPETITION





<b>Commander Danny Padilla</b>		
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Eddie Garcia</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Randolph Montoya</b>	<b>Adjutant Andy Maestas</b>
<b>Finance Officer Vacant</b>	<b>Chaplain Carlos E. Gurulé</b>	<b>Sergeant-at-Arms Eddie Padilla</b>
<b>Executive Board: Randolph Montoya, Danny Padilla</b>		
<b>Historian: Leonard Duran</b>		

*"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."  
~Abraham Lincoln*

I am Danny Padilla, son of Eligio Padilla, the first Commander of Post 69. I have been a SONS member here for 18 years. My brothers Eligio and Eddie are also members. Like Randy Montoya, Eddie Garcia, Leonard Duran, and Carlos Gurulé, we have deep roots in our Post and community. I am grateful to be given the opportunity to lead our squadron.

There is a message on the back of our membership cards that states "Be the One". We support our veterans. Time truly does go by fast, so make the most of it. I ask you to check up on any veteran in your life. Make it a point to know what is going on in their life.

I also ask all members to follow the rules of the Post and bar. Sign in with your complete name and the last 4 digits of your ID membership card. Writing only "Barney" or "Betsy" is not right. There is a MIA chair right past the sign-in book. Take half a minute and say a prayer for the missing soldier and his family. Other traditions we have is to stand in silence when our National Anthem is played and to remove covers (hats) when eating.

We have our flea market on Saturday, May 2 at 7 AM and our squadron meeting on May the 9 at 9 AM. Following the meeting, all new officers will be sworn in. The Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Riders will also be sworn in. This is a special event, please try to make it. Check the calendar for the exact time.

One last note, I am asking for volunteers to put up and take down flags on Memorial Day the 25th . We have 150 Veterans buried at San Carlos and Mount Carmel. Look for any SONS officer for more info. Thank you.

Always look both ways,

Danny



# ***SQUADRON 69*** ***Flea Market***

**May 2, 2026, 7 AM-1 PM**



**American Legion Post 69**  
**9000 4<sup>th</sup> St NW**

**Space Rental: \$10**  
**Bring your own table!**  
**Randy Montoya, 505-238-1291**  
**for more information.**



<b>Director</b> Anthony "Airborne" Leyba		
<b>Assistant Director</b> Liz "DragonLady" Martinez	<b>Secretary</b> Veronica "Hitchhiker" Zapata	<b>Treasurer</b> Ali "Hotflash" Leyba
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b> Steven "Slick" Fernandez	<b>Road Captain</b> Ben "BenJammin" Martinez	<b>Chaplain</b> Joseph "Papa Joe" Lovato
<b>Historian</b> Ali "Hot Flash" Leyba	<b>OWW Chair</b> Veronica "Hitchhiker" Zapata	

Hello everyone,

We had a great State meeting in April and some nice and safe rides with amazing views here and at Los Alamos.

Now, in May, the Riders will start hosting a Red Shirt Friday dinner every month. The date and menu will be put out ASAP at the bar and on the Post's Facebook page.

The Auxiliary will be putting on a car show on May 16 from 8 AM to 2 PM.

There will be a ride to Tombstone from May 1-4, 2026. Last, but not least, I want to wish all mothers a very happy Mother's Day.

Your Director  
Anthony "Airborne" Leyba  
Duran y Gallegos American Legion Post 69  
ALR Chapter 10

Registration for the  
Legacy Run will  
launch in May.  
More to come.



## SILVER STAR FAMILIES OF AMERICA



To remember, honor and assist our wounded, ill, injured and dying from all wars, the Silver Star Families of America is dedicated to supporting and assisting the wounded and ill and their families since 2004. Our goal is to recognize the blood sacrifice of our wounded and illnesses incurred during combat and remember their efforts by honoring them with the Silver Star Banner. We are also advocates for the Wounded and ill and assist in educating their families and the public concerning their plight. Silver Star Families of America touches the lives of our wounded, ill and families nationwide of all branches of service and all wars. The Silver Star Flag and Banner are symbols of remembrance and honor for those wounded or incurring illnesses during combat while honorably serving in the United States Armed Forces. It may be displayed or flown at anytime, not just wartime, and by families as well as the wounded and ill service members. It is our wish that all of America never forgets the sacrifice of our service members. The Silver Star Service Flag represents the blood shed by our wounded Service Members from ALL wars.

### MAY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1 Silver Star Banner Day  1900 – Live Music & Food	2 0700 – SONs Flea Market
3 1600-1900 - Cinco de Mayo and Best Salsa Contest, \$10 Taco Bar  1700 - Karaoke W/Allan	4 1730 – Entertainment Mtg.	5 1800 – Auxiliary Mtg.	6 1830 – Riders Mtg.	7 Nat’l Day of Prayer	8 Military Spouse Appreciation Day  1900 – Live Music & Food	9 0800-1030-Breakfast 0900-Finance/Exec. Comm. Mtg. 1100 – General Mtg.  0900 – SONs Gen. Mtg.  1100 – Post 69 Officers Installation & Potluck
10 1300 – Mother’s Day Potluck Luncheon  1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	11	12	13 CHILDREN OF FALLEN PATRIOTS DAY	14 1800-2000-Ramblin Rodeo	15 Armed Forces Day  1730-1900 – Frito Pies & Dessert  1900 – Live Music	16 ARMED FORCES DAY  0800-1400 – ALA Car Show
17 1700 - May Birthdays, Karaoke w/Allan	18	19	20	21	22 NATIONAL POPPY DAY  1900 – Live Music & Food	23
24 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	25 MEMORIAL DAY  1100-Memorial Service & Food	26	27	28 1800-2000-Ramblin Rodeo	29 1900 – Live Music & Food	30
31 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan						

Every Friday is RED shirt day; Remember Everyone Deployed!!!



PTSD Awareness Day is observed every year on June 27<sup>th</sup>. **PTSD stands for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder** and is a condition that many veterans and non-veterans alike suffer. PTSD can occur when someone experiences or witnesses a traumatic event. This condition wasn't always understood properly by the medical or military community, and Department of Defense press releases often point to earlier attempts to identify PTSD symptoms in the wake of service in World War 2, Vietnam, and other conflicts.

**The History Of PTSD Awareness Day**--In 2010, Senator Kent Conrad pushed to get official recognition of PTSD via a "day of awareness" in tribute to a North Dakota National Guard member who took his life following two tours in Iraq (S. Res. 541). Staff Sergeant Joe Biel died in 2007 after suffering from PTSD; Biel committed suicide after his return from duty to his home state. SSgt. Biel's birthday, June 27, was selected as the official PTSD Awareness Day, which is now observed every year. In 2014, the Senate designated the full month of June for National PTSD Awareness (S. Res. 481).

## JUNE 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1 1730 - Entertainment Mtg.	2 1800 - Auxiliary Mtg.	3 1830 - Riders Mtg.	4	5 1900 - Live Music & Food	6 D-DAY 0700 - SONs Flea Market
7 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	8	9	10	11 1800-2000- Ramblin Rodeo	12 1900 - Live Music & Food	13 0800-1030-Breakfast 0900-Finance/Exec. Comm. Mtg. 1100 - General Mtg. 0900 - SONs Gen. Mtg.
14 FLAG DAY 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	15	16	17	18	19 1730-1900 - ALA Food Sales 1900 - Live Music	20
21 FATHER'S DAY 1700 - June Birthdays, Karaoke w/Allan	22	23 COAST GUARD AUXILIARY BIRTHDAY	24	25 1800-2000- Ramblin Rodeo	26 1900 - Live Music & Food	27 PTSD AWARENESS DAY
28 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	29	30				

Every Friday is RED shirt day; Remember Everyone Deployed!!!