



**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</b><br><b>David Stevens</b>                                    |                                                                        |                                                                 |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice</b><br><b>Jim Hambor</b>                             | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander</b><br><b>Rick "Ponch" De La Rosa</b> | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander</b><br><b>Robert Jaramillo</b> |
| <b>Finance Officer</b><br><b>Rudy Chavez</b>                                | <b>Chaplain</b><br><b>Pepé Mendoza</b>                                 | <b>Adjutant</b><br><b>Steve Marsh</b>                           |
| <b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b><br><b>Rudy Chavez</b>                               | <b>Service Officer</b><br><b>Martin Abeyta</b>                         | <b>Historian</b><br><b>Carl Radosevich</b>                      |
| <b>Executive Committee: Dee-Dee Chapman, Pro Padilla, Eddie Santillanes</b> |                                                                        |                                                                 |

We are in the Holiday Season and there are functions coming up here at the Post for young and old alike! Please go to the calendar and check out dates and times!

Our long time Bar Manager has decided to leave our Post so we are in search for a replacement. Anyone interested in applying for the position please give me a call at 505-315-8421! Also on that note, I would like to thank Brenda for her service to the Post and wish her well in her future endeavors. I know a lot of times it was a thankless job, but you always got the job done! Thank you!

Also, don't forget that there will be no General Membership meeting in December because of the Post participation in Wreaths Across America!

***Breakfast will still be served.***

Until Next Month,

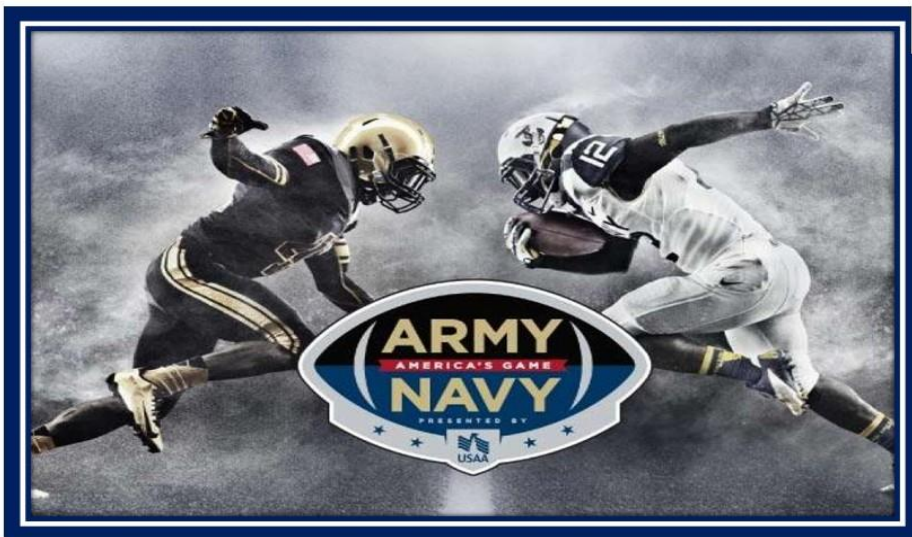
David Stevens  
Commander



**DECEMBER 2025**



## **AMERICAN LEGION POST 69** **ARMY-NAVY WATCH PARTY**



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### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13**

*\* DOORS OPEN 12 PM \* KICK-OFF 1 PM \**

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**POTLUCK SERVED DURING HALFTIME! PLEASE BRING  
YOUR FAVORITE DISH TO SHARE!**

#### **STATE PARKS REMINDS VETERANS OF LIFETIME PASS**

The State Parks Division reminds New Mexico resident veterans to apply for their lifetime veterans Pass. With the signing of House Bill 161, which went into effect on July 1, the State Parks Division partnered with the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services to implement this new benefit for New Mexico veterans. The new lifetime pass gives veterans with verified New Mexico residency free access to state parks, including unlimited day use and camping in areas managed by the State Parks Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, according to a news release. In addition, on Veterans Day, any New Mexico resident on active duty, along with their spouse and dependent children, has free access to any state park, the release stated. All day-use and camping fees are waived for active-duty service members and their families on that day. If you are a veteran and have not yet applied for your lifetime pass, contact NMDVS by email at [vet.benefits@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:vet.benefits@dvs.nm.gov) or by calling 866-433-8387. For more information about the 35 state parks, log on to the website at [emnrd.nm.gov/spd](http://emnrd.nm.gov/spd) or call 888-NMPARKS (1-888-667-2757).

-Silver City Daily Press

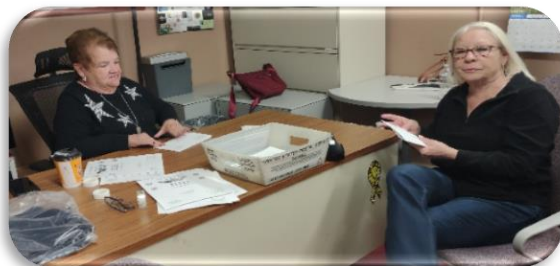


It is long overdue that the Post 69 family of volunteers who show up each month to help print, fold, and tape 600 newsletters a month are recognized and thanked. It's not hard work, but with plenty of help, it gets done and taken to the post office for mailing.

The United States Postal Service will again raise mailing prices in January 2026. It costs Post 69 a lot of money in toner, paper, tape, and postage. If you would rather receive the Post 69 Newsletter via email, please call the Post at **505-898-9918** and ask to be placed on the email address list.

If you are a current member and ***DO NOT*** receive the newsletter each month, call and give your email address or home address.

Thank you to members of each family that help on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month to make sure you are informed and updated on Post 69 special events and goings-on! ***Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed year in 2026!***

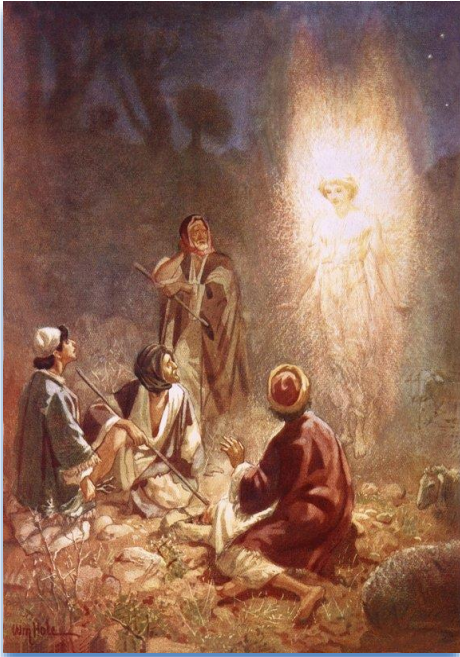


Debra A. Archuleta  
Newsletter Editor



# **CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

## **ANTICIPATION OF A NEW BIRTH OF GLORY**



I can just imagine a little of how Joseph and Mary felt when they heard from the angels of God that they had been blessed to be the father and mother of a child that was to change the world with his examples of goodness and miracles, changing the lives of those who believed in his message of serving others. When I first heard that we were expecting our first child, I was taken aback to know that my life was going to be changed forever. More responsibilities in ensuring that my new little family would be provided for the best that I could. With the baby's upbringing, medical care, and protecting them from those who might want to harm them.

The anticipation with each month that passed and see the beautiful change in my wife's physical appearance, preparing the birth of a blessed angel brought me a feeling that I had to be a stronger and better father to both my wife and newborn to come. This was just a few months. The Prophets had been predicting that a new Prophet mightier than any of them was to be born as the Son of God that was

to lead them as a Savior to a better life by his example and by miracles no human being had seen before. The Jewish people had not been anticipating for months, but for hundreds of years. This Savior's birth was of humble beginnings, with no room in the inns, he was born in a stable. He was named Emmanuel, Matthew 1:23 (SJNEB) he is also known as Jesus. His birth brought us a new beginning as Hope and Love for a better world. In serving others. Assisting them during their times of needs and direction to a better understanding of Life in his written word we know as the Holy Bible.

Dear Friends, when we are celebrating this Christmas Season with our families, let us take the time to thank Almighty God for his Son who is still the direction in which we must follow for a better life for ourselves and those around us. Let us take the time to attend the many religious services that are being offered throughout the surrounding communities. Let this birth that took place hundreds of years ago, be the beginning of our new birth in helping and assisting others less fortunate. Also, please remember those who died on the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, that took place on December 7, 1941, for a prayer of remembrance.

In ending, I want to wish all those in the Duran y Gallegos American Legion Post 69 Family/Familia, and those reading this article a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah (Jewish faith), Joyous Kwanzaa, and if you don't believe in these religious holidays, then a personal Happy December 25th!

Respectfully in Christ,

Pepé Mendoza, Chaplain  
Duran y Gallegos American Legion Post 69







| Commander<br>Randolph Montoya                                        |                                                 |                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander<br>Eddie Garcia                       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander<br>Eddie Padilla | Adjutant<br>Vacant               |
| Finance Officer<br>Danny Padilla                                     | Chaplain<br>Carlos E. Gurulé                    | Sergeant-at-Arms<br>Andy Maestas |
| Executive Committee: Randolph Montoya, Michael Chavez, Danny Padilla |                                                 |                                  |
| Historian: Leroy Montoya                                             |                                                 |                                  |

Hello, everyone!

I hope everyone is doing very well! Our membership is really growing, and we are over 50% on renewals and new members. If you have not paid your 2026 membership, please pay as soon as possible. We take your membership seriously and it means a lot to the Squadron! Thank you to all members that have already paid their 2026 dues!

Our next event is going to be our Annual Matanza in February. Raffle tickets will be available next month. We always have great prizes to give away, so look for the coming flyer for more details.

On December 6 we will be cleaning up our veteran's grave sites. We need volunteers from 9 AM-12 PM. On December 13 at 11 AM, they will be placing wreaths on all the veteran's graves at San Carlos Cemetery. Please come join us!

Our meetings are on the second Saturday of each month. Eat breakfast early and stay for the meeting. Executive board meeting at 8 AM, membership meeting at 9 AM.

Thank you,

Randolph Scott Montoya  
SAL Commander





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

Hello Everyone,

What a year this has been! Before you know it, it will be 2026! It sure has gone quick! ALR Chapter 10 has had a lot of great success, and it couldn't have happened without your support! Post 69 has been there for us throughout this year. We have partnered with all our Legion Families and have made huge positive strides! I have been very pleased and grateful for every one of our Riders and their families, we truly are a great program. Thank you all for making our Chapter one of the best and for making us really look good! With that, I am stepping down as your Director to make room for others to continue our efforts. I am positive that our new Officers will continue this wonderful path that we're on. Elections will be on the 3rd of December. I will continue to be a Rider and will continue to help and support our efforts and the Legion. It has been a privilege and honor to have served our Chapter and our Post. In next month's newsletter, our new chapter officers will be listed. Please welcome them and please give them the support that our past officers have received.

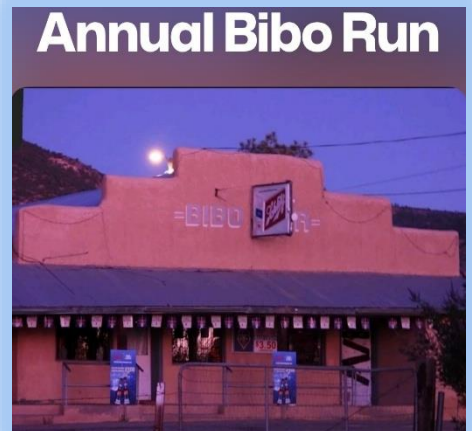
I want to wish our military and veterans serving here and abroad, their families, and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Again, thank you!

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



December 12, 5-7 PM,  
at Post 69. Come help  
wrap all the gifts for  
the Children's  
Christmas Party on  
December 20!



January 1, 2026,  
10 AM-1 PM  
KSU 10 AM at  
Post 69!

# Merry Christmas

## RETURN OF

## SANTA CLAUS vs THE GRINCH



At the Post 69

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 20, 1-4 PM

All children, ages 0-12 invited.

\*\* Pizza

\*\* Goodies

\*\* Photo booth

\*\* Face painting

\*\* Gift provided for all children!!





# **Post 69 December Events**



## **December 13**

**Wreaths Across America  
1000, San Ysidro Cemetery  
in Corrales**



## **December 20**

**Children's  
Christmas Party  
with Santa Claus,  
The Grinch & Max  
1300-1600**



**No ALA Food  
Sales for  
December!  
Will resume in  
January.**

## **December 31**

**New Year's Eve, 1800  
Roast Beef Dinner 1900-2000  
Posolé & Champagne  
at Midnight  
Dance to Tino & the Band!**



**December 25  
POST CLOSED**





# MERRY CHRISTMAS TO SOLDIERS EVERYWHERE WHO CAN'T BE WITH THEIR FAMILIES



## DECEMBER 2025

| SUN                                                       | MON | TUE                           | WED                                     | THUR                                  | FRI                                                                             | SAT                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                           | 1   | 2                             | 3<br>1830 – Riders<br>Mtg.              | 4                                     | 5<br>It's Wear R.E.D.<br>FRIDAY!                                                | 6                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 7<br>Pearl Harbor<br>Day<br><br>1700 - Karaoke<br>W/Allan | 8   | 9<br>1800 –<br>Auxiliary Mtg. | 10                                      | 11                                    | 12<br>It's Wear R.E.D.<br>FRIDAY!<br><br>1700-1900 –<br>Wrap<br>Christmas Gifts | 13<br>National Guard<br>Birthday<br><br>1000 - Wreaths<br>Across America<br><br>0800-1030-Breakfast<br><br>0900 – SONs Gen.<br>Mtg.<br><br>1300 - Army-Navy<br>Game |
| 14<br>1700 - Karaoke<br>w/Allan                           | 15  | 16                            | 17                                      | 18                                    | 19<br>It's Wear R.E.D.<br>FRIDAY!<br><br>1900 – Live<br>Music & Food            | 20<br>1300-1600 -<br>Children's Christmas<br>Party                                                                                                                  |
| 21<br>1700 -<br>December<br>Birthdays,<br>Karaoke w/Allan | 22  | 23                            | 24                                      | 25<br>CHRISTMAS<br>DAY<br>POST CLOSED | 26<br>1900 – Live<br>Music & Food                                               | 27                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 28<br>1700 - Karaoke<br>w/Allan                           | 29  | 30                            | 31<br>1800 - New<br>Year's Eve<br>Party |                                       |                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                     |



## JANUARY 2026

| SUN                                                   | MON                                              | TUE                            | WED                        | THUR                                                  | FRI                                                                  | SAT                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                       |                                                  |                                |                            | 1<br>New Year's<br>Day                                | 2<br>It's Wear R.E.D.<br>FRIDAY!<br><br>1900 – Live<br>Music & Food  | 3                                                                                             |
| 4<br>1700 - Karaoke<br>w/Allan                        | 5                                                | 6                              | 7<br>1830 – Riders<br>Mtg. | 8                                                     | 9<br>It's Wear R.E.D.<br>FRIDAY!<br><br>1900 – Live<br>Music & Food  | 10<br>0800-1030-Breakfast<br>0900-Finance/Exec.<br>Comm. Mtg.<br><br>0900 – SONS Gen.<br>Mtg. |
| 11<br>1700 - Karaoke<br>w/Allan                       | 12                                               | 13<br>1800 –<br>Auxiliary Mtg. | 14                         | 15<br>1730-1900 –<br>ALA Food<br>Sales. Frito<br>Pies | 16<br>It's Wear R.E.D.<br>FRIDAY!<br><br>1900 – Live<br>Music & Food | 17                                                                                            |
| 18<br>1700 - January<br>Birthdays,<br>Karaoke w/Allan | 19<br>Martin<br>Luther<br>King Jr.'s<br>Birthday | 20                             | 21                         | 22                                                    | 23<br>It's Wear R.E.D.<br>FRIDAY!<br><br>1900 – Live<br>Music & Food | 24                                                                                            |
| 25<br>1700 - Karaoke<br>w/Allan                       | 26                                               | 27                             | 28                         | 29                                                    | 30<br>It's Wear R.E.D.<br>FRIDAY!<br><br>1900 – Live<br>Music & Food | 31                                                                                            |