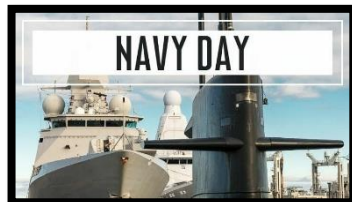




DURAN Y GALLEGOS AMERICAN LEGION POST 69
9000 4TH St. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114
Website – <http://duranygallegospost69.org/>
Email – duranygallegospost69@yahoo.com
Bar/Hall Rentals 505-898-9918



OCTOBER 27

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

The Holidays are close and the weather is beginning to change! We have a lot of functions coming up at Post 69 and you can get all the dates on the calendar in this newsletter!

I have pointed out in the past couple of articles that we are going to start cracking down on members who come into the lounge and act like they are at home, cursing and arguing with other customers. Also, treating the Bartenders badly! It seems to have worked so far as those incidents have slowed down considerably! We still have a couple of customers that are not yet in line, but they are coming around! We must all remember that Post 69 is first and foremost a Veterans Club! Please respect them when you are here!

Our Post will be hosting the District 9 meeting on Sunday, October 25, registration begins at 9 AM, joint meeting at 11 AM, and lunch by our Auxiliary right after the joint meeting. All members are invited to attend!

Our new membership cards are here so let’s get those renewals in! You can pay the bartender or ask an officer to assist you with renewing.

Until Next Month,

David Stevens
Post Commander

OCTOBER 2026





AMERICAN LEGION HONOR GUARD

Honoring Fallen Comrades

August 4, 2026 - Accorded
comrade Richard Gallegos Full
Military Honors at Vista Verde.



Friday night fundraising
dinner sales have stopped
for the remainder of 2026 as
the holidays approach. All
families will resume in 2027.
Thank you for all your
support this year!

Post Announcements & Live Music Schedule

Thirsty Thursday Bands (TTB)

Come out and support our live music! Bands will be performing every other week.

- October 15 – Southern Trail Band (kickoff night)!

RED Fridays (Remember Everyone Deployed)

Let's show our unwavering support for our deployed service members. **Every Friday, please wear red**—whether it's a little or a lot—to ensure they are never forgotten. **RED: Remember Everyone Deployed.**

Veterans Wall of Honor

We are getting started on our Veterans Wall of Honor soon! You can permanently honor a Veteran by purchasing a memorial brick. Applications are available right now at the Post.

Thank you for your continued support!

Rick “Ponch” De La Rosa
1st Vice Commander

STORIES BEHIND THE COINS



Reaching out from: Ashley Reid, Veteran Outreach, AllCoin (by Braav)

Post 69 Legionnaires! To preserve the coins you already carry and the stories behind them, we are asking members to photograph the coins they already have and write down the stories behind them. Uploading existing coins is always free for veterans, and asks only for a simple account, a photo of the coin, and whatever story the member chooses to write. The record lives in a searchable Coin Library their families can find years from now.

There is nothing to buy! Once you've created an account, you can always text coin photos to 805-395-6805 and we'll upload them for you.

Two Legion posts have recently implemented this item this month: Post 154 in Rathdrum, Idaho, and Post 903 in Mount Pocono, Pennsylvania.

Post 69 may also create and mint a digital challenge coin at no charge, with an edition of up to 100 coins. The digital coin is the part that is free. If you are considering a physical coin, we can help you make that too, priced through our minting partners, and pair it with a digital twin on AllCoin.

With respect,

Ashley Reid

<https://allcoin.braav.co>

ashley.q.reid@gmail.com

Braav, 1025 Westwood Blvd, Floor 2, Los Angeles, CA

Join Us in Our Mission

Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach



★ **December 19, 2026** ★

National Wreaths Across America Day



Help American Legion Post 69 Duran Y Gallegos honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at San Carlos Cemetery

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathsaacrossamerica.org/NM0047P



#RememberMe

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

DISGUIISING OUR TRUE SELF

Dear Friends, it only seems like only yesterday that I was writing my article for the month of October 2025, and now it's 2026 already! Two holidays are shared during the month, one being Columbus Day, or Native Indigenous Day on the 12th, which is celebrated by some States and locales with parades and public displays. But the most celebrated day to me is Halloween which is celebrated on the last day of the month, leading to All Saints Day in November, and the birth of the baby Jesus in December (if of Christian faith). Halloween is the day in which little ones and those young of heart, dress up as cute little animals, superheroes, and princesses, while others dress up as scary monsters, witches, ghosts, and goblins. Those little ones and some adults change their normal selves to other personalities, thus disguising themselves with masks and makeup so that no one can recognize them. Showing a new personality for everyone to see, for just a day. That one day we can hide from the realities of life, thus changing into someone different.

In my opinion, this is the perfect time we should contemplate changing from an uncaring person, into God-fearing and caring person for others. Helping those less fortunate in either volunteering to help those local organizations that reach out in feeding the homeless and destitute, or helping in soup kitchens in the local area, or visiting those veterans or non-veterans in assisted living homes and hospitals. Please remember that we are not doing this for ourselves, but for Almighty God, and his Son who died for our sins on the cross and gave us new direction following his example. As stated in Galatians in the bible "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Working together we can accomplish so much more. Before I close, I want to wish the Duran y Gallegos American Legion Post 69 family/familia and those reading this article a very safe and blessed month of October 2026. Watch out for our little ones on Halloween evening and night. Please take advantage of Post 69's "Trunk or Treat" activity on the Post 69 parking lot. Watch for the posted times on our bulletin boards.

Respectfully in Christ,

Pepé Mendoza, Chaplain
Duran y Gallegos
American Legion Post 69





President Yolanda J. Montoya		
1 st Vice President Debra A. Maestas	2 nd Vice President Virginia Sanchez	Secretary Vacant
Treasurer Luz Abeyta	Historian Yvonne Lovato	Sergeant-at-Arms Cathy Nieto-Martinez
Chaplain Vacant	Executive Committee: Annette Brown, Dee-Dee Chapman, Sadie Nieto	

DISTRICT 9 MEETING, Sunday, October 25, 9 AM. Unit 69 falls under District 9 and all members are encouraged to attend. Come together, share information, and support the work of our American Legion Family. The Unit is preparing the lunch for this meeting and can use all the help you can give!

TRUNK OR TREAT — Saturday, October 31, 1 PM – 3 PM. Bring the kids and join us for a fun-filled afternoon of **Trunk or Treat!** 🎃👻🍬 Come dressed in your favorite costume and enjoy treats, fun, and fellowship with our Post 69 family. **Everyone is welcome!** Then in the eerie evening join the adults for a potluck at 7 PM and wear your favorite costume.

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING, 1st Tuesday of every month, 6 PM. All Auxiliary members are encouraged to attend our monthly membership meeting. Come **join us, share your ideas, get involved, and support our Auxiliary!** Your participation and ideas help us continue to grow and make a difference in our community.

STAY CONNECTED!

Want to see more events, activities, dinners, music, and happenings at Post 69? Join us on **Facebook: American Legion Post 69**. Follow the page for updates and upcoming events!

National Disability Employment Awareness Month
Breast Cancer Awareness Month
Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Fire Prevention Month
Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day — Monday, October 12
Halloween — Saturday, October 31
National Character Counts Week
National Family History Month

Yolanda J Montoya, President
lymontoya810@gmail.com
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 69

Serving Veterans, Military Families, and Our Community





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

"The greatness of a man is not how much wealth he acquires, but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively." ~ Bob Marley

Greetings, do you feel the change in the weather?

What I have always known is that a great person will never tell themselves that they are great or require others to tell them they are great. It's amazing what one can accomplish when there is no worry about who gets credit.

We are having our 3rd annual tractor show on Saturday, October the 3 from 7 AM to 1 PM. There is also a craft show and our last flea market of the year. This is a fun event! I hope you will come and take part. Please contact Randy Montoya at 505-238-1291 on the details.

It is also time to renew your membership for 2027. Our SAL Squadron 69 is the largest and best in the state. Our dues are \$30 for the year. We have an Early Bird discount of \$5 for current members, for this you must have a 2026 card. Our Squadron meeting is on October 10 at 9 AM.

The veteran I am acknowledging this month is Eddie Garcia. He was my friend and coach, a truly great man. He was a Post 69 Legionnaire and was once the bar manager here. Along with his wife Della (Auxiliary), who passed away in 1997, Eddie did a tremendous amount of work in support of our Post 69 and our community. He was a Korean War Veteran that served in the Navy, born on June 17, 1933, and died on September 7, 2023. He is the father of Linda Benavidez, Eddie Garcia, and Becky Martinez.

As always look both ways and I will see you at the tractor show!

Danny



Squadron 69



★ *Annual* ★

TRACTOR SHOW

& FLEA MARKET, CRAFT SHOW

OCTOBER 3, 2026

7AM - 1 PM



\$10 FEE



BRING YOUR TRACTOR ★ SHOW IT OFF ★

Tractors ★ Flea Market ★ Craft Show ★ Food ★ Fun



Director Rick "Ponch" De La Rosa		
Assistant Director Steven "Slick" Fernandez	Secretary Odilia "Lila" Rodriguez	Treasurer Ali "Hotflash" Leyba
Sergeant-at-Arms Augustine "Silver Fox" Trujillo	Road Captain Jesus "Zap" Zapata	Chaplain Ann "Raven" Fernandez
Historian Jim "Thud" Stewart	OWW Chair Veronica "Hitchhiker" Zapata	

American Legion Riders Chapter 10

Fall is in the air, and winter is around the corner. Please make a complete safety check on your scooter and ensure it's good to go before you straddle your scoot!

Upcoming Events

- **October 3: Ride to Clovis, NM (Post 25, Chapter 2)**
 - **The Mission:** We are riding out to pick up the **"Never Forgotten" Eagle**.
 - **Details:** This has always been a highly anticipated, fun ride and will be an **overnighter**.
- **October 4: Return & Presentation**
 - **Details:** We will arrive back at our Post (**Time TBD**) to make the official **turn-over presentation** to our Commander and the Post.

• October 31: Children's Trunk 'n' Treat

- **Time:** 1 PM – 3 PM
- **Location:** Post Parking Lot
- **Details:** I highly encourage everyone to **dress up both yourself and your scooter** for this event!

Ride Safe, Be Safe,

Rick "Ponch" De La Rosa

Director, American Legion Riders Chapter 10



CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN
TRUNK OR TREAT AT
POST 69

Saturday, October 31, 1-3 PM

Decorate your car or scooter!

Start receiving treats early at
Post 69, 9000 4th St NW.

Come have a Boo-stastic time!!!

Day of the Deployed is a day to honor our deployed troops and their families for their bravery and the sacrifices they are making for our country. Supporters of the military are urged to get personally involved in activities that send care packages, offer messages of encouragement, and other morale-boosting activities to those currently deployed overseas and the military families of the deployed. Most states have some form of recognition of the holiday. While Day Of The Deployed is not treated like a state holiday with facility closures and time off from work, it is celebrated much in the same fashion as **POW/MIA Day**, with ceremonies by private and public institutions to honor those in uniform.



OCTOBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH!! EVERY FRIDAY IS WEAR RED FRIDAY, "REMEMBER EVERYONE DEPLOYED!"				1 1730 – Honor Wall Mtg.	2 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! NO Mariachi Elvis	3 0700 – SONs Flea Market and Tractor Show
4 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	5 1730 – Entertainment Mtg.	6 1200 - \$2.00 Taco Tuesday 1800 – Auxiliary Mtg.	7 1830 – Riders Mtg.	8	9 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! Mariachi Elvis Night	10 0800-1030-Breakfast 0900-Finance/Exec. Comm. Mtg. 1100 – General Mtg. 0900 – SONs Gen. Mtg.
11 PATRIOT DAY 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	12	13 US NAVY BIRTHDAY COLUMBUS DAY 1200 - \$2.00 Taco Tuesday	14	15 1800 - Southern Trail Band	16 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! Mariachi Elvis Night	17
18 1700 – Karaoke w/Allan	19	20 1200 - \$2.00 Taco Tuesday	21	22	23 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! Mariachi Elvis Night	24
25 0900 – District 9 Meeting 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	26 DAY OF THE DEPLOYED	27 NAVY DAY 1200 - \$2.00 Taco Tuesday	28	29	30 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! Mariachi Elvis Night	31 1300-1500 – Children's Trunk or Treat 1900 – Adult Costume Party



NOVEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2 1730 – Entertainment Mtg.	3 1800 – Auxiliary Mtg.	4 1830 – Riders Mtg.	5	6 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! Mariachi Elvis Night	7 1900 – Dance with Black Pearl
8 NO Karaoke W/Allan	9	10 MARINE CORPS DAY/ BIRTHDAY 1200 - \$2.00 Taco Tuesday	11	12 VETERANS DAY 1300-1500 – Veterans Day Lunch	13 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! Mariachi Elvis Night	14 0800-1030-Breakfast 0900-Finance/Exec. Comm. Mtg. 1100 – General Mtg. 0900 – SONs Gen. Mtg.
15 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	16	17 1200 - \$2.00 Taco Tuesday	18	19	20 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! Mariachi Elvis Night	21
22 1300-1500 – Post 69 Thanksgiving Lunch 1700 – Karaoke w/Allan	23	24 1200 - \$2.00 Taco Tuesday	25	26 THANKSGIVING DAY POST CLOSED!	27 It's Wear R.E.D. FRIDAY! Mariachi Elvis Night	28
29 1700 - Karaoke w/Allan	30					