

# THE VERDE VALLEY BUGLE CALL

Post 25 Cottonwood AZ  
480 S. Calvary Way



POST  
**25**  
COTTONWOOD AZ

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



June 2024

newsletter@alpost25az.org

Editor: David Kauppinen, USN

Commander - Bill Tinnin (USA)

First Vice - Nancy Hay (USAF)

Adjutant - James Galzycinski (USN)

Executive Committee: Dave Bickel (USA), Keith Vogler (USMC), and Ken Gregory (USA)

Finance Officer - DeDe Dexter (USAF)

Second Vice - Vacant

Sergeant-at-Arms - Tony Walker (USCG)

**\*\*Current Editor's Sunset Edition\*\***

## Veterans Service Officer's Message



Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) and Alzheimer's Disease (AD) are both complex conditions that until recently, have not been considered related. Both diseases are highly prevalent in the Veteran population and independently, both can have a profound impact on the lives of Veterans and their families. The scientific community has taken note of a relationship between OSA and AD. Specifically, studies now show that OSA causes an increased risk for acquiring Alzheimer's Disease which is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder that debilitates memory, thinking skills, and behavior. It is the most common cause of Dementia, accounting for 60-80% of all cases. <https://www.medconnectva.com/>

Jamie Galczynski, VSO

## Scholarship Committee Chairman



American Legion Post 25 \$1000 scholarship recipient for the academic year 2023-2024 is Jolene Earls. She graduated from both American Heritage Academy and Yavapai College with a grade point average of 4.0 or higher. Now she embarks on her next journey at Grand Canyon University with an emphasis on becoming a teacher. Ms. Earls not only accomplished graduating from high school and junior college at the same but she also participated in volleyball, worked part-time, and was a member of numerous high school organizations. In her spare time she competed in the VFW Oratorical

Competition and was second in the District twice. That's not all, she also found time to tutor 1st through 4th grade students in reading and earned numerous certifications, such as CPR and paraprofessional, through VACTE. Congratulations and well done to Ms. Jolene Earls and to her parents, Adam and Bri Earls.

Keith Vogler, Scholarship Committee

## Officer Profile

### Legion Finance Officer – Debra (DeDe) Dexter



Presently DeDe is the Finance Officer, acting 2nd Vice Commander (still vacant position), Auxiliary Secretary, and District 8 Auxiliary President. Previous Officer Positions were the, 2nd Vice Commander and Auxiliary Vice President. Other duties at the Post include Kitchen volunteer, and anything else that needs to be done. DeDe has been a member of the American Legion for 6 years and Post 25 for 6 years. She served in the Air Force from July 1978 to August 1998 as a Communication Specialist and retired as Master Sergeant (E7). Duty Stations were: Lackland AFB, TX; Sheppard AFB, Texas; Clark AFB, Philippines; Woomera RAAF Base, Australia; Kadena AFB, Japan; Misawa AFB, Japan; Yokota AFB, Japan; Buckley Field Denver, CO; Los Angeles AFB, CA; Howard AFB, Panama; and a tour in Gulf War/Desert Storm. DeDe lives in Cottonwood with her three dogs: Brandy 2 years old, Cosmo 1 year old (both mixed Collie Australian Sheppards), and Precious Chihuahua who is 16 years old. After the Air Force, she worked 35 Years as a Certified Professional Project Manager for DOD contracts, healthcare companies, insurance companies, banks, and IT companies. Her hobbies include fishing, playing with her dogs, and playing golf.

## General Announcements

Membership Changes: Post 25 welcomes the following two new members:



ARMY



MARINES



NAVY



AIR FORCE



COAST GUARD

*William Burchett II – Army*

*Richard Hudson – Navy*

The Following Members Transitioned to Post Everlasting:

**Cliff Abel**, Vietnam War Army Veteran of Cottonwood at age 78. Additional details were unavailable at the time of Bugle publication.

**Ralph Clark**, WWII and Korean War Veteran of Mesa, Arizona veteran (Army, Coast Guard, and Air National Guard), on April 4, 2024 at age 96. Additional details were unavailable at the time of Bugle publication.

American Legion Pillar I - Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation: Auxiliary volunteers assisted by members of the Legion and SAL handed out hundreds of poppies on May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. The group raised over \$1300 for the Poppy Fund which is used only for the welfare of veterans and their families. Kudos to volunteers Pam, Lorraine, Julie, Dave, Mercy, Rich, Eileen, Bob, Cricket, and David.

The Last General Meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>: The membership voted to change the monthly Post donation to the Scholarship Account from \$50/mo to \$100/mo, so we can award more than one scholarship per year. In addition, it was voted to send pre-meeting emails with a list of issues that may be discussed or voted on. Since the Executive Committee works for the Post members, please consider attending the general membership meetings so that we can vote on any non-routine issues that they bring to us. We need you.

## General Announcements (continued)

Reminder: The \$5 increase for American Legion annual dues will go into effect on July 1, 2024 at \$50/year. So, why not renew for \$45 at the Post (see Commander Bill Tinnin or Adjutant James Galczynski) or use the [On-line Renewal](#) link by June 30<sup>th</sup>. You could also renew at the \$45 rate for 3 years on-line (\$135).

### Post Activities – June 2024

AL Riders Meeting – Dark in June  
SAL Meeting – Saturday June 1 at 12:30 PM  
Auxiliary Meeting – Monday June 10 at 5PM  
Legion Meeting – Monday June 17 at 5:30PM

June 8, CCW Class – 9AM-1PM, register  
at <https://www.safearizona.com/events/cottonwood-saturday/>  
Post members leave Credit Card spaces blank and use Coupon Code “ALP25”

June 15, Jim Schade Celebration of Life, 1 PM to 4 PM. Dessert Potluck, bring your favorite sweets to share.

June 15, Installation for all Officers of the Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL, 5PM

July 13, Verde Valley Marine Corps League Raffle – 25 foot Telescoping Flagpole Kit with Solar Powered Light and Large Flash Collar. Installation included within 50 miles of Cottonwood. Drawing will be at Post 25. \$5.00 per ticket, contact Bobby Dixon at 928-821-1810, [usmcsgt.bobby@gmail.com](mailto:usmcsgt.bobby@gmail.com), or see him at the Friday night Fishy Fry. Additional details are at [Flagpole Raffle Flyer](#)

See the June calendar at [https://alpost25az.org/documents/Calendar\\_June\\_2024.pdf](https://alpost25az.org/documents/Calendar_June_2024.pdf)

See our Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/AmLeg.Post.25>

## Military News – Navy Submarine Force Structure in 2024



The Navy currently has 347,000 personnel, and of those, 21,000 or 6%, make up the Submarine Service. There are 66 submarines attached to 13 bases around the world. Fast attack subs include 26 SSN Los Angeles Class, 19 SSN Virginia Class, and 3 SSN Seawolf Class. These are hunter-killer submarines with the mission to destroy enemy submarines and surface vessels. The Ohio Class consists of 14 SSBNs which are ballistic missile submarines. These serve as hidden mobile launch platforms and each one carries 20 Trident II D5 missiles. In addition, 4 Ohio Class subs have been converted to SSGNs which are now used for special operations by Navy Seals; 2 SSGNs are based in the Atlantic Ocean and 2 SSGNs are based in the Pacific Ocean. Each SSGN can carry 154 Tomahawk Cruise Missiles. The new construction 20,000-ton Columbia Class SSBNs are the largest, most technically complex submarine that's ever been built. They will enter rotation in 2031 as the Ohio Class subs are phased out. If you would like to see what the inside of an SSGN looks like while on station in the Mediterranean, then watch this excellent 8 minute video: [Inside the USS Florida SSGN-728](#) (Editor's note: you will also see a few women crewmembers. The crew compliment has certainly change since I was on submarines. DJK)

References: Presentation by Retired Vice Admiral Phil Sawyer, Commander Submarine Pacific Fleet, at the April 20, 2024 meeting of the USSVI Gudgeon Base in Prescott Valley, AZ and <https://news.usni.org/2022/03/08/first-columbia-ballistic-missile-submarine-begins-to-take-shape>

## Military News – Air Force



The B-21 Raider is a strategic bomber under development for the USAF by Northrop Grumman. As part of the Long Range Strike Bomber (LRS-B) program, it is a stealth intercontinental aircraft capable of delivering conventional and thermonuclear weapons. The Air Force plans for the B-21 to replace the B-1 Lancer and B-2 Spirit by 2040, and possibly the B-52 Stratofortress after that. While many of the details behind the B-21 capabilities are classified, the Air Force stated that the bomber is "the first aircraft that is more digital than not", and that the test flights have been giving officials insight into a wide range of possible uses. It is expected to enter service by 2027. Ref: [Northrup Grumman B-21 Raider](#)

## Military News – Marine Corps



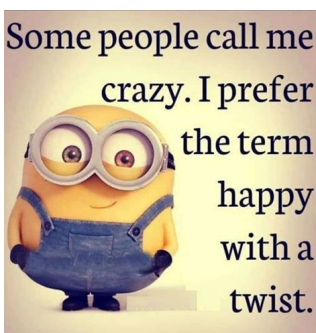
A new Marine Corps pilot program is offering civilians the chance to enlist at ranks up to Gunnery Sergeant if they have skills in cyber operations or signals intelligence. The program will select 10 to 15 civilian applicants, including those with prior Marine Corps or other military service experience. Following an interview process, a board will recommend a rank of up to E-7 based on the applicant's education and experience. All candidates must go through Marine Corps basic training, however former Marine Corps veterans will be able to skip that step. The program specifically targets the careers of “Cyberspace Warfare Operator” and “Signals Intelligence Collection Manager”. The Marine Corps currently has 625 cyber and 1,287 signals intelligence NCOs. After the pilot members are enlisted, the program will be evaluated every six months during a 24 month trial period. Ref: [USMC Cyber Operations and Signals Intelligence Program](#)

## Newsletter Editor Needed

This June issue of the Bugle is my last as your Newsletter Editor. I have happily done this job for 18 months and decided it is time to step down in order to pursue other projects. First, many thanks to Veterans Service Officer Jamie Galczynski and E-Committeeman Keith Vogler for punctually providing information each month. What I liked about being Editor was researching current military news, military history, and searching for humorous wisdom. That said, if you would like to become the Bugle Editor, I'll help you get started. You can make the newsletter however you want; it does not have to be my format. Since I will still be the Post 25 Webmaster, I will continue to send out pertinent emails each month and the Bugle if and when it becomes available again.

If you have a computer, you can get a copy of the monthly Legion Calendar from the website [alpost25az.org](http://alpost25az.org) or near the entrance door to the Post which opens every day at Noon. For those who got the Bugle and Calendar delivered by the US Mail, you could ask a relative or friend to print the Calendar from our website. I can be reached at [webmaster@alpost25az.org](mailto:webmaster@alpost25az.org). David Kauppinen

## Humor for the Month



“As I have grown older, I’ve learned that pleasing everyone is impossible, but pissing some people off is a piece of cake.” (Unidentified Wise Man)

