



Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 97

5764 E Hunt Hwy Florence, Az 85132

501 c (19) Corporation – EIN# 27-0430747

Commander John “Radar” Meyer

<https://stvlegion.com/sal-squadron>

Squadron 97 Meeting – August 2, 2025

Date: August 2, 2025

Location: San Tan Valley Veterans Center

Time: 1000 hours

Attendance: 4 officers, 1 member

Membership Update

We currently have 3 members who have renewed their membership for 2026. During the meeting, 3 more members paid their dues, bringing us to 6 members total — putting us at 50% of our goal. Our aim is to reach 100% by Veterans Day and 110% by the end of the year.

2026 Membership Goal: 12 Members

Finance Report

Checking: \$841.24

Cash: \$310.00

Total: \$1,151.24

Jon Kohler has been appointed as our Finance Officer and now has access to the SAL bank account. Moving forward, all financial matters will be handled through Jon.

Old Business

- Marking materials to assist with promoting the Squadron.
 - The tablecloth featuring the SAL logos has been received and looks great. It will be used at events to support recruitment efforts and serve as a strong visual to attract attention. We will also have pre-made recruitment packets available, containing information about the Squadron and how to join.
- Looking into drone program grants
 - An FAA grant application for an undisclosed amount has been submitted. As of today, we have not received a response.
 - **Cox Charities – \$10,000 grant opportunity (Open: June 1, Close: June 30).**
 - The application was submitted on June 20th. The grant was filed under the San Tan Valley Veterans Center, utilizing its 501(c)(3) status. A



Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 97

5764 E Hunt Hwy Florence, Az 85132

501 c (19) Corporation – EIN# 27-0430747

Commander John “Radar” Meyer

<https://stvlion.com/sal-squadron>

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed. We hope to receive notification of acceptance sometime before September.

- I've been researching options for acquiring additional drones. Due to recent tariffs, DJI drones are not readily available, which may present challenges in expanding our fleet. In the meantime, we're working on developing classroom presentations and materials to use on days with bad weather or extreme heat, like today.
- Arizona Legion College will be held on September 19th, 20th, & 21st at Frank W. Write Post #34 6272 East Cave Creek Road, Cave Creek, Az 85331. Anybody wishing to attend need to complete the American Legion basic training <https://www.legion.org/alei> and submit your application at <https://azlegioncollege.org/files/Application.pdf>

New Business

- As we continue to grow our Squadron, we're exploring ideas for upcoming fundraisers. We'd prefer to avoid raffling off firearms and instead focus on more family-friendly themes. One idea we're considering—similar to what the Riders are planning—is a holiday raffle featuring a popular item like the Nintendo Switch 2, timed before Christmas. So any idea please let me know.

For the Good of the Sons

- I plan to attend the event on August 3rd at Post 27 in Apache Junction, where we'll kick off our COTA charity campaign with a smoked chicken and sausage lunch from 11 AM to 3 PM. The event will feature the Cardinals cheerleaders and a special guest family whose COTA journey reminds us why we serve. Bring the whole family—this will be a celebration of hope, unity, and the impact of our mission.
- The Department is hosting a *Be the One* Campaign event at the Arizona Cardinals home opener on September 14. Tickets are \$65, with \$10 from each ticket benefiting the American Legion's COTA fundraiser. If you're able to attend, it's a great opportunity to connect with fellow members of the Legion Family while supporting a meaningful cause.
- The Post will be having a membership kick off party on Saturday, Aug 30 starting at 4pm, all is invited.

The next **Squadron 97 meeting will be held on September 6, 2025.**

Meeting adjourned at 1051 hours.