

Squadron 97 Dispatch

"Small in Numbers, Big in Purpose."



Take the American Legion Basic Training Course!

Want to learn more about The American Legion and its mission? The free, self-paced Basic Training Course is a great way for Sons of the American Legion members to deepen their knowledge of the organization's history, values, and Four Pillars: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth.

Upon completion, members receive a certificate and a stronger connection to our mission. We encourage all Squadron 97 members to enroll today by visiting The American Legion website!

<https://register.legion.org/alei>

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SAL Squadron 97 Reaches 100% Membership Goal for 2025 – But Our Mission Continues!

The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 97 is proud to announce that we have reached our 100% membership goal for 2025! This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our members and the strong support for our mission of serving veterans, their families, and our communities.

While reaching our goal is a significant milestone, it does not mean that our work is done. Membership is the lifeblood of our organization, and continued growth is essential to ensuring our programs and services thrive for years to come. Every new member brings fresh ideas, energy, and a renewed commitment to honoring those who have served.

Recruitment remains a priority throughout the year. Whether it's engaging family members, reaching out to friends, or sharing the benefits of joining the SAL, we encourage everyone to continue spreading the word. Every additional member strengthens our ability to support our veterans, assist our local community, and uphold the values of the American Legion Family.

Thank you to all who helped us achieve this incredible milestone. Let's keep the momentum going and continue to grow our Squadron for an even stronger future!

**SONS OF THE
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LEGION**

Sons of the American Legion Drone Program

Squadron 97 is proud to continue growing our Youth Drone Program, an exciting initiative designed to introduce young participants to the world of drone technology and aviation. This program offers hands-on experience with drone operation, safety, and the many applications of unmanned aerial systems.

Meetings are held on the first Saturday of each month at 11:00 AM,

providing a great opportunity for youth to learn, practice, and engage with like-minded enthusiasts. Whether you're new to drones or already have experience, our program welcomes all skill levels!

Join us as we inspire the next generation of pilots, engineers, and innovators through this dynamic and educational program.

For more information, reach out to Squadron 97.

Let's keep soaring to new heights!



April: Honoring the Resilience of Military Children

Each April, the nation comes together to recognize and honor the sacrifices and resilience of military children. Designated as the Month of the Military Child, this time is set aside to acknowledge the unique challenges faced by children in military families and to celebrate their strength, adaptability, and patriotism.

Established in 1986 by then-Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, the Month of the Military Child highlights the important role these young individuals play in our military communities. With frequent moves, school changes, and the challenges of having a parent deployed, military children demonstrate incredible courage and perseverance.

Throughout April, communities, schools, and military organizations show their support through various events and activities. One of the most widely recognized traditions is "Purple Up! Day," a day where people wear purple to show solidarity and appreciation for military children. Purple represents the blending of all military branch colors, symbolizing unity among service members and their families.

The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 97 proudly stands with our military families and encourages everyone to take a moment this month to recognize the sacrifices made by these young patriots.

Whether through a simple thank-you, participation in Purple Up! Day, or supporting local events, we can all do our part in showing gratitude for the contributions of military children.

As we observe this special month, let us remember that behind every service member is a family that also serves. Military children embody the values of service, resilience, and dedication, making them an essential part of our nation's strength.

Join us in celebrating the Month of the Military Child and honoring the next generation of heroes!





106th Annual Convention – Sons of the American Legion in Chandler, Arizona

Mark your calendars! The 106th Annual Convention of The American Legion Department of Arizona is scheduled to take place from June 26 – 29, 2025, at the Crowne Plaza San Marcos Golf Resort, 1 North San Marcos Place, Chandler, Arizona 85225.

This convention serves as an opportunity for SAL members to come together, share ideas, and shape the future of our organization. Squadron 97 encourages all members to attend, network with fellow Legion Family members, and engage in discussions that will guide our programs and initiatives in the coming year.

In addition to the official proceedings, the convention will offer a chance to connect with fellow Legion Family members, share ideas, and celebrate the achievements of posts and squadrons from across the state. Attendees can also look forward to informative presentations, awards ceremonies, and special events.

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend this significant event. For more details and registration information, stay tuned for updates from The American Legion Department of Arizona.

To sign up for this convention, please contact **Commander Radar**. If you can only attend one day, **Saturday holds most of the key elements** of the convention.

Honoring Service, Building Community

As we welcome the month of April, the Sons of the American Legion (SAL) continue our commitment to honoring veterans, supporting our communities, and promoting patriotism. With spring in full bloom, we have exciting opportunities to engage in service and camaraderie.

As always, thank you for your dedication to the Sons of the American Legion. Together, we continue to uphold the values of service, patriotism, and remembrance.





Squadron 97 Meeting

Next Meeting:

Date: April 5, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: San Tan Valley
Veterans Center

Upcoming Events

April 2- Aux Coffee w/ Vets 9-11 am

April 2-Aux Meeting 11 am

April 5- SAL Meeting 10-11 am

April 5- Drone Program 11-12 am

April 14-Post Social Hour 6-7pm

April 14-Post Meeting 7-8 pm

April 19- Honor Guard Practice 10-11 am

April 20-SAL 97 50/50 Raffle @ Bingo 11 am - 2 pm

April 21-Riders Meeting 6-7 pm

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Squadron 97 Commander's Corner

I am proud to announce that our squadron has officially reached our 100% membership goal for 2025! This achievement reflects the dedication and commitment of each and every member who has worked tirelessly to recruit, renew, and strengthen our organization. It is a true testament to our shared mission of service, camaraderie, and honoring the legacy of our veterans.

While reaching this milestone is cause for celebration, it does not mean our work is done. Membership is the foundation of the Sons of the American Legion, and continued growth is vital to ensuring our success in the years ahead. Every new member brings fresh ideas, energy, and passion to our squadron, allowing us to expand our programs and better support our veterans, their families, and our community.

In addition to our membership success, I want to remind everyone that our squadron elections are approaching. This is an important time for us to elect strong leaders who will continue guiding our squadron forward. I encourage all members to consider stepping up for a leadership role or supporting those who do. Your involvement is key to keeping our squadron strong and effective.

Another crucial task ahead is tracking and completing our Consolidated Squadron Report (CPR), which is due in May. This report is essential in documenting all the great work we do throughout the year. I ask all members to help ensure that our activities, volunteer hours, and community efforts are accurately recorded so we can highlight the impact of our squadron.

I encourage each of you to remain engaged in our mission—invite new members, share our purpose, and continue making a difference. Let's keep the momentum going and build an even stronger Squadron 97!

Thank you all for your dedication and hard work. I am honored to serve as your Squadron Commander and look forward to another great year ahead.

For God and Country,

John "Radar" Meyer
Squadron 97 Commander

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