

CAPE LEGION'S VOICE

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Cape Coral, Florida - Post #90



JAN. – FEB. 2023



COMMANDER'S CORNER

With Keith Berres

Hello everyone,

As we begin this New Year, it is great to report that the Post is recovering from Covid-19, Hurricane Ian, and anything else trying to get in the way of us growing stronger and helping veterans and the community. This past year, while challenging, allowed us to be a shining light to Cape Coral and the community. I want to thank the officers, staff, and volunteers for all the hard work that everyone does.

This next year, my desire is to see us grow even stronger and to reach out into the community more. It is important that we continue to encourage veterans from Desert Storm and later to get involved in the American Legion. This includes being involved in youth activities as well as veteran activities.

The NEF deadline for American Legion members that have been displaced by Hurricane Ian is being extended. If your residence was extensively damaged by Hurricane Ian, please contact the post so that we can help you get your application in for a grant. The Legion offers \$3,000 to members of the American Legion or SAL and \$2,500 for Auxiliary members. Auxiliary members should contact Nita Keeling for more information.

The Executive Committee is going through some changes. Brian Ensley is moving to Tennessee and has resigned his position. The following Legionnaires have been installed; Jack Fitzgerald (ALR Director) to the Executive Board, Cahse Masters as Historian, Lakeshia Penn as Service Officer and Bob Noble as Judge Advocate.

We have many plans for the New Year. Please make sure to go to the website, sign-up for the weekly email updates and follow us on Facebook so you do not miss anything.

For God and Country,

American Legion Post 90 Commander,

Keith Berres





JOHN'S CORNER



Hello everyone,

Last year and this year, we still have to deal with the results from Hurricane Ian. Post 90 is back in full operating mode but still has a lot of damage that has to be fixed. Estimates of repair costs are being obtained which will likely exceed \$100,000 and we are asking for donations to offset our \$20,850 insurance deductible. Donations are also being requested for the “Post 90 Improvement Project” to replace some of the aging appliances and furniture. Please contact the Commander, Second-Vice Commander, or Bar Manager regarding your donation for Post Repairs and Replacements.

In January and February, there are few plans for special events. However, keep your calendars open as that could change in a moment's notice. On February 5, 2023, Post 90 will be holding its “Four Chaplains” ceremony beginning at 1 pm. Please join us for that special even. As always, there will be a “Super Bowl LVII” party on February 12, 2023. Stay tuned for more information.

On February 18th, the Post is sponsoring a bus trip to the Seminole Casino in Immokalee. There will only be room for about 50 people. Please sign-up at the bar to hold your spot.

In the last week of February and going through all of March, Post 90 will be managing 2 concession stands at Jet Blue Park during the Boston Red Sox Spring Training Camp. Typically, there are 18 games both in the afternoon and evenings. The funds that are raised this year will go to repairing the Hurricane Ian damages and some will go to our approved charities. In the first week of January, the sign-up sheets for volunteers will go up, and if you would like to work some or all of the games, please sign-up.

As Commander Keith stated in his note to you, there have been many changes to the Post's entry and alcohol purchasing policies. Just remember, you should be proud to show your membership card at this Post and any other Post you should visit.

We have been experiencing a high cost of goods ratio both at the Canteen and Kitchen. Inflation has required that our distributors increase the cost of beverages and food. Additionally, the State of Florida requires that wages be increased on a schedule to achieve the mandated minimum wage for employees. Therefore, the prices of beverages and meals have been increase on January 1, 2023. These increases will greatly aid us in reducing our cost of goods ratio.

Lastly, and most important, many of our Post 90 Family members suffered greatly from the disastrous Hurricane IAN. They have lost most if not all of their homes. We have done our best to help them out and direct them to agencies that can give them relief. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 Adjutant,

John Baker





"The Navy recruiter described a completely different experience to me."

The joke above was given to me from James Stephens. Thankyou! I am looking for some clean and funny Military Jokes for the American Legion Post 90 Newsletter. If you have any, please email, text, or call me. Please include your full name for recognition.

strawjazz1978@gmail.com

[\(239\)322-6945](tel:(239)322-6945)

Sincerely,

Chairman & Editor of American Legion Post 90 Newsletter,

Amy M. O'Neill





POST 90 MARKETING CORNER



Hello everyone,

Our American Legion Post 90 Marketing Committee is scheduled to set up a booth at the Cape Coral Arts Festival planned on January 14th and 15th, 2023, from 10am - 5pm on Cape Coral Parkway. The Marketing Committee will share a booth with the Auxiliary and the SAL. In 2022, the festival was a valuable source of prospective members and a tremendous opportunity to publicize our Post.

The Cape Coral Arts Festival and Marketplace is one of Lee County's most significant Special Events, according to the Lee County Tourist Development Council and the Lee County Visitors and Convention Bureau, bringing over 120,000 attendees to enjoy the arts in January 2022. In 2020, the festival was voted the best Outdoor Event by the readers of Gulf Shore Life Magazine and the 5th best Art Festival in the nation by Sunshine Artists. Up to 300 artists and 30 non-profit organizations will be accepted to participate in the festival. Any nonprofit at the outdoor Festival will be provided a free booth. The Artist Hospitality team will be there to greet and direct artists and non-profits on set-up and will be available to assist us all weekend. Drive-up access to our booth location during set-up hours is on Friday evening and Saturday morning, as well as booth replenishment on Sunday morning. Drive-up access for booth tear-down will start at 5pm on Sunday, and convenient restroom locations for artists and vendors will be provided. Professional overnight security and continental breakfast tickets for artists and vendors will be available on Saturday and Sunday. Free bottled water and free parking in lots designated for artists and vendors adjacent to the Art Show Site will be provided. Enjoy the festival and stop by our booth to say hello.

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 Marketing Committee Chairman
& American Legion Department Legionnaire of the year,



Ted Clark



Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone is safe & well. It is with sadness that we learned that American Legion Post 90-members Dan L. Mousus, who was in the Airforce, and Paul T. Smith, who was in the Army, both passed away recently. They both will be greatly missed. If you know of anyone else who is sick or passed away recently in our American Legion Post 90 membership, please let me know. You can reach me at: (239)313-8630.

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 Chaplain,

Jerry Gray



FREE HAIRCUTS FOR VETERANS

On Wednesday, December 21st, 2022, from 10am to Noon, free haircuts for veterans were provided by the Cape Coral Technical Barber School on the Patio at American Legion Post 90. This was the first time they returned due to the devastation caused by Hurricane Ian. They had a great turn-out. They will now be at American Legion Post 90 every third Wednesday of the month from 10am to Noon.



WELCOME NEW POST 90 OFFICERS

On Monday, December 26th, 2022, during the American Legion Post 90 Membership Meeting, 4 new Post Officers were sworn in. John Fitzgerald is an Executive Board Member. Lakeshia Penn is Service Officer. Bob Noble is Judge Advocate. Chase Masters is Historian. Please take the time to welcome and meet all our new Post 90 Officers.





Greetings to all Members of American Legion Post 90,

American Legion Post 90 membership dues are currently at about 70%, which means that about 1,105 American Legion Post 90 members have already paid their dues. You have from July 1st, 2022 - May 1st, 2023, to pay next year's membership dues. However, these due dates are currently not set in stone because of the devastation and loss from Hurricane Ian. Many Post 90 members received damage to their homes. I am happy to work with anyone who has questions or need more time to pay their membership dues. Please reach out to me as soon as possible. The best way to pay your Post 90 membership dues right now is to mail a check to: American Legion Post 90 at 1401 SE 47th St. Cape Coral, Fl. 33904. You can now pay your membership dues with a credit card but, only at American Legion Post 90 or online. If you pay your membership dues online, you can also print out your new membership card(s). If you are interested or know of someone that is interested in joining American Legion Post 90, please reach me. The veteran who wants to join must be honorably discharged from military service and have a copy of their DD-214. I have included a condensed version of the membership application on this page for your convenience. If anyone has any questions about membership or joining Post 90, you can call or email me at: (239) 789-7777 or wjcmg45@aol.com. **American Legion Post 90 membership dues are \$45.** Thank you for all your help! Keep up the excellent work!

Best Regards & God Bless,

American Legion Post 90 Membership,

Wayne Cave



CONTINUE TO SERVE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

I WANT YOU

TO JOIN THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 90

Children & Youth Programs

Scholarship & Financial Aid

Veterans Legislation & Benefits

National Security & Protection of Our Flag

1401 SE 47th St. Cape Coral, FL 33904 (239) 540-8128 Post90swf.org

Membership in the American Legion is open to all Veterans who have served on active duty with an honorable discharge. COME JOIN US! Mail in the application, use the website, call, or visit us.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Gender: Male Female Branch of service _____ Dues \$45

I certify by forwarding this application that I served at least one day of active military duty and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably. Membership is \$45 per year. Recruiter: PR Committee Alpo90cape@yahoo.com

AMERICAN LEGION POST 90

HONOR GUARD CORNER



Hello Everyone,

American Legion Post 90 Color/Honor Guard Practices are every 2nd Saturday of the month at the post. Honor/Color Guard practices will now start at 8:30am. The following are dates and times of the next 2 Honor/Color Guard practices.

There will be Honor Guard/Color Guard Practice at 8:30am at American Legion Post 90 on Saturday, January 14th, 2023, in civilian clothes.

On February 5, 2023, Post 90 will be holding it's "Four Chaplains" ceremony beginning at Noon. Please call or e-mail me so I can let you know when Honor Guard has to be there & to tell you which uniform to wear.

There will be Honor Guard/Color Guard Practice at 8:30am at American Legion Post 90 on Saturday, February 11th, 2023, in civilian clothes.

Please help honor our veterans by volunteering for our Legion's Color and Honor guards! We do a lot in the community to honor our fellow departed & living veterans in many ways. You must be a current member of American Legion Post 90's Membership, Riders, Auxiliary, and/or SAL to join. No experience is necessary. Your uniform will be supplied to you. We will train everyone for the position you volunteer for. If you are interested in joining any of American Legion Post 90 Honor/Color Guards, please call me at: (239) 458 – 1008. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Captain of American Legion Post 90 Color/
Honor Guards & Sergeant of Arms,

Carl Saitta





Hello everyone,

Season's Greetings from the American Legion Riders! As we begin to return to a more normal way of life after Hurricane Ian, the Riders have made their annual Wind Therapy trip to Key West, Florida. The weather cooperated with us this year and the trip was enjoyed by all the Riders. In this season of giving, the Chapter 90 Riders have contributed \$ 500.00 each to our fellow Legion Posts that sustained severe damage from the Hurricane. The recipients were Post 274 Ft. Myer's Beach, Post 303 Bonita Springs, and Post 136 in St. James City. We also contributed \$1,000.00 to our Post 90 and donated to the Jacobson Veterans Home in Pt. Charlotte (\$500.00) for the residents to use for needed necessities. The money for these donations was made by the Riders running the 50/50 drawings at Post 90 on Friday nights. We would like to thank everyone who participates and helps us in our fund-raising efforts.

Recently, the Riders also participated in the Wreaths Across America program. We donated Wreaths and assisted in laying hundreds of wreaths on the graves of veterans at Coral Ridge Cemetery. Every veteran's name was said aloud, and a prayer was said in their honor.

Merry Christmas and Happy New year from Chapter 90 of the American Legion Riders and we hope to see you on Friday nights at the Post.

Sincerely,

Director of American Legion Post 90 Riders,

Jack Fitzgerald



Wreaths across America Day



THE 13TH DISTRICT
AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS
5TH ANNUAL
TEDDY BEAR RUN
TO BENEFIT THE CHILDREN AT
GOLISANO CHILDRENS HOSPITAL
DATE: SUNDAY DECEMBER 4TH
TIME: 11:00 AM
PLACE: GOLISANO CHILDRENS HOSPITAL





UNIT 90 AUXILIARY CORNER



Hello everyone,

The American Legion Unit 90 Auxiliary was very busy during the months of November and December of 2022, despite the destruction left by Hurricane Ian. The month of November was basically spent collecting donations and recovering from the storm. The month of December was packed with giving donations to local charities, American Legion District 13 Auxiliary Meeting, and the Children's Christmas Party.

Auxiliary Unit 90 Secretary Janice Nordquist presented a check for mailing supplies to the Gulf Coast Florida Blue Star Mothers on December 10th, 2022. Blue Star Mothers support active military and veterans.

American Legion Unit 90 also participated and helped out Operation Homefront at 3 local places by surprizing some kids affected by Hurricane Ian, partnered with the Cape Coral Police Department by donating to their Christmas Toy Drive, and delivering puzzles & games to the Ronald McDonald House. Some of the activities were a part of Operation Homefront which is a national 505©(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to build strong, stable, and secure military families so they can thrive - not simply struggle to get by - in the communities they have worked so hard to protect.

Unit 90 Auxiliary President Nita Keeling presented American Legion Department President, Jane Hardacre, with a check for her project, "The Snowball Express", and enjoyed a nice lunch with Unit 90 Auxiliary and Auxiliary District members at American Legion Post 90 in December of 2022.

The American Legion District 13 Auxiliary Meeting was held on Sunday, December 11th, 2022, at American Legion Post 130 in Labelle, Florida. Unit 90 Auxiliary had the most attendees.

The annual Children's Christmas Party sponsored by the Unit 90 Auxiliary was held at American Legion Post 90 on Monday, December 19th, 2022. Gifts & a great meal were provided for local families and their children. Santa made a guest appearance! Fun was had by all who attended.

The Unit 90 Auxiliary would like to thank everyone who participated in all of these events and will be continuing their efforts to actively participate in local charities and American Legion Post 90 & Auxiliary events in the coming year.

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 Newsletter Chairman,

Amy M. O'Neill







Hello everyone,

The Scouting program sponsored by American Legion Post 90 (BSA Troops 777 & 2020, plus Pack 777) have been remarkably busy since school started, holding their weekly meetings each Monday evening at the Kennedy Center on Santa Barbara Blvd. They also have been busy camping at least once a month. Then, on September 28th, 2022, Hurricane IAN hit SW Florida and devastated the area! For over a month, the scouting program changed its mission from having fun to helping each other cope with the effects of IAN. They lost their meeting place which was turned into a FEMA location. In the beginning of November, the scouts started holding their meetings again and monthly campouts with a new location at Jim Jeffers Park here in Cape Coral outside at the pavilion. This brought on new challenges but, at least they got the program started again. They held their long awaited and overdue Court of Honor on December 12th, 2022, at the clubhouse at the Sandoval Gated Community. There were 89 merit badges presented and 12 rank advancements. After the ceremony, there was food enjoyed by all.

Boy Scout meetings are held every Monday evening when school is in session. I have been in contact with the Kennedy Center and hopefully we will be able to resume meeting there by the beginning of February of 2022.

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 Boy Scouts Chairman for
COR, BSA Troops 777, 2020, & Pack 777,



Dennis Stebbins





JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS



Hello everyone,

The JROTC Marksmanship program sponsored by American Legion Post 90 covers all 5 High Schools in Cape Coral (Ida Baker HS, Cape Coral HS, Island Coast HS, Mariner HS & Oasis HS).

The season started off with the King of the Cape Competition with shooting matches on November 3rd, 10th, 17th, & December 18th, and one final match on the 14th where the Trophy was presented to Mariner HS along with the title of King of the Cape.

This year, JROTC held the 1st JV District Wide competition on December 13th, 2022, at Mariner HS which was open to all JROTC HS in Lee County.

Important dates coming in the near future:

District Competition 27 Jan 2023

State Competition 28 Jan 2023

Both events will be held at Island Coast HS here in Cape Coral and are open to the public. Last Year, Cape Coral HS had the top shooter in the District and the State!

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 JROTC Marksmanship Chairman &
American Legion Post 90 JROTC Marksmanship Co-Chairman,

Dennis Stebbins & Carl Saitta





CHRISTMAS PARTY!
December 17th
Dinner at 4 pm
Turkey and Ham
Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy
Bring a Dish to Share
Raffle Drawing @ 7 pm
Pink Elephant Gift Exchange
\$20 gift value - 1 per person
Sign-up on Sheet by Kitchen Window

Hello everyone,

The members of Post 90 held their annual Christmas Party at the Legion Post on Saturday, December 17th, 2022. Dinner included Turkey & Ham, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, and a special cake was made for the celebration. Everyone who attended was asked to bring a dish to share. The Bar was open. If you had \$20 to get a gift, you could participate in the Pink Elephant Gift Exchange. There was also a Raffle Drawing at 7pm and Christmas tunes on the Jukebox. Everyone had a great time and some even dressed up for the occasion!





Hello everyone,

The Boston Red Sox schedule and volunteer sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board at American Legion Post 90.

There are 18 events, not counting the Open House, starting on February 24th, 2023, and ending on March 28th, 2023. The game times are not known but, we will let you know as soon as they are published. See the schedule below.

We plan to support 2 concession stands (#3 and #5) if we can get enough volunteers. Stand #3 is our regular stand which is full-service and sells beer and wine. Stand #5 is smaller and serves roller hot dogs, popcorn, ice cream, candy, water, and beer & wine.

This year, we stand to earn a lot of money for Post 90 as the schedule will not be cut in half like the last 3 years due to COVID-19 and the strike. Our plan is to use most of the earnings for Hurricane Ian repairs to the Post with the remainder given to our charities.

However, Post 90's reward is all predicated upon the number of volunteers we can get. So, please sign up to work some games but, do not worry about the position that you sign up for as the assignments always change. If you sign up, we need your phone number, e-mail address, and shirt size. Travel arrangements are provided. If you need further information, contact Bob Bushholz or me, John Baker.

Sincerely,

Chairmen of American Legion Post 90 Baseball,

Bob Bushholz and John Baker

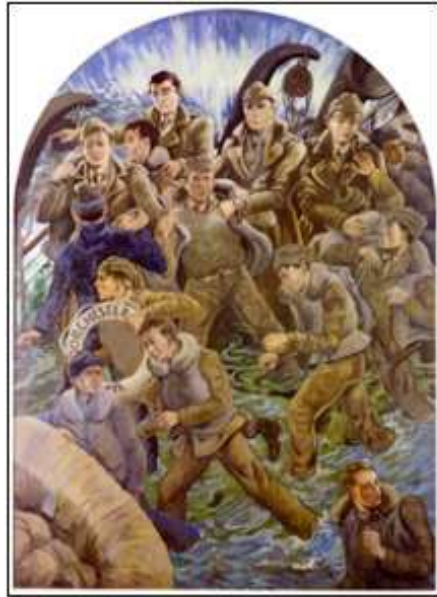


2023 Boston Red Sox Training Camp Schedule			
Date	Time	Team	
Friday, February 24, 2023	TBD	Northeastern U.	
Sunday, February 26, 2023	TBD	Tampa Bay	
Monday, February 27, 2023	TBD	Twins	
Thursday, March 2, 2023	TBD	Phillies	
Saturday, March 4, 2023	TBD	Astros	
Sunday, March 5, 2023	TBD	Marlins	
Monday, March 6, 2023	TBD	Tigers	
Wednesday, March 8, 2023	TBD	Puerto Rico	
Friday, March 10, 2023	TBD	Blue Jays	
Sunday, March 12, 2023	TBD	Yankees	
Wednesday, March 15, 2023	TBD	Tampa Bay	
Friday, March 17, 2023	TBD	Braves	
Saturday, March 18, 2023	TBD	Orioles	
Monday, March 20, 2023	TBD	Pirates	
Wednesday, March 22, 2023	TBD	Twins	
Friday, March 24, 2023	TBD	Braves	
Saturday, March 26, 2022	TBD	Twins	
Tuesday, March 28, 2023	TBD	Braves	



JOIN US FOR THE FOUR CHAPLAINS' CEREMONY

When: February 5th, 2023 from 1:00 to 2:00 PM in the Post 90 Lounge



Help us celebrate the bravery and sacrifice of four Army Chaplains, who on the evening of February 3, 1943, gave their lives on the troop transport U.S.A.T. Dorchester which was carrying 902 American servicemen, merchant seamen and civilian workers to England (672 died & 230 survived). The Dorchester was 150 miles from its destination when it was struck by one of three torpedoes launched from the German submarine U-223. Aboard the Dorchester were four chaplains, Lt. George Fox, Methodist, Lt. Alexander Goode, Jewish, Lt. John Washington, Roman Catholic and Lt. Clark Poling, Dutch Reformed. The Chaplains distributed life jackets to all except themselves. As the ship sank, the surviving men saw the four chaplains with linked arms offering prayers. The four chaplains became an enduring example of extraordinary, faith, courage and selflessness.

We honor these men for their service.



**AMERICAN LEGION
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA POST 90,
Inc.**



1401 Southeast 47th Street, •Cape Coral, Florida 33904 •239.540.8128



 **Blood
Drive**



In Cooperation with



Saturday, February 11th, 2023, from Noon – 5pm

Live the Promise. Be *Exceptional.*

Free Hamburger, Chips & Soda for Participants

**Please contact Chris Wing at:
(239)292-4225 if you would like give blood.**



★ WE DARE REMEMBER ★★ SO NO SERVICE PERSON IS FORGOTTEN ★

SEMINOLE CASINO BUS TRIP



Saturday - February 18, 2023
Leaves Post: 12 pm
Returns to Post: ~7:30 pm

\$60 includes drinks on the bus and meal when we return at the post

Must be paid when signing up
Max capacity is 50 people

See bartender to signup





You can find us here... On Facebook,

American Legion Post 90



If you have not visited our website lately, you really should go check it out!

We have an all-new look, and more to come!!

See what is new and what we have already been doing!

***See the website for additional information! ***



www.post90swf.org



WELCOME TO SWFL POST #90

Legion General Membership Meetings
Every 4th Monday of each month

AUX Member Meetings
Every 3rd Monday of each month
Sep to May

SAL Member Meetings
Every 2nd Monday of each month

Riders Member Meetings
Every 1st Monday of each month



Lounge Hours & Info
(non-smoking inside; areas outside)
Normal Lounge Hours
11am-10pm everyday
Open later depending upon patronage

Kitchen Hours & Info
Open: Tues-Sun *(season)*
Tues-Fri *(off-season)*
Normal Hrs: 12pm - 8pm
Friday Hrs: 12pm -9pm

**Are you a Member of the American Legion, but not our Post? We would be honored to have you as our guest!
(Please bring your current membership card)*

Phone: (239) 540-8128

Our Post is non-smoking inside the building, however we have designated covered areas for our smoking members & guests

American Legion Post 90 Newsletter
Chairman & Editor: Amy O'Neill
Associate Editor: Ted Clark