

POST NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Cape Coral, Florida - Post #90



MAY-JUNE 2020



COMMANDER'S CORNER

With Nick Napolitano

Hello everyone,

I hope everyone is safe and well. As you have already heard, American Legion Post 90 closed its doors on March 17th, 2020 at about 8pm on the order of Florida's Governor. The Governor's order closed all bars and night clubs and some restaurants with restrictions for 30 days. As more than 50% of the Post's revenue is generated from the lounge, the Post had to close. Unfortunately, Post 90 is still closed at this time until further notice. We will let you all know when it opens again. There will be no meetings scheduled at American Legion Post 90 until it opens again. The latest Governor's report states that most beaches and parks will be open to the public by May 4th, 2020 with some restrictions. Restaurants can re-open for outside table service at 25% capacity but, most bars remain closed. Thank you to everyone who participated in The Blood Drive this past Saturday. I hear the Buddy Checks are also doing well. Please be patient and follow the CDC guidelines. Everything should be back to normal soon.

For God and Country,

American Legion Post 90 Commander,

Nicholas Napolitano



Hello everyone,

The Corona Virus is a global pandemic and has changed life as we know it. I want you all to know that I am available if there is anything that American Legion Post 90 can assist you and your family with. And really, just to say that we are here for you. If you or a member of your family need anything, please let me know and I will do my best to help. Thank you for your service and know that you can call me at: (239)785-8282. You can also email me at: bgehling@hotmail.com. Let's stay in touch.



It is uncertain when we will be able to resume normal business. Therefore, posts should be researching alternative ways to hold Post elections. Many Posts have not incorporated crisis situations into their Constitution and By-Laws and may be required to suspend their Constitution and By-Laws for purposes of holding elections. Your Department Judge Advocate and Assistant Judge Advocates are working on a standardized method for conducting elections, which they will send out soon. All American Legion Post 90 officers need to have their reports into me by May 10th, 2020. I hope you all are well and staying safe through this difficult time.



For God and Country,
Post 90 Service Officer,
Brian "Taz" Gehling



Dear Legionnaires,

In this time of uncertainty, it is with a heavy heart, that we announce the 2020 Department of Florida Convention has been cancelled.

Your Department Adjutant in conjunction with the DEC are working on other necessary details, such as room cancellation procedures, elections and legion business, etc. More information will be provided as it is decided. Visit www.floridalegion.org for more information.

In accordance with Article 2 entitled – DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Section 8 of the BY-LAWS of The American Legion Department of Florida, an email was sent to the Department Executive Committee on April 8th, 2020, to vote on the motion to cancel the Department of Florida 2020 Convention to be held at the Marriot World Center, June 23-25, 2020. The motion was approved by majority vote.

The Total Votes cast were: 54

Total votes in favor Cancelling the Convention: 41

Total votes against cancelling the convention: 13

We regret any inconveniences this may cause our members, but your safety and good health is our number one priority. Again, we will provide complete details in the coming days.

Sincerely,

American Legion Department Commander,

William “Rick” Johnson



ATTENTION ALL **VETERANS!!!!**



**FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CORONOA
VIRUS UPDATES ON WHAT TO KNOW, WHAT TO DO, AND
HOW VA IS RESPONDING PLEASE GO TO:**

<https://go.usa.gov/xdMYt>

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COVID-19 UPDATE:
STAY HOME, STAY SAFE, AND STAY CONNECTED. THE VA
HAS ONLINE TOOLS FOR YOUR APPOINTMENTS,
PRESCRIPTIONS, AND MORE PLEASE GO TO:**

<https://go.usa.gov/xdJkp>



ARE YOU IN NEED OF FOOD?



Hello Everyone,

I know right now it is hard on everyone but being hungry is not something that we should have to do. I remember growing up, going to bed hungry because we had no food in the house, and I could only get a meal while at school. We, the veterans of this great nation and this great state should be working hard to ensure that no veteran, and for me no child, should go without food.

Please see the message below in regards to helping a veteran that may need food. I know that Commander Boyd and his entire staff work hard at making sure the veterans are fed. just wanted to let our family members know anyone needing food can stop by Post 38 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 11am to 2pm to pick up food. This is open to all American Legion members from any post. Please bring membership card with a photo id. Thank you, respectfully. Here is their information:

Kevin Boyd
Post Commander
American Legion Post 38
1857 Jackson St
Ft Myers, Fl 33901
Office: 239-332-1853
Cell: 239-851-7073

You can also get FREE FOOD at the following places:

HARRY CHAPIN FOOD BANK

3760 FOWLER ST. FORT MYERS, FL. 33901

(239)334-7007

SALVATION ARMY FOOD PANTRY

2476 EDISON AVE. FORT MYERS, FL. 33901

(239)334-374



MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Tuesday, May 5
10:00AM - 12:00PM

SWFL Military Museum & Library
4820 Leonard St, Cape Coral

Pre-bagged groceries including produce, frozen meats, and dry goods will be available onsite. Families are required to stay in their cars and get groceries using a drive-thru model to minimize person to person contact.

Please visit www.CommunityCooperative.com
or call 239.332.SOUP with any questions.





POST 90 MARKETING CORNER



Hello Everyone,

On Saturday, March 7th, from 10 am-5 pm, the Post Marketing Committee set up a tent and table to recruit potential members at the Annual Irish festival held at the German American Fair grounds on Pine Island Road. The table and canopy, coordinated by Jeff Zambrana, required several days of preparation for the event and included needed permits from the city. From experience and the Legion’s PR Handbook, the Marketing Committee understood that "the sooner you begin overall planning, the more success the public relations effort will have, and the more members of the community you will attract. As we all know: the success of any public relations event requires an attempt to increase the awareness of The American Legion family in the local community." Three members of the Marketing Committee, Chair Ted Clark, Jeff Zambrana, and Bill McKernan manned the tent throughout the day and created substantial passerby interest and focused on both female and male vets. The three gathered information from 12 prospects and handed out 30 "Why You Should Join" brochures that contain an application. The Marketing Committee is planning to call or e-mail the prospects as soon as they finish the calls for the “Buddy Check” program that has higher priority - given the impact of the Coronavirus.



Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 Marketing Chairman,

Ted Clark



COVID-19 not slowing down American Legion efforts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

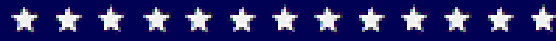
American legion members received a pleasant surprise: a “Buddy Check” phone call courtesy of the American Legion Post 90 in Cape Coral. Free advice and assurance that the local Legion recognized the dilemma the virus created and was standing by to assist the veteran or his family in any way possible. The veterans were told that Legionnaires are always here to help them whether the vet is a member of Post 90 or not.

The "Buddy Check" system was initiated locally by the Post 90 Adjunct, Brian "Taz" Gehling. He recognized the Posts' Marketing Committee is well trained in customer services and requested they call the approximate 1000 members of the Post. Ted Clark, the Chair of the Marketing Committee, quickly coordinated the project. Ted stated that “Given the coronavirus pandemic is affecting us all, the “Buddy Check” program is more important now than ever before. The idea is to connect with veterans who may need assistance but don’t know where to go or who to ask.” “For example, if we learn of someone in need, we can offer them a ride or deliver groceries and in short, be there for them.”

Ted stated, “the process involved several steps: 1. Gathering the team to call members and former members in the Cape Coral area, 2. Providing access to the Post's membership roster 3. Copying and distributing reports to be used to record outcomes of phone calls (and e-mails), 4. Dividing the list among team members and 5. Making a list of local resources and phone numbers of services such as pharmacies with drive-through windows and restaurants that provide order ahead and meal delivery." The team started dialing on Monday, April 6 and have called over 120 veterans. Amy O'Neill, one of the team members, stated "that although there very few vets that said they had needs, when they did, she immediately referred them to the Post's Service Officer, Taz Gehling, for follow up." Ted and a third team member, Bill McKernan, said that their experiences reflected Amy's in that few of the vets contacted expressed any needs. However, they were happy someone was checking on them, especially if they lived alone and were elderly. The Post plans to continue calls for the next two weeks or until the active and expired membership list is exhausted. American Legion Post 90's Commander, Nick Napolitano stated it was the Legion's way of giving back to the community during this uncertain time. “This was for the veterans.”

For more information, call Ted Clark, Marketing Chair at Post 90, (845) 527-7948.
(This article was featured recently in the Cape Coral Breeze Newspaper.)





NOW HIRING:

Fed Ex (877) 716-8753

Home Depot (877) 967-5443

U.P.S (888) 877-0922

Verizon (800) 511-8086

STAPLES (800) 378-2753...

DOMINO'S PIZZA –

www.jobhat.com/domino's

MCDONALD'S –

www.jobhat.com/mcdonald's

You may not need it, but
REPOST for someone who
does. This could be
someone's blessing today.
Pass it on as I did.



Hello everyone,

We have been doing some riding around with our flags. Nothing as a group, and we do not stop anywhere. It is good to hear all the horn honks and see the waves and fist pumps, as we go by. It is comforting to get the reactions from so many. Patriotism is alive and well in Cape Coral and Ft Myers!! I can see how we inspire warm feelings. If you have not been out on your bike yet, DO IT! It is invigorating, VERY LITTLE TRAFFIC, and gets you out of the house. We went down to Ft. Myers beach, yesterday. Except for all the construction (past the beach toward Bonita), it was a perfect ride. And we were out there over the noon hours 11:45 to 2:00. Hot, but no traffic to slow us down, so still comfy. Even the construction area was smooth going.

I am still making masks, so anyone that needs them, just text me 239-246-2838, or call Pam at the Legion. I can usually get them out by the next day. You can pick them up from Pam at the Legion (she is there most days for a couple of hours), or swing by my house and I'll have them in a bag with your name on our front door stoop. Just call with your preference. (Please be sure to include your name with a text.)

I hope you all stay safe and healthy!! We are going to be fine, eventually! Maybe even better. A tough time brings with it a true sense of accomplishment and strength when it is all over. It reminds us to be grateful for all we have and enjoy. Yeah, sure, there are others that have more/better than us but, on the other side there are even more people that have less.....much less. That is what keeps me positive.....realizing how bad it could be.

PS....anyone want to do a jigsaw puzzle exchange? There are no more at any of the stores. I have 2. One 500 piece and the other 1000 piece and I have done them multiple times. I like the 1000 piece but, I will trade anything 500 or above (no kids here). See you all on the other side!

Sincerely,

Assistant Director of the
American Legion Riders at Post 90,

Rebecca Sewell





Greetings to all Members of American Legion Post 90,

Membership at American Legion Post 90 is currently at 97.4% with 865 paid members. Our goal is to have 891 paid members. This means we need 26 more members to pay their dues. Please pay your Post 90 membership dues by June 1st, 2020. 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. If you cannot do that, or you have any questions, please call me and I will gladly work with you. Pam Millian is at Post 90 most days to check the mail and other important things. If you are interested or you know of someone that is interested in joining American Legion Post 90, please reach me. The veteran who wants to join must have been 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 any you can call or email me at: (239)789-7777

wjcmg45@aol.com

American Legion Post 90 membership dues are \$45. Thank you all for your help! Keep up the good work!

Best Regards,

American Legion Post 90 Membership,

Wayne Cave



CONTINUE TO SERVE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- Children & Youth Programs
- Scholarship & Financial Aid
- Veterans Legislation & Benefits
- National Security & Protection of Our Flag

I WANT YOU

TO JOIN THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 90

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 Alpost90cape@yahoo.com

1401 SE 47th St. Cape Coral, FL 33904 (239) 540-8128 Post190swf.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.



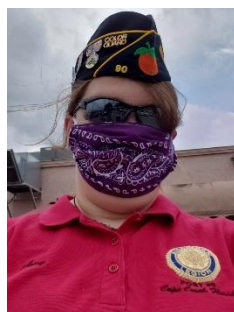
Hello Everyone,

The Blood Drive on Saturday, April 25, 2020 was a huge success for our Post! It started at 1pm and went past 5:30pm. Blood Drives usually end at 5pm but, this time it was extended. Helen, a medical technician, said that since we had the donors, they should take them all and not turn anyone away. We had 4 medical technicians working inside the Lee Health Blood Mobile Van. Out of 26 attempts we received 25 units of blood. This is the largest turn out that we have ever had! A lot of people who called me got turned away before the Blood Drive started on Saturday because all the slots were full. This was the first time that I had insisted on everyone signing up for a specific time slot. There were a few walk-ins but, most of the people there had a specific time when they would come to give blood. Wait times were longer than the Blood Drives we have had in the past because everything had to be sanitized before each use. This delay caused at least 6 scheduled donors to leave before they were served. I hope that these issues can be resolved by the next time we have the Blood Drive in October 2020. The next blood drive will also be by appointment only. I would like to say thank you to Bill Mckernon, Larry Olson, Carl Saitta, and Dennis Stebbins for volunteering. I would also like to thank Rebecca Sewell for making extra masks and Amy O'Neill for taking pictures. There would not be a blood drive without their help. Thank you everyone that donated blood. This will save lives!

Sincerely,

Blood Drive Chairman,

Richard Osman



Hello Everyone,

I am so happy that I was voted in as your new Historian! Even though the State Convention for this year has been cancelled, I am still making a History Book. It will be available at American Legion Post 90 for everyone to view by July 1st, 2020. I would like to take this time to thank everyone who contributed to it so far. I cannot complete it without all your help. I was deeply honored to do it! I have been a member of Post 90 for over a year now and everyone has made me feel so welcomed. I also have a lot more friends and family.

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 Historian,

Amy O'Neill



Hello everyone,

Please let me know by around May 1st, 2020 if you can participate in the Memorial Day Parade around the end of May. If the parade is cancelled, I will let you know.

Color/Honor Guard Practice has been postponed until further notice.

We need more Legionnaires to volunteer for our Guards! No experience is necessary. We will train everyone for whichever position you volunteer for. If you are interested in joining any of American Legion Post 90 Guards, please call me at: (239)458-1008. Thank you all for your time!

Sincerely,

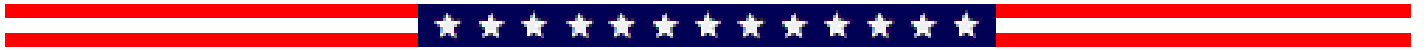
Captain of American Legion Post 90 Color/
Honor Guard & Sergeant of Arms,

Carl Saitta





**DUE TO THE SPREAD OF THE
CORONA VIRUS, A LOT OF
EVENTS ALL OVER HAVE
BEEN POSTPONED OR
CANCELLED. SO, PLEASE
CHECK OR CALL AHEAD OF
TIME BEFORE ATTENDING
ANY FUTURE PLANNED
EVENTS!!!!**



You can find us here... On Facebook,

American Legion Post 90

Or on the Web www.Post90swf.org

If you have not visited our website lately you really should go check it out!
We have so many updates, an all-new look, and more to come!!



Come see what is new and what we have already been doing!
***See the website for additional information! ***

NEW POST 90 NEWSLETTER IS OUT NOW ON OUR WEBSITE!!!!



Quick Coming Event Summary



****See the website for additional information****
Come and enjoy any or all these events and entertainment.
We appreciate your support of Post 90.

May 2020 (Music & Events)

ALL EVENTS & MEETINGS AT AMERICAN LEGION POST 90 ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE! WE WILL KEEP YOU ALL POSTED!

June 2020 (Music & Events)

ALL EVENTS & MEETINGS AT AMERICAN LEGION POST 90 ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE! WE WILL KEEP YOU ALL POSTED!

