

# CAPE LEGION'S VOICE

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Cape Coral, Florida - Post #90



NOV. – DEC. 2023



COMMANDER'S CORNER

*With Keith Berres*

*Greetings to the Post 90 Family,*

I write this greeting while at the Post and looking at the Bloodmobile. The American Legion Blood Drive Program has officially existed since 1942. We do this collection four times a year and look to get 30+ units of blood. Every unit of blood can save two lives, and only three teaspoons can save an infant's life. Please consider participating in the future by signing up and taking the time to come to the Post for this worthy cause.

In the next few months, we will see a lot of traffic here. As the winter residents return, we look forward to all the activity. This next month, we will have a Chili Cook-off sponsored by the Auxiliary. Veteran's Day events include participating in the Cape Coral parade, free burgers and hot dogs at the Post, with people bringing a dish to pass and entertainment. The riders plan a breakfast on November 12th with Bloody Mary and Mimosa specials. A Post Thanksgiving dinner is scheduled for November 18th. As a reminder, the Post is closed on Thanksgiving to allow our employees to spend the day with their families.

December begins the Christmas Season here at the Post. It includes the Children's Christmas tree that the Auxiliary sponsors. It is a chance to share with those families that do have children but are struggling to give them Christmas Cheer. The National Wreaths Across America and the Post Christmas Party will be on December 16th. The Post will close early (after the 1 p.m. NFL games are completed) on Christmas Eve and all day on Christmas Day. On January 31st, the Auxiliary will host the 2nd Annual New Year's Eve Party Budapest Style, which allows for a day of celebration and not having to stay up until midnight to celebrate the New Year.

I want to thank all the new and younger volunteers who are getting involved in the Post. As I have stated before, the American Legion is a Veteran's Organization based on having people step up and volunteer to take on committee positions and help at the Post with projects that need to be done. Many Posts nationwide are beginning to fail due to lack of participation. While we are a strong Post currently, we require members to step up and start training for the future. I urge everyone in the Legion to do the Basic Training on the Legion.Org.

For God and Country,

American Legion Post 90 Commander,

***Keith Berres***



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*Hello Everyone,*

I hope everyone is safe & well. Gary Hood and Victor Hodge, two members of Post 90, passed away recently. Please keep their families in your prayers. 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*



## **UNIT 90** **AUXILIARY** **CORNER**



*The Unit 90 Auxiliary hosted a luncheon for American Legion Auxiliary President Dee Bell & District 13 President Jan Farrington on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at Post 90.*



The jokes above were submitted by Amy Oneill. Thank you! 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](mailto:strawjazz1978@gmail.com)

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

Sincerely,

Chairman & Editor of American Legion Post 90 Newsletter,

*Amy Oneill*







## **JOHN'S CORNER**



*Hello everyone,*

The members of Post 90 who live up North for half of the year are returning. Please welcome them back. Remember that the Post will be closed for Thanksgiving and Christmas days and close early on Christmas Eve.

We will soon finish the repairs to the Post 90 facility resulting from damage caused by Hurricane Ian. We will replace the old front canopy with a roof over the entire patio. The contract has been set, and the contractor is working with Jay Bissel and the Commander, who are coordinating the work and permit process. However, the City of Cape Coral has requested more information and a site drawing therefore, we are seeking a civil engineer who can assist us.

The two canopies on the west side of the building have been installed. New bar stools have been purchased, and we hope you enjoy them. In the kitchen, we replaced all the hood filters and bought two new fryers and a new bathroom exhaust fan has been installed in the men's restroom.

We have removed and trimmed the trees on the 47th Street frontage, giving us great exposure. Hurricane Ian compromised the removed trees, and the next hurricane may cause them to fall on the patio.

We plan on having special dinners at least once a month throughout the season (October through April). The Legion Auxiliary and the American Legion Riders have scheduled numerous events over the next six months, so stay in touch through the website, Facebook, Instagram, and the Commander's "Weekly Report" emailed to you.

The NFL season has begun, and the Post kitchen will be open on Sundays during the games. The Sons of the American Legion (SAL) runs a 50/50 raffle during the football games to raise money for the Honor Flight.

Post 90's Service Officer is Lakeshia "Kesha" Penn. If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to call her at (830)443-8453.

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 Second Vice Commander,

***John Baker***





## **JOHN'S CORNER**



*Hello everyone,*

Post 90 was short one member of its goal of 50% on September 7, 2023. However, it has achieved its goal of 55% as of October 12, 2023. Thank you all for renewing your membership dues early. We still have numerous goals to achieve in November and December; so, if you haven't renewed your membership, please do so soon.

The easiest way to renew your membership is to sign-up on "MyLegion.org". As soon as you sign-up through MyLegion.org and renew your membership, I can send your membership and door access cards to you. MyLegion has a number of functions that you may be interested in. We are considering placing our newsletter on MyLegion rather than emailing it to you. When you access the web site, just follow the directions for signing up, and please enter your phone number and email address. Should we need to contact you, the phone and email work best.

If you need to obtain your DD-214, here is a link to get it:

<https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>.

Remember, the Post holds its Membership Meetings every fourth Monday of the month beginning at 7:00 PM. Typically, they last 55 minutes to an hour, and much information is processed, gained, and approved during the meetings. Post 90 belongs to you, the members, so, please come to the meetings and express your rights.

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 Adjutant,

***John Baker***





## POST 90 MARKETING CORNER



### American Legion Post 90 Announces Scholarship Contest for High School Students



Cape Coral City High School students are invited to compete in the 85th Annual American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program. The program is a multi-level contest where students first compete at the Post level, then progress to the District, Area, and the State level. The winner of the State contest advances to the National Contest held in Indianapolis, IN, in April of 2024.

The contest is open to any student in grades 9 through 12, including homeschooled students.

To compete, the student must prepare and deliver an original 8 - 10-minute speech about some aspect of our Constitution, emphasizing a citizen's duty to their country and government. Additionally, the student will give a 3 - 5-minute speech on an assigned topic to test the speaker's knowledge of one of four Constitutional subjects.

At the local Post level, scheduled between December 1 and Jan 21st in 2024, the Post Commander will award the first-place winner a \$300 scholarship, second place \$200, and third \$100. At the Legion District and Area levels, scholarships will be \$200. At the State level, the awards are \$500-\$2,500 for the top 6 contestants. At the national finals in Indianapolis, scholarships of \$25,000, \$22,500, and \$20,000 will be awarded to the first through third places. Each state winner who competes in the first round of the national contest will receive a \$2,000 scholarship and in the second round those who do not advance to the national final round will receive an additional \$2,000. The top three orators who have won all previous elimination rounds of the contest will vie for top honors in the national competition in April. The American Legion will pay the expenses of state winners at the national contest.

High school students in Cape Coral who are interested in entering the competition will find complete rules and contest information at [www.floridalegion.org/oratorical](http://www.floridalegion.org/oratorical).

Students can enter by contacting Ted Clark, American Legion Post 90 Oratorical Chair, at (845)527- 7948 or (239) 540-8128 or [alpost90cape@yahoo.com](mailto:alpost90cape@yahoo.com) or [Tedclark12@gmail.com](mailto:Tedclark12@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 PR Officer, Oratorical Chairman,  
Marketing Committee Chairman, and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander,

***Ted Clark***







## POST 90 MARKETING CORNER



### CITY OF CAPE CORAL AWARDS AMERICAN LEGION POST 90

Post 90 has a very active outreach program for veterans and their families. You have probably seen news articles about their community support for Veterans in need, children's programs, student programs, and other community support efforts. Since Cape Coral and all of Lee County are growing rapidly, these outreach efforts are especially needed.

Recently, the City of Cape Coral recognized Post 90 with a Community Recognition Award. At a recent City Council meeting, Mayor John Gunter and Public Information Specialist Lauren Kurkimilis presented an engraved crystal plaque to Post 90 Commander, Keith Berres, Marketing Committee Chair, Ted Clark, and the Committee members at City Hall.

Post 90 Commander Berres stated that our rapid growth includes many veterans moving into the city, and they can take advantage of American Legion Post 90 benefits and get to know our community through their membership. For more information, call (239)540-8128 or contact [alpost90@yahoo.com](mailto:alpost90@yahoo.com) or Ted Clark, PR Officer, at (845)527-7948 or [tedclark12@gmail.com](mailto:tedclark12@gmail.com).



**Post 90 outreach committee members George Laman, Bill McKernan, Commander Keith Berres, Chairman Clark, and members Jeff Zambrana, Harry Fink, and Hector Gomez.**

Sincerely,

American Legion Post 90 PR Officer, Marketing Committee  
Chairman, and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander,

***Ted Clark***



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# **AMERICAN LEGION POST 90**

## **HONOR GUARD CORNER**



*Hello Everyone,*

During August and September of 2023, the Post 90 Honor and Color Guards were pretty quiet. We have practice on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month. The Honor Guard was asked to join a Multi-Post Honor Guard for a 40 Year Rememberance of the bombing of the marine base in Baruite. The American Legion Post 90 Honor Guard will be leading the Veteran's Day Parade in Cape Coral, Florida. The parade will be kicking off November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:10am. Our Service Officer, Lakeshia Penn, will be the Veteran's Day Parade Marshall. If you are a member of Post 90 and you would like to be in the parade on November 11<sup>th</sup>, please contact me or the Commander. We will continue to have practice on every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month starting at 9am at the Post. The following are dates and times of the next 2 Honor/Color Guard practices. Happy Holidays!

**There will be No Honor Guard/Color Guard Practice on Saturday, November 11th, 2023, at Post 90 because we will be in the Veteran's Day Parade on that day.**

**There will be Honor Guard/Color Guard Practice at 9am at American Legion Post 90 on Saturday, December 9th, 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. 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 & we will train you. If you are interested in joining any of American Legion Post 90 Honor/Color Guards, please call me at: (860) 336 – 1198. Thank you!

Sincerely,

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

***Arman LaFleur***







*Hello everyone,*

The Riders have been busy in the Fall. We held the first District 13 Poker run with stops at five Legion Posts in the District.

Our members initiated and set up a fundraising event called the Winter Stamping Tour to benefit the four Posts in District 13 devastated by Hurricane Ian. It is a four-month event like a Poker run with stops at 64 businesses. Books are available for \$10, with prizes for the first books completed and a closing party.

We had our Halfway to St Patrick's Day Dinner and want to thank everyone who attended our fundraiser. We plan on making this an annual event.

The American Legion Riders have been participating in the Merry-Go-Round Event, which raises funds for Children and Youth Programs. We also continue in the "Capture the Plaque" game, visiting other posts and, in turn, bringing other posts to ours.

The Riders also participated in the City of Cape Coral's Bike Night festival on Saturday, October 14th, from 5-10 p.m. New Rider applications numbering four were processed, and nine riders discussed the Legion with approximately 24 festival attendees.

With our Winter residents starting to return to SW Florida and traffic increasing, remember to look twice for motorcycles and be considerate drivers.

Sincerely,

Director of American Legion Post 90 Riders,

*Jack Fitzgerald*



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# Auxiliary Chili Cookoff November 4<sup>th</sup> – 4:30 PM

Open to Everyone

Entries Must be Submitted by 3:30 pm

Judging at 4 pm

\$50 – First Place

\$25 – Second Place

\$15 – Third Place

After Judging

\$1 Chili Bowl and Hot Dogs



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## VETERANS ★ DAY ★

### Events

9 am Staging for Parade

11 am Veterans Day Parade

After Parade

Free Hamburgers and Hot Dogs

Please bring a dish to share (Signup on sheet)

Candi Herte will be entertaining in the afternoon



## LEGION AUXILIARY QUILT RAFFLE

\$10 per chance  
Or  
3 chances for \$25



Drawing at 7 pm, November 11<sup>th</sup>  
Need not be present to win  
All proceeds go to support Girls State





# BREAKFAST



**Menu**

**\$11 per plate**

- Eggs to Order
- Bacon or Sausage
- Hashbrown Potatoes
- Toast (White, Wheat or Rye)
- Homemade Corn Beef Hash (\$1)
- Orange Juice
- Coffee or Tea

**November 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**8 to 11 am**



**Drink Specials**

**\$2**

- Bloody Mary
- Mimosas



Sign-up by November 8<sup>th</sup>  
Proceeds to benefit Legion Rider Charities

# THANKSGIVING DINNER

NOVEMBER 18<sup>th</sup> - Starting at 5 pm




**Signup by November 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**\$15 per person**

- Ham or Turkey
- Mashed Potato with Gravy
- Stuffing
- Corn
- Cranberry Sauce
- Rolls
- Pumpkin Pie (\$2.00)








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](http://www.post90swf.org)**



*\*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\*\**

***Post Hours:***

***Bar is open from 11 am to 10 pm***

***Kitchen is open from noon to 7:30 pm (Tuesday through Saturday)***

**The Post 90 Newsletter Chairman & Editor is Amy Oneill.**

**The Post 90 Newsletter Associate Editor is Ted Clark.**