



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ***Squadron 90, Cape Coral, FL 33904***

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

Meeting of the Membership Squadron 90

Presiding: John Baker, Commander

Recording: Keith Berres, Adjutant

Date: March 9, 2026, **Begin Time:** 7:00 PM **End Time:** PM

Call to Order (1 rap of the gavel)

Remind everyone to turn cell phones off.

Sergeant-at-Arms announces the meeting at the canteen & secures the door.

Opening Ceremony

Stand (3 raps of the gavel)

Hand Salute: Present Arms, Order Arms

Uncover

Commander: - “All members/guests in attendance shall remain standing with their cap removed and placed over the heart from the opening prayer, through the POW/MIA ceremony and concluding with the Pledge of Allegiance”.

Opening Prayer – The Chaplain will offer prayer.

POW/MIA Empty Chair

Please join me at the **POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony:**

Resolution 288, adopted at the 67th National Convention and Resolution NC 2-94, adopted at the 23rd National Convention of the Sons of the American Legion, calls for designating a POW/MIA “Empty Chair” at all official meetings of The Sons of the American Legion as a physical symbol of the thousands of American POW/MIAs still unaccounted for from all the wars and conflicts involving the United States of America. This is a reminder for

all of us to spare no effort to secure the release of any American prisoners from captivity, the repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely in defense of liberty, and a full accounting of those missing.

Let us dedicate ourselves to this vital endeavor.

Sgt. at Arms please place the POW/MIA flag on the “Empty Chair”). Please observe a moment of silence for those who are serving and who served in defending our country from all wars and conflicts. (60 seconds of silence should be observed).

Pledge of Allegiance: (Sgt at Arms)

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Recover: Everyone will recover.

Commander: Please join me in reciting the Sons of the American Legion Preamble

THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION PREAMBLE

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of all Wars, associate ourselves together as Sons of the American Legion for the following purposes:

- To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.
- to maintain law and order.
- to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism.
- to preserve the memories of our former members and associations of our members and our forefathers in all wars.
- to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation.
- to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses.
- to make right the master of might.
- to promote peace and goodwill on earth.
- to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy.

- to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."
- To adopt in letter and spirit of all the great principles for which The American Legion stands and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

Call Meeting to Order: One rap of the gavel.

Commander: I now declare the meeting Squadron 90 of the Sons of the American Legion of SWF Post 90, Department of Florida regularly convened.

Business Order

Roll Call: All Officers were present except:

Excused –

Absent –

Determination of Quorum: A total of 11 members and officers are present. Quorum (minimum of 4 members of good standing) was met.

Introduction of Dignitaries and Guests

- None

Approval of Minutes from Previous Membership Meeting:

The December 2025 Membership meeting minutes are posted for review on the Squadron 90 bulletin board at the Post and on the Legion Post 90 website.

Motion to accept the February 2026 membership meeting minutes as posted was made by Sean Wing, seconded by Mark Keeling, Discussion - None. Yeas Unanimous, Nays None, Motion Passed.

Initiation of Prospective New Members

Keith Berres, Adjutant, reads the following:

New Member

R Scott Allen – Father

Patrick Deleacaes – Father Army

Walter Frederick – WWII

Larry Lindell – Father WWII

Mark Weeter – Father

Transfers

Richard Leigh – FL274

Max Zamarripa – MI381

Is anyone present whose name was read? (If so, have them introduce themselves).

Sergeant-at-Arms, if any of these personnel are present, please escort them out of the room so we may vote them in.

Does anyone have any reason not to accept any of these as new members?

A motion to accept the new members into Squadron 90 subject to completion of the vetting process by the Adjutant was made by Sean Wing, seconded by Michael Flower, Discussion None, Yeas Unanimous, Nays None, Motion Passed.

Commander Report (John Baker)

- Running 50/50 raffles when the date is open for Legion events.
- The DCC will be May 17, 2026 at Post 103.
- Legion Convention June 11-14, 2026. If you are attending and need a room, contact Keith Berres as soon as possible.
- Riders have asked to switch July 25th for July 18th.

1st Vice Commander Report (Chris Antonellis):

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2nd Vice Commander Report (Larry Horner):

- Basket is due next month. Some items are already collected.
- Road Kill Bingo possibilities

Finance Officer Report (Submitted by Mark Keeling):

- February 1, 2026, beginning balance: \$9,441.57
- Deposits total: \$674.00
- Charges and withdrawals total: \$143.00
- February 28, 2026, Ending Balance: \$9,9
- Honor Flight Escrow: \$2371.43
- February 28, 2025, Available Balance: \$7,548.22

A motion to accept the February 2026 finance report, subject to audit, was made by Sean Wing, seconded by Larry Horner, Discussion None, Yeas Unanimous, Nays None, Motion Passed.

Adjutant Report (Keith Berres)

- As of February 28, 2026, Squadron 90 has 218 paid members for 2026. This is 91.98% of the target goal of 237 members. With the 7 members just approved, the Squadron has 225 paid members or 94.94% of the goal. This puts us ahead of the goal set for April 8th.

Sergeant-at-Arms Report (Tony Truzzolino).

- None

Chaplain Report (Elon Hertzfeld):

- Keep Larry Horner's wife in your prayers

Judge Advocate Report (Open)

- None

Committee Reports If any– Limited to 3 minutes per report (reminder that all committee reports should be submitted via email so they can be included in the minutes):

- **Legion Advisor** – John Baker (SAL Commander): No Report
- **Americanism** – None
- **BE the One** – None
- **Honor Flight** – See New Business.
- **Children and Youth (Families)** –
- **Legion Baseball** –

Unfinished Business:

- If you have not renewed your membership by December 31, 2025, your SAL membership expired. If you have not renewed your membership for 2025, you cannot purchase adult beverages and

must sign-in as a guest of a member. If you do not renew by July 1, 2026, you must rejoin for 2027, and your continuous years will begin a “1”.

- Post 90 is adhering to the Florida law which requires all family members (Legion, SAL and Auxiliary) of Post 90 to present their membership card to the bartender before ordering an alcoholic beverage. If you do not have your card or a current 2026 card, you will be a guest and must be signed in by a card-carrying member. Guests cannot purchase an alcoholic beverage which must be purchased by the member. **As a member of Post 90, Please show your membership card every time you order an alcoholic beverage. Also, use your door entry card every time.**

New Business:

- The sign-up list for new Squadron officers has been posted on the bulletin board.
- Squadron 90 has not received any requests for Honor Flight assistance. John Baker recommend placing a halt on fund raising for the Honor Flight, and direct fund raising to other events. **A motion halt fund raising for Honor Flight and all funds sent to Honor Flight at end of this officer term was made by Keith Berres, seconded by Mark Keeling, Discussion Sean asked for clarification on raising funds, Yeas Unanimous, Nays None, Motion Passed.**
- The District 13 picnic will be on Saturday, April 4 at Post 323 in Lehigh Acres. Each Post family group has been asked to purchase 10 entry tickets for \$10.00 each for a total of \$100.00. Historically, Squadron 90 has purchased these tickets and has given them to members who wish to attend the picnic. **A motion that Squadron 90 purchase 10 District 13 picnic tickets at a total cost of \$100.00 by Elon Hirschfeld, seconded by Sean Wing, Discussion: None, Vote; Yeas (unanimous) Nay's: None. Motion passed.**
- The Post Commander is requesting all four Post families: TAL, ALA, SAL and ALR to contribute \$1,000 toward the Unity Ride. **A motion for Post 90 to donate \$1,000 toward Unity Ride by**

Michael Flower, second by Mark Keeling, Discussion: Michael Flower explained the Unity Ride, Vote; Yeas (unanimous) Nay's: None. Motion passed.

- Children and Youth will be presenting an award for Teacher of the Year. **A motion for Post 90 to donate \$250 toward Unity Ride by Elon Heischfeld, second by Michael Flower, Discussion: Michael Flower explained the Unity Ride, Vote; Yeas (unanimous) Nay's: None. Motion passed.**

The Good of the Sons of the American Legion (The membership shall be permitted to make suggestions of any kind, character, or description, save religion or partisan politics. Time is limited to 2 minutes per person.

- Keith Berres
- Elon blood drive
- Leprechaun Crawl
- Stand at Army Reserve Center

Motion To Close:

Motion to close the meeting was made by Keith Berres, seconded by Sean Wing, Discussion None, Yeas Unanimous, Nays None, Motion Passed.

Closing Ceremony

Stand (3 raps of the gavel)

Uncover

Closing Prayer – Chaplain recites a prayer

Recover

Retrieve the POW/MIA Flag: Squadron 90 members are to join the Sergeant-at-Arms with a slow salute as the POW/MIA flag is recovered.

Sergeant-at-Arms, recovers the POW/MIA flag.

Commander: Till we meet again let us remember our obligation to our country can be fulfilled only by the faithful performance of all duties of

citizenship. Let service to the community, state and nation be ever a main objective of The Sons of the American Legion and its members. Let us be ever watchful of the honor of our country, our organization and ourselves, that nothing shall swerve us from the path of Justice, Freedom and Democracy. Face the flag.

Hand Salute: Present Arms, Order Arms.

MEETING CLOSURE

Commander: I now declare the meeting of Squadron 90 the Sons of the American Legion of SWF Post 90, Department of Florida regularly adjourned at **xxx** PM.

Everyone was reminded to turn their phones back on.

Keith Berres, Adjutant