February/March 2015

By The Post Lake

COMMANDER CORNER

Fellow Legionnaires & Members of Post 91,

I would like to thank everyone for your support with all of our Post's events so far this past year and hope that in the coming year we will see much more of the same. We have a very big "Post" Fundraiser on February 21st which is Casino Night; it takes many volunteers as well as attendees to pull this event off and make a success. We are in need of Blackjack Dealers and shufflers, so they can be relieved and rotated throughout the evening. Since this event is open to the public, we also need Post members to invite family and friends to attend, but tickets must be purchased through the canteen. Tickets are $15 which includes food, draft beer, and 'well' drinks; doors will open at 6:30 PM, with gaming starting at 7PM and running until 11PM.

A few other upcoming events are the Post Bus Trip, SAL Reverse Raffle, and our Annual St Patty's Day Bash. Don't forget the ALR Breakfasts on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month that run through April. The Friday Fish Fry started Jan 16th and will run through Good Friday.

On a sad note we will be losing a long time employee and friend, Sue Milter, at the end of February. Sue and her husband Tim have retired and are moving to Florida. As Sunday the 22nd is her last day, and as suggested to me by a few of her loyal customers, maybe we should throw her a farewell party on February 29th or 30th ;-) ... In all seriousness, Best Wishes to both of you as you will surely be missed.

Well we have escaped the snow but we sure didn't escape the COLD... how about those Buckeyes!!! Can't Wait for Spring.

God Bless Our Troops and always remember to Thank a Veteran...

For God and Country,

Jeff Myers

Post By The Lake Newsletter

Jeff Myers ⋆ Commander

Ron Fazekas ⋆ Editor

Jim Masie ⋆ Creative Director

Albert E. Baesel ⋆ American Legion Post 91

91 American Legion Parkway ⋆ Berea, OH 44017

440-234-0091 ⋆ post91@wowway.biz

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The Four Chaplins

It was Feb. 3, 1943, and the U.S. Army Transport Dorchester was one of three ships in a convoy, moving across the Atlantic from Newfoundland to an American base in Greenland. A converted luxury liner, the Dorchester was crowded to capacity, carrying 902 servicemen, merchant seamen and civilian workers.

It was only 150 miles from its destination when shortly after midnight, an officer aboard the German submarine U2 spotted it. After identifying and targeting the ship, he gave orders to fire. The hit was decisive, striking the ship, far below the water line. The initial blast killed scores of men and seriously wounded many more.

Others, stunned by the explosion were groping in the darkness. Panic and chaos quickly set in! Men were screaming, others crying or franticly trying to get lifeboats off the ship.

Through the pandemonium, four men spread out among the Soldiers, calming the frightened, tending the wounded and guiding the disoriented toward safety. They were four Army chaplains, Lt. George Fox, a Methodist; Lt. Alexander Goode, a Jewish Rabbi; Lt. John Washington, a Roman Catholic Priest; and Lt. Clark Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister.

Quickly and quietly the four chaplains worked to bring calm to the men. As soldiers began to find their way to the deck of the ship, many were still in their underwear, where they were confronted by the cold winds blowing down from the arctic.

Petty Officer John J. Mahoney, reeling from the cold, headed back towards his cabin. “Where are you going’” a voice of calm in the sea of distressed asked’ “To get my gloves,” Mahoney replied. “Here, take these,” said Rabbi Goode as he handed a pair of gloves to the young officer. “I can’t take those gloves,” Mahoney replied. “Never mind,” the Rabbi responded. “I have two pairs.” It was only long after that Mahoney realized that the chaplain never intended to leave the ship.

Once topside, the chaplains opened a storage locker and began distributing life jackets. It was then that Engineer Grady Clark witnessed an astonishing sight. When there were no more lifejackets in the storage room, the chaplains simultaneously removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men. When giving their life jackets, Rabbi Goode did not call out for a Jew; Father Washington did not call out for a Catholic; nor did Fox or Poling call out for a Protestant. They simply gave their life jackets to the next man in line. One survivor would later call it “It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven.”

As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains -- arms linked and braced against the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers and singing hymns.

Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, only 230 survived. Before boarding the Dorchester back in January, Chaplain Poling had asked his father to pray for him, “Not for my safe return, that wouldn’t be fair. Just pray that I shall do my duty...never be a coward...and have the strength, courage and understanding of men. Just pray that I shall be adequate.”

Although the Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart were later awarded posthumously Congress wished to confer the Medal of Honor but was blocked by the stringent requirements which required heroism performed under fire. So a posthumous Special Medal for Heroism, The Four Chaplains’ Medal, was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President on January 18, 1961.

It was never given before and will never be given again.

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Brian T. Riddle, 1st Vice Commander- Our quota for 2015 is 654. To date we have turned in 608 cards for 96% of quota. We still need a few more membership cards turned in. I like to mention address changes to the membership, please if you move or have a change of address, come in and fill out a member data form with your new address, so I can make sure you get your membership cards etc. Support your Post renew your membership today. Thanks everyone who got their membership in early.

Don "Flash" Vaji, Gifts for the Yanks Chairman- Hi folks. As I sit here and look out the window and watch the beautiful white sand blow across the yard OOPS I meant snow. HA HA .well its winter. but only 42 days before spring training. GO TRIBE .

I'm setting up a bus trip to Seneca casino on May 3rd and 4th. we will be staying at the casino hotel. price $ 135.00 per person double $205.00 single. sign up begins on Feb 14th. 1 PM at the Post.

We have collected over $16,000.00 for "The Gifts For The Yanks" program. Thanks a lot. Don't forget stop in at the Post. We have good food, cold drinks and some of the best people in the American Legion. You never know when I'll be there with a little fun and a chance to win a raffle.

Again thanks to all of you who support "The Gifts For The Yanks" program.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Chuck O'Malley, Commander- Its Scholarship season once again. The Bear Hof Annual Scholarship committee will be looking for eligible students, bound for Post secondary education. The scholarship named for our long time Squadron and District Treasurer Dave "Bear" Hof will be awarded in May.

We are looking forward to March 21st and our annual reverse Raffle and the return of our venerable Emcee, The Honorable Tim Monahan. We will limit the tickets to 125 – so be sure to buy your tickets early. They will be available behind the bar or from any S.A.L. officers, by the time you read this Newsletter. We promise, you will have a great time and there will be some old favorite games as well as 1 or 2 new ones. This is one event you do not want to miss

We will nominate officers at our February meeting and hold elections at our meeting, March 11th at 7:30 PM. Please attend and let your voice be heard

To receive updates of these and all SAL events; Join our Facebook Page: Sons of the American Legion-Squadron 91-Berea, Ohio.

We also hope that you have a very safe and warm Winter season.

Dave 'Bear' Hof, Finance/Membership Chairman- Well the New Year is here, and the old Christmas bills keep coming in. We hope you all had a safe Holiday Season.

Our membership is at 354 as of January 18th that is 95.6% of our Quota. It always get a little busy around the END of the YEAR with members paying their dues at the last minute, SO if you have not PAID your dues your key card has been turned off and you are out of the weekly drawing. Please PAY UP!!!!! now.

Look for news on the following EVENTS at the POST.

Vegas Night in FEB, St. Patty Day & S.A.L., Reverse Raffle in March.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Donella Kline, Ladies Auxiliary President- I hope everyone enjoyed their Holidays!

At our December meeting we filled 200 bags for Wade Park and enjoyed a wonderful pot luck dinner. Thank you to all but especially to Nancy and Linda.

Thank you to all who donated to the Giving Tree. It was a success again this year, THANK YOU Nancy!!

Thank you to Nina for the wonderful spaghetti sauce you made for our spaghetti dinner. The night of the spaghetti dinner Nina needed a stand-in (thank you Frank) due to the birth of her second grandson – Congratulations to the Zdravecky family.

I have already marked my calendar for the Super bowl Chili cook-off, Casino night, the S.A.L. reverse raffle and St. Patrick's day, I hope you will plan to support these fundraisers too.

Think Spring!

Vicki Chainey, Ladies Auxiliary 1st Vice President- So here we are in the second month of the new year and already we have lots of things going on at the Post so make sure to listen and watch for announcements.

The children's Christmas party turnout was good and all the kids loved the balloon man and of course Santa's arrival on the fire truck, thanks to the Berea Fire and Police Department.

The Spaghetti Dinner was a success so thank you to all that attended, and thank you to Nina for her fantastic meatballs & sauce, yummieee.

Up & Coming Events

February

8th & 22nd- A.L.R.'s Breakfast, 10 - Noon

21st- Post Casino Night, doors open at 6:30 pm, tickets are $15 and limited so be sure to purchase yours when they go on sale. This is an all Post event

27th- Auxiliary's nights to work the fish fry, so if you would like to help show up at 5 pm, or contact Vicki Chainey, (440)236-5739.

March

2nd- Strudel orders forms by kitchen, $10 each they come in five kinds, Nut, Poppy Seed, Cheese, Apple and Cherry, last day to order is on Mar. 23rd or when the bakery hits its cutoff, delivery date is on Monday the 30th, you can pay by cash or check made out to the ALA Unit 91.

27th- Auxiliary's night to work the fish fry, so if you would like to help show up at 5 pm or contact Vicki Chainey.

April

4th- Children's Easter Bunny Luncheon, 12 - 3 pm in Post Hall, a lunch will be provided along with an Easter basket for each child signed up. A visit from the Easter Bunny and lots of activities for the kids to do. A chance to win a Bunny Cake with every adult meal ticket.

Other things to start thinking about are the annual garage sale and flower sale, so start gathering up your items to donate and remember the proceeds from the garage sale goes to the scholarship fund.

God Bless You All.

Continued on page 6

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Keith Szuch, ALR Director- Hello to all for the last time. It seems like yesterday I just started writing these letters for the newsletter, but it has been two years now. This is a somber one for me as like I said this will be my last newsletter. The next one will be written by Jerry Humschild, as he is the new A.L.R. Director. We had our officer elections on January 18th. Jerry ran unopposed as I had decided to withdraw my acceptance of the nomination. I would like to say thank you to all the A.L.R. members that came out and helped me with breakfast, fish fry's and all the events that we put on the past two years. I would also like to thank all of the Post members that came out and supported these events as well. You all made them a big success.

We have a couple of things coming up that could use your support. By the time you read this, the Post fish fry's will be in full swing. The riders will be doing the cooking for the February 6th, March 6th and possibly Good Friday. So come out and support both the Post and the Riders and eat some fish.

There is also a Casino night scheduled for February 21st. Please come out and support that as well.

We will continue doing breakfast the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month until the second week of April. So as always bring your appetites for those. With that I will close this letter with saying that you again to all of the rider members it was an honor and privilege to have been your Director.

Charity Report

Post 91 has made the following charitable contributions for the months of December 2014 – January 2015:

Chaplains Homeless Veterans	$100
Zap Entertainment	$225
Children's Christmas Party	$245
Louis Schmidt Christmas Grant	$500
Friends Forever	$50
Scholarships	$2,000
Berea Animal Rescue Fund	$100
Total	**$3,220**

VA: Major Restructuring Will Set Standard Regional Boundaries

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced a major restructuring effort Monday to streamline its often disjointed bureaucracy by standardizing service regions in the country and increasing coordination between them.

For years, the nine organizations within the department have divided the country into their own regions with little or no coordination. By June 30, VA aims to have the entire department under the same service boundaries through a program called MyVA, breaking the country into five regions.

Officials said in a conference call with reporters that the move is a cornerstone of VA Secretary Bob McDonald's push to overhaul the scandal-ridden organization. The VA does not have an estimate for how much the restructuring will cost, officials said, nor are there many details about what the changes will mean for veterans' care.

The overall transformation will take a while," said Scott Blackburn, the Director of the MyVA Program Management Office. "There will be a lot of analysis and we'll know a lot more of the answers over the next couple of months."

The department has been undergoing changes since a national health-care scandal cost former Secretary Eric Shinseki his job, following revelations that patients languished for years on secret lists created to make wait times appear artificially short. Some veterans died while awaiting care.

Ladies (continued)

Nancy Dout Ladies Auxiliary Membership Chairman- Nancy Doutt, Ladies Auxiliary Membership Chairman

Love is in the air. And I love that membership dues are still coming in for 2015 and cards are being reactivated. There are still 41 more members who have not yet renewed, but with those who have renewed, and our many new members, we are now at 91.383 percent. We love the number 91, but we'd love the number 100 even more when we make goal. If you know of someone who is on the fence about renewing, remind them of the great perks of being part of the biggest women's volunteer organization for Veterans, and the additional perks of our Post and Canteen. Thank you!

It is with great sadness that I must report that we lost another Auxiliary sister. Lisa Zullo Engleman lost her fight with cancer on December 20th. Throughout her battle, she was always the strongest, giving everyone else encouragement and hope. She is now at peace.

Nancy Doutt, Ladies Auxiliary VA&R Chairman- We will be going to Wade Park VA Hospital on Monday, February 23rd, to play bingo with the Veterans. If you'd like to go, we will car pool from the Post, leaving by 6 p.m., or you can meet us there. If you are registered, you are eligible for the Monday night drawing, so don't' let that be the reason you don't want to go. It's very fun and rewarding. Please let Nancy know at (440) 552-4713 so we don't leave without you.

Nancy Doutt, Ladies Auxiliary Community Service Chairman-

Giving Tree: Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Giving Tree. We were able to help a needy family, 12 children at the Aristocrat, and provide a truckload of Christmas gifts to Ohio Guidestone. All those touched by your generosity were extremely appreciative.

Shoe Collection: In the upcoming month, there will be a collection box in the canteen for new or gently worn shoes, which will be sent to impoverished people in developing nations to help them start, maintain, and grow a micro-enterprise. Please check your shoe racks and closets for unused pairs of shoes---any kind, any size, for any gender. No single shoes, please.

Garage Sale & Scholarship: Along with cleaning out your shoes, start cleaning out the rest of your house and garage and get your items ready for the annual garage sale. It will be held on Thursday, April 30th and Saturday, May 2nd. Donations can be dropped off during that week through Wednesday, in the Post hall. All proceeds are used for the Auxiliary scholarships, which are open to any member or relative of a member of Post 91 who is seeking continuing education beyond high school. Applications are available at the Post.

Buckeye Girls State: If you know of a young lady who is currently a Junior in high school, that would be interested in attending Buckeye Girls State June 14-20, 2015, at University of Mount Union, as one of Unit 91's delegates, please contact Stacey Lehmann at (440) 465-3868 or Nancy Doutt at (440) 552-4713. Buckeye Girls State is a weeklong program designed to educate Ohio's young women in the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of good citizenship. By getting involved in the process, delegates learn more about city, county and state government in one week than they will learn in an entire semester of high school.

Volunteer Hours & Annual Reports: And along with spring comes the submission of all of our annual reports. And just like the stores that start advertising all of the holidays earlier and earlier every year, our deadline for reports has been moved up by a month---and that's no holiday! If you've done anything at all in the last year---and I know you all have----please jot me a note, give me a call, stop me in my tracks---just let me know what you did so I can report on it. Anything from collecting Campbell's Soup labels, singing in the shower, volunteering in a classroom, helping a neighbor---all good stuff! If you did something, we have a report for it! If you have a picture of you doing something, even better! Thank you!!! Call me at (440) 552-4713.

Great Truths

In my many years I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm, and three or more is a congress.
-- John Adams

If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed, if you do read the newspaper you are misinformed.
-- Mark Twain

Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But then I repeat myself.
-- Mark Twain

I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.
--Winston Churchill

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul.
-- George Bernard Shaw

A liberal is someone who feels a great debt to his fellow man, which debt he proposes to pay off with your money.
-- G. Gordon Liddy

Democracy must be something more than two wolves and a sheep voting on what to have for dinner.
--James Bovard, Civil Libertarian (1994)

Foreign aid might be defined as a transfer of money from poor people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries.
-- Douglas Case, Classmate of Bill Clinton at Georgetown University.

Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys.
-- P.J. O'Rourke, Civil Libertarian

Government is the great fiction, through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else.
-- Frederic Bastiat, French economist(1801-1850)

Erin Go Bragh

Join us **March 17th** for our annual St Patrick's Day celebration in the canteen. Our "world famous" cornbeef will be availble for both lunch and dinner along with traditional Irish music, and of course... green beer!

Albert E. Baesel Post 91 — the Post by the Lake

Berea, Ohio

FEBRUARY 2015

Canteen Hours
Fri - Sat 10AM - 1AM
Sun - Thu 10AM - MID

www.postbythelake.com

POW-MIA — YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 8:30pm WEEKLY DRAWING	3 SHRIMP DINNER EVERY TUESDAY 6PM - 8PM	4 STRIP STEAK EVERY WEDNESDAY 6PM - 8PM	5 WINGS EVERY THURSDAY 7PM - 9PM	6 FISH FRY 6-8PM	7
8 Breakfast 10AM-12PM	9 7:30 PM Meeting	10	11 7:30PM Meeting	12 7PM Meeting	13 FISH FRY 6-8PM	14 Happy Valentine's Day
15 Post 91 Legion Riders Meeting Noon	16	17	18	19 SPECIAL WINGNME	20 FISH FRY 6-8PM	21
22 Breakfast 10am-12pm	23 Wade Park Bingo 6PM	24	25	26 7PM Executive Board Meeting	27 FISH FRY 6-8PM	28

WORK PARTY SATURDAY FEB 14TH 8:30 AM

KITCHEN OPEN TUE & WED 6-8PM
TUESDAY $5 SHRIMP DINNER
WEDNESDAY $8 STRIP STEAK
MONDAY EVENING
6-9PM

Lunches available Tue-Sat 11AM-2:45PM

13th Annual Super Bowl Chili cookoff

February 1st Judging 6:20 PM

ARIZONA SUPER BOWL HOST COMMITTEE XLIX 2015

FAZ

Albert E. Baesel Post 91 — the Post by the Lake

Berea, Ohio

MARCH 2015

Canteen Hours
Fri - Sat 10AM - 1AM
Sun - Thu 10AM - MID
www.postbythelake.com

POW-MIA — YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 8:30pm WEEKLY DRAWING	3 SHRIMP DINNER EVERY TUESDAY 6PM - 8PM	4 STRIP STEAK EVERY WEDNESDAY 6PM - 8PM	5 WINGS EVERY THURSDAY 7PM - 9PM	6 FISH FRY 6-8PM	7 POST BUS TRIP
8 **Breakfast 10AM-12PM**	9 7:30PM Meeting	10	11 7:30PM Meeting	12 7PM Meeting	13 FISH FRY 6-8PM	14
15 Post 91 Legion Riders Meeting Noon	16	17 HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18	19 SPECIAL WING NIGHT	20 FISH FRY 6-8PM	21
22 **Breakfast 10am-12pm**	23 7 PM Executive Board Meeting	24	25	26 7PM Executive Board Meeting	27 FISH FRY 6-8PM	28
29	30	31				

WORK PARTY SATURDAY MAR 14TH 8:30 AM

Watch "March Madness" in canteen

Tuesday March 17th
St. Patrick's Day Corned beef dinners and sandwiches
Serving Noon-7PM

KITCHEN OPEN TUE & WED 6-8PM
TUESDAY $5 SHRIMP DINNER
WEDNESDAY $8 STRIP STEAK
MONDAY EVENING
6-9PM

Lunches available Tue-Sat 11AM-2:45PM

FAZ

FROM THE EDITOR

These editorials are the opinion of the Editor and do not reflect the opinions of the members of Post 91.

Ron Fazekas, Editor

vol•un•teer /välən'tir/

noun *a person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task.*

verb *freely offer to do something. "He volunteered for the job"*

This is the definition for volunteer. Please read and understand what this means. To make this Post the best American Legion around we need more of these. Let me give you some examples of what type of volunteers we are looking for from our 1400 members. On the second Saturday of the month we have a work party that starts at 8:30AM and ends around noon. This work party does things like cleaning up, maybe some painting, just little things that need done around this old building and grounds, and we even provide breakfast. We normally have 4 people show up if we are lucky.

Every Thursday we have wings night which are staffed by volunteers, it takes 2 people to staff it with the exception being special wings night which we need 5 people. Right now we have 1 Legionnaire, and the other volunteers are S.A.L. and Auxiliary members. We need volunteers from 7-9PM. Where are my fellow blue caps when I need them?

Fish Fries are all manned by volunteers. We need volunteers from 6-8 PM.

In the summer we are looking for volunteers to cook burgers on Friday nights from 6-8 PM.

To keep continuity with our kitchen functions we need to keep these nights manned with volunteers, otherwise we have to bring in our kitchen employees and pay them.

People have also asked why isn't the kitchen opened on Saturdays, well we can't pay the utilities when we only take in $20 from 11AM-3PM. We need more of our members to come down and have a meal or two to help us keep the kitchen operations viable.

All officers of this Post are volunteers giving their time to keep each individual group running smoothly.

The point I am trying to make is that out of 1400 members we might have 20 people who volunteer to help out around here to get stuff accomplished. You need to ask yourself what can I do to help keep this Post going? It seems like everyone up here wants to get paid for doing things and after a while of paying everybody for everything we eventually run out of money.

Please if you have a talent that we can use down here, please contact an officer or chairman and volunteer to help keep this place in tip top shape.

BULLETIN BOARD

Events

February
1 ..... Super Bowl Chili Cookoff
21 ..... Casino Night

March
17 ..... St. Patrick's Day Party
21 ..... S.A.L. Reverse Raffle

New Membership

The American Legion
Timothy Kelley, Joseph Gary Laviano, Norm Besnoska, Bud Rochford, Thomas Ferrell, Daniel T. Wagner, Steven Nowicki, Elizabeth, Black, Derek Shimell, Robert A Hanis, Jeffrey Lukasik

American Legion Auxilary
Debbie Bierman, Amy Schenek, Jan Childers, Susan Six, Linda Kramer, Cons Templeman, Tracie Kraus, Kathleen Thomas, Diane Lasecki, Gertrude Wick, Janet Molek, Susan Zidek, Julia Oleson

Sons of the American Legion
Scott Ferian, Greg Klinger, Russell Erney, Luka Marich, Michael Harley, Dave Meddles, Nicholas Derher, Jack Thomaas, Thomas Szabo, Jeff Puchmajer

Sick Call
Russ Sanderson

Taps
Lisa Engleman, Robert Karaba, Ernest Szabo, Richard Burger, Edward Kent

Membership & Info
Please call 440-234-0091 or visit our website: www.postbythelake.org.

Hall Rentals
Please contact Sue Milter- Monday though Saturday 9:00am to 5:00pm @440-234-0091 or 440-623-6494.

Albert E. Baesel ★ American Legion Post 91
91 American Legion Parkway ★ Berea, Ohio 44017

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