



WE
REMEMBER

9.11.01

August / September 2023



Post By The Lake Newsletter

Albert E Baesel
American Legion Post 91

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Contents

Commander's Corner.....	1
A bit of Post 91 History.....	2-3
Aerial Photos.....	4
War Hero's Homecoming.....	4
American Legion.....	5-6
American Legion Auxiliary...	7-9
Sons of American Legion.....	10
American Legion Riders.....	11
Calling All Artists.....	12
Calendars.....	13-14
Bulletin Board.....	15



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Commander's Corner

Greetings American Legion Family Members,

It's hard to believe summer is almost over as we approach the end of July. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer, and enjoyed some of the activities and services at our Post. We have some good events coming up in August and September, and I hope to see everyone there.

We are currently looking to hire cleaning people for the Hall and are in need of two. We are currently processing one application now, but still need at least one more on a regular basis and another as a backup.

Our Blue Caps meetings are the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm. I would like to see our numbers increase at these meetings. Every member has a voice and every Veteran has a vote, so please attend and be heard. Your input is valued.

For God and Country

James Lockyer



Flag Ceremony, 2023





Canteen Hours

Monday-Friday 12-12 pm

Saturday 12-1

Sunday 12-8 pm

Kitchen Hours

Lunch

Monday-Friday 12-2 pm

Dinners

Monday 6-8 pm

Tuesday 5-7 pm

Wednesday 5-7

Thursday 6-8 pm

(Third Thursdays 7-9 pm)

Friday 6-8

Hall Rentals

For hall rentals contact

Marilla Baher (216) 299-7744

or

Legion Post 91 (440) 234-0091

Celebration of Life Events

- For members & immediate family members
- 4 hour hall usage
- Post 91 provides food at no cost
- Contact Marilla Baher of the Legion Sunshine Fund
- (216) 299-7744

Happy 103th Birthday American Legion Post 91

The charter for Post 91 was issued on September 5th, 1919. The Berean Veterans who began the Post chose to name it in honor of Lt. Albert E. Baesel, who was the first Ohioan killed in action during World War I. He died on September 27th, 1918 at the Battle of Argonne while attempting to save a wounded comrade.



The Albert E. Baesel band assembled on Memorial Day in 1930 in front of the original Post location, which stood in the area where the library is today (top right of the photo).



Lt. Albert E. Baesel



This lamp hung at the original Post 91 location. Look for it above the canteen.

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AERIAL EXHIBITION PLANNED BY LEGION

**Advertising Campaign Launched
For Biggest Independence
Day Celebration.**

An aerial exhibition by a noted commercial aviator of the Cleveland airport will be one of the main attractions at the Berea fair grounds on Monday, July 5th, during the mammoth American Legion Independence Day celebration. Plans are also being made to have a local young man give an exhibition of parachute jumping.

An extensive advertising campaign has been launched. It includes window and roadside cards, automobile cloth signs, and display advertising in local and Cleveland newspapers. A large canvass sign, announcing the big event, will be erected at each end of the high level bridge in Cleveland.

A midway, which will rival those at the annual county fairs, is being planned by John Stover and Karl Olsen, who are in charge of the concessions.

The big celebration will be topped off in the evening by a \$2,500 display of fireworks. A sham battle, band concert, horse racing, dancing, boxing show and baseball games will help make the event the biggest in Cuyahoga county.

The Post acquired its current land through a property trade with the city, and the new building for Post 91 was erected in 1955.



Photos above and to the left show the building during the 70's before the addition was built. (Also note the enclosed patio, flat rooftop and main entrance.)



Photos to the left and below were taken during the kitchen remodel in 2011. (Compare the photo on the left to the one above.)



Photo to the left: Post 91 Officers are presented with Albert E. Baesel's Medal of Honor on the Post's 100th birthday in 2020. (The original medal disappeared years ago, so the one shown in the photo is a replica.)



Bringing a War Hero Home After 80 Years

1st Lt. George “Bud” Reuter flew with the 93rd Bombardment Group during WW II . He was killed in 1943 during Operation Tidal Wave, and his remains have finally been found and brought back to the United States. He was laid to rest on July 29th, 2023, with full military honors at Sunset Cemetery where there was a 21-gun salute, a military fly-over and support from community members.



**POW/MIA Ceremony
will be held in the pavilion
on September 15th at 7pm**



American Legion



1st Vice Commander, Ed Leopold

Hello Everyone,

Well, I'm back as 1st Vice Commander. I have not been in this position for about 20 years, but I will give it my best shot.

It is now July 15th as I write this. Hopefully all Blue Caps received their renewal notice, so let's get on the ball and pay our dues early. As of today, we have 21 renewals.

If you have any questions or concerns, don't be afraid to ask me, Mel, or Commander James. We will get you an answer right away.

Thank You,

Big Ed



**Wreath Ceremony,
Memorial Day, 2023**

2nd Vice Commander, Keith Mattison

Hi to all. I hope that you are all having a wonderful summer so far. It's hard to believe that July is almost over. We will have some exciting things happening in the upcoming months.

Our family picnic is on August 13th from 1-5pm. We supply the hot dogs and hamburgers, and ask that you bring a side dish to share. We are looking for volunteers to help cook. Also, acoustical guitarist, Freddy Jackson, will be playing in the pavilion.

On September 2nd from 6-10pm, we will have a members-only event in the pavilion with the band, Voodoo Child (weather permitting). If the weather is bad, the band will be moved inside. Members' guests are welcome to attend. There will be food, fun and jams!!!

We are having our annual clam bake on October 14th. Cost and times for the bake to follow.

Starting in August and September, we will be having our fabulous BBQ rib dinners. Yum, yum...come and get you some. They are served 6-8pm. As always, we are looking for volunteers to help.

As August approaches and families get ready for another school year, get out and enjoy the remaining dog days of summer.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and visit your Post for food and friendship. Remember to thank a Vet and God Bless America.

Keith

Welcome New American Legion Members!

Michael Chatal
Michael S. Downie
Joseph Gattarello
Martin Hritz
Gerald Perruchon



American Legion, Cont



Color Guard, Robert Roginsky

Color Guard received good reviews at the Memorial for Rex Gilbert, past Commander of Post 91 (Ceremony shown on the right).

A few of us old guys are retiring and need new Color Guard members to take our place. Please be more involved with the Post and join. Help make our Post proud. Contact,

Jon Silvis
440-823-1066

OR

Bob Roginsky
440-582-5856



Bob

Finance Officer, Mel Baher

Name	Memo	Amount
Alex Dettmer	Memorial Day Bugler	\$50.00
Alpha Dawg Flag Football	Annual Donation	\$500.00
American Cancer Society	Annual Donation	\$100.00
American Legion Department of Ohio	Boys State Program	\$1,500.00
American Legion Department of Ohio	Gift for the Yanks Donation	\$1,248.91
Auxiliary Unit 91	Memorial Day Breakfast	\$91.60
Berea High School Alumni Association	Golf Outing Hole Sponsor	\$100.00
Berea-Midpark Athletic Boosters	Tom Madzy 5K sponsor	\$150.00
Berea Kiwanis Club	American Flags over Berea	\$180.00
Brian Riddle Memorial Fund	Post 91 Rider's event	\$1,000.00
Cardio Partners Inc.	Police Department AED	\$2,249.68
City Of Berea	Annual Events Sponsor	\$3,000.00
Cub Scout Pack 107	Neckerchiefs, Slides, Handbooks	\$1,500.00
Emma Escalier	Memorial Day Bugler	\$50.00
Jason Malone Scholarship	Golf Outing Hole Sponsor	\$100.00
Joint Veterans Council of Cuyahoga County	Full page Ad / table tickets	\$404.00
National Multiple Sclerosis Society	Annual Donation	\$150.00
Paralyzed Veterans hole sponsor	Annual Donation / Hole Sponsor/ Donation	\$250.00
Salvation Army of Northeast Ohio	Annual Donation	\$100.00
Sunshine Fund	Celebration of Life	\$560.19
Susan B. Komen	Annual Donation	\$100.00
Tom Kosicki	Memorial Day Bagpiper	\$100.00
VFW Post 3345 Auxiliary	Golf Outing Hole Sponsor	\$100.00
Wounded Warrior Project	Annual Donation	\$150.00
	APRIL - JULY TOTAL DONATIONS	\$13,734
Issac DiVencenzo	Albert E. Baesel Scholarship	\$1,000
Devin Boyle	Thomas Marks Scholarship	\$1,000
Andrew Leopold	James C. Masie Scholarship	\$1,000
Talia DelVecchio	Virginia R. Offenberger Scholarship	\$1,000
Joseph Zacharyasz	Don & Barb Vaji GFY Scholarship	\$1,000
	SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS TOTAL	\$5,000

Mel

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Blue Caps and Auxiliary Color Guard, Memorial Day Parade, 2023



Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission Van, Memorial Day Parade, 2013



American Legion Auxiliary



1st Vice Auxiliary, Nina Zdravecky

Hello Happy People! I hope your summer has been good so far.

I want to thank all of our helpers for the Father's Day breakfast. The ticket for our door prize was pulled by our bartender, Stormy, and the winner was John Zdravecky. I hope all you fathers enjoyed your breakfast and your day with your families. I would also like to thank our helpers for the 4th of July.

I would like to ask all our Auxiliary members to consider helping out for even just a few hours with one of our many events. It could be selling tickets for one of our raffle baskets, helping with our garage sale, or helping during one of our three pumpkin roll dates. Please contact me or Nancy Douth if you would like to help out with something, and we can let you know the things we need help with. Remember "many hands make light work!"

Our Pumpkin rolling dates are September 16th, October 21st, and November 4th at Divinity Lutheran Church in Parma. Please let us know if you can spare some time on one of those dates.

Pumpkin roll order forms will be in the canteen soon, so please look for them in the usual spot. The cost this year for a roll is \$11. I'd like to thank our loyal supporters.

Nina

Welcome New Auxiliary Members!

Deborah Bound
Karen Ciolek
Sandra Clapper
Sharon Freed

Pamela Haditsch
Jan Mieyal
Erin Straka
Jill White

Auxiliary Membership, Nancy Douth

Membership and Dues Increase

Congratulations to our Unit for surpassing our 2023 goal of 388. We finished the year with a total of 405 members, or 104.381% of our goal. That breaks down to 389 senior members who are age 18 and older, and 16 junior members who are under the age of 18. Our goal for 2024 is 390 members. The 2024 membership drive is now open as of August 1st, 2023. Early birds are members who pay by November 11, and all dues must be paid by December 31st, 2023. Due to the increase in National dues, as mentioned in several previous newsletters, Unit 91's 2024 dues are \$40 for seniors (\$18 of that goes to the National Auxiliary, \$11 to Department (State), and our Unit keeps \$11). Junior dues remain \$6.25 and our Unit does not keep any portion of that. We have absorbed several National dues increases since our last Unit increase and hope to do the same in the near future. Renewal notices will be sent by National in September, followed by a reminder in February. Juniors do not receive notices, so if you sponsor a junior, please pay when you pay your senior dues. Your dues help fund the work we do for our Auxiliary programs—helping our Veterans, their families, youth and our community. For your information, most Units throughout our District and State have also increased their dues. Please feel free to contact me at (440) 552-4713 if you have any questions or would like to discuss this in greater detail. Thank you.

Auxiliary Color Guard

The Auxiliary Color Guard needs YOU! We are in need of additional members. We participate in local parades, occasionally post Colors at ceremonies, and participate in the Auxiliary memorial service when a family member requests it. If you are interested in joining or would like to know more information before saying "yes," please contact Nancy Douth at (440) 552-4713.

Nancy



American Legion Auxiliary, Cont



2nd Vice, Stacey Lehmann

Happy start to football season everyone!

As we look forward to the upcoming fall season, I would like to take a moment to reflect on a few of my favorite highlights over the past few months.

Poppy Garden:

I would like to thank everyone who purchased a poppy to support the Poppy Fund and start our garden growing. I am happy to report that 110 poppies were made; 95 of them were placed in the garden at our Post and 15 were displayed elsewhere. I would like to send a special thank you to Jason Giaco of Giaco Mower, who was the master builder of my idea, and to Christine Dellapenna for making all the name tags, creating the Poppy Garden design and putting up with me ALWAYS. I also want to thank Marianna Peris for cleaning up the garden area and placing the poppies. Last but not least, I want to thank my dad for his service to our country and supporting all of my crazy ideas with an eye roll, a smirk, a hug and in this case, a hammer.

Memorial Day:

Some of you may have noticed that the City of Berea made a decision to take their Memorial Day Ceremony in a different direction this year, a direction that did not include Post 91. With less than three weeks before Memorial Day, the Memorial Day committee was able to organize a city-wide parade and a beautiful ceremony that focused on the meaning of Memorial Day, Veterans and honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. On behalf of the Memorial Day committee, I would like to express our thanks to all who attended the events of the day; the City of Berea Service Dept, Police & Fire Dept, the Berea-Midpark High School marching band and all participants who marched in the parade.

On a personal note, I want to send a HUGE thank you to Barb Hendricks (without her, none of it would have been possible), and to Mike Farrell who stuck with us and was literally our right-hand man! I also want to say thanks to all my poppy parade distributors who came through in a pinch!

Although I feel the day was a success, I would have liked to see MUCH more participation from our members. Memorial Day was a perfect opportunity to show the city and community what the American Legion stands for, and why we should be included in the city's services honoring Veterans and active military throughout the year. As an organization of over 900 members, including Veterans and their families, we have a unique opportunity to be a large presence in the community, and to promote the main objective of the American Legion Family, SERVICE OVER SELF. The next time your Post asks for volunteers, ask yourself, "What am I able to do to help our cause?"



National September 11 Memorial and Museum



American Legion Auxiliary, Cont



Community Service Chairman, Nacy Doult

2023 District and Department Convention Summaries

At the beginning of June, the 13th District Auxiliary Summer Convention was held at Post 627 in Newburgh Heights. We are pleased to report that Unit 91 received 1st place in our membership group for all five major programs: Americanism, Children & Youth, Community Service, Junior Activities and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R). This is a tribute to all the hard work and documentation that is done by our Auxiliary members and friends throughout the year. (FYI, Unit 91 is currently the largest Unit in the 13th District based on membership.)

At the end of June, the Auxiliary Department (State) Convention was held in Dayton, Ohio. Auxiliary Unit 91 received the following special recognitions:

- The Ruth Adams plaque was presented to our Chaplain Nicki Haire for the best Chaplain program narrative. (This is Nicki's second year as Chaplain and the second time she won this recognition. Nicki has a gift, and we are blessed that she shares her talent with us).
- The Mary Parker plaque was presented to Unit 91 because of one special community service event. (Miss Doris Rochelle entered nurses training during WWII with the hopes of entering the service. By the time she finished training, the war had ended and she was disappointed she was not able to serve). Stacey Lehmann went through great efforts to have 100-year-old Miss Doris installed as an honorary 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Army. Stacey made it happen, and all on her 100th birthday.
- A Certificate of Excellence was presented for our Legislative program for the information our Chairman, Barbara Miller, shares with us at meetings, and for our correspondence/political action taken with our local and state representatives on Veteran and other issues.
- Past Presidents Parley plaque was presented for the best annual report. Our Chairman is our President Donella Kline, and our program showed how many of our past Presidents provide mentoring and are still active in our Unit. It also includes how our lady Veterans are involved with our programs and how we honor them.
- We were only one of two Units in the 13th District to receive the Citation of Merit for meeting all reporting requirements AND achieving our membership goal.
- We received a special certificate from the Department President for donating to her special project for scholarships.

Again, this is all thanks to the awesome work done by our members, family and friends! Thank YOU!

Congratulations to Louise Smerk from our sister Unit 610 in Brook Park for being voted in as Department of Ohio's 1st Vice President. Her concentration for the next year is on membership for the state of Ohio. Her theme is "Growing from Our Roots and Soaring to New Heights." Her theme works in conjunction with Department President Jane Ridenour's theme, which is "Our Heroes Inspiring Others." Jane's special project is Veterans assistance and rehabilitation through the equine HOOVES organization. The Department Convention will be held in Independence the next two years, which will be nice for Louise to be close to home when she becomes Department President.

Nancy

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Sons of American Legion



SAL Commander, Duane Schaft

Following a hot summer, we are more than ready for fall activities.

In the spring months, the SAL scholarship committee performed evaluations to award deserving students with the annual Bear Hof Memorial Scholarship. During our June 14th SAL meeting, Jeff Haas presented the scholarships. The two recipients, AJ Leopold and Elaine Schaft, summarized their favorite high school activities and their plans going forward. AJ Leopold is going to the University of Cincinnati (UC) in the fall. He was admitted into the Aerospace Engineering program and hopes to someday be part of getting us to Mars.

Elaine

Schaft will attend Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She was accepted into the Honors program and the Farmer School of Business. We wish them the best of luck throughout their education and careers.

We will have our traditional football tailgate party in the pavilion on Sunday, October 22nd at 1pm (Cleveland Browns at Indianapolis Colts). Tickets will be sold on-site on game day for \$10. We always have plenty of burgers, hot dogs, brats, canned beer, pop and various raffles. Feel free to bring a side dish. This is always a great time.

We made our annual donation to the George C. Masie Golf Outing, which includes a gift basket.

On June 17th, Color Guard Jon Silvis, delivered a dedicatory speech at the Grand Army Plot at Woodland Cemetery. For more information on the Monument and activities, visit www.soldiersandsailors.com. Also visit our SAL Facebook page, Sons-of-the-American-Legion-Squadron-91-Berea-Oh for any updates on SAL activities.

If you have any questions about our organization or membership, please contact an officer or send us an email at salpost91@gmail.com. The SAL team encourages participation in our monthly meetings, which are held every second Wednesday at 7:30pm in the hall.

Duane



Drum Group, Memorial Day Parade, 2023



Post 91 is the Charter Organization for Boy Scout Troop 228. On May 21st, 2023, the Troop met at the pavilion to earn their plumbing merit badge. Jake Egan from Sentral Plumber Organization taught the young men how to operate a pipe threader and a chain vise, as seen on the left. Post 91 also charters Cub Scout Troop 107.

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American Legion Riders



ALR Director, Ed Leopold

Hello Everyone,

Well, it is July 15th already...how time flies. We have a very important month ahead of us. August 12th is the Rittman Run, and I hope a lot of us can attend. August 13th is the Post family picnic.

Most importantly, September 9th is our pig roast. It is the only big function we have this year, and we need to have our ALR members help out. Please show up to our next meeting to find out how you can help.

Tickets are on sale. Please purchase them before the deadline of August 26th so we can have a head count in order to know how big the pig has to be. Remember, tickets are **PRE-SOLD ONLY**, so purchase them by August 26th!!

Dues are due again. Where does time go? You can give the \$15.00 to Margie.

Thank you,

Big Ed



Riddy Run, 2023



**American Legion Riders,
Memorial Day Parade, 2023**



Young Americans
creating artwork
in preparation for
Patriot Day



Calling All Artists!

I'm inviting everyone to submit original patriotic writing and artwork (including short-short stories or bios, short poetry, photographs, drawings and paintings) for potential publication in the Post By The Lake. Your work will be considered for publication based on content and space limitations, and may be published throughout the newsletter, or used as the cover page or feature story. By-lines will be published with your work unless you wish to remain anonymous.

If your work is themed for a specific holiday or memorial, please note that our publications are bi-monthly (starting February / March, and so forth). Themed submissions need to be submitted by the 15th of each month prior to the next issue.

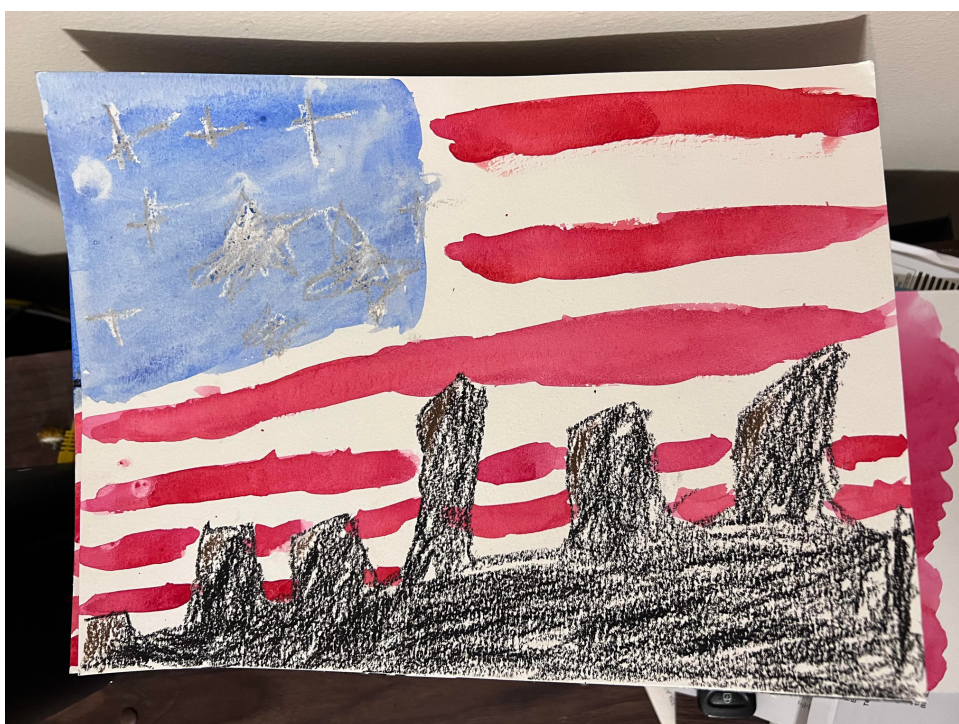
Share your patriotic stories and artwork with your Post 91 family members by contacting me at vschaft@outlook.com and write "Post 91" in the subject line. Again, stories and artwork will be published as space and content allows.

Thank you,

Victoria



Artwork by Toby Malkevitch, age 8



Artwork by Elisabeth Germaine, age 9

Bulletin Board

August

- 5th: DJ Jerome, 7pm
- 12th: Work Party, 8:30am
Rittman Run, details to follow
James C Masie Golf Tournament
- 13th: Post Family Picnic, 1-5pm

September

- 2nd: Band; Voodoo Child, 7pm
- 5th: Post 91 Birthday (103 years)
- 9th: Work Party, 8:30am
ALR Pig Roast, 4-6:30pm
- 11th: Patriot Day
Ceremony details to follow
- 15th: POW/MIA Recognition Day
Ceremony, 7pm
- (Bowling League begins the 2nd Week)



TAPS

Anthony Bergenstein	Mike Magovich
Harry (Rusty) Doult	Richard F. Ohm
Richard G. Henning	Dan Sedlak
Don Kalinowski	Donald Voigt



Poppy Garden

