



*Lazer Wood Carving by
Artist
Alan Friedman*

April / May 2024



Post By The Lake Newsletter

Albert E Baesel
American Legion Post 91

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Commander
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Commander's Corner

Greetings American Legion Family Members,

Well, it appears winter may be winding down, but this is Cleveland and anything could happen. Spring is here and I'm looking forward to getting out more and seeing all our members.

Please watch the bulletin board in the canteen for all events. Also, our kitchen staff could use a few more volunteers to keep our dinners going.

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. Please attend and be heard. Your input is valued.

For God and Country,

James Lockyer



**Blue Caps Presenting Donation Checks to
Berea Community Outreach and Berea Rescue Fund, 2024**



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

www.postbythelake.org

Nominate A Vet

- The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame was created in 1992 to honor veterans who continue to serve their communities in exceptional ways
- Up to 20 nominees are selected each year to be recognized
- Nomination deadline is June 1st, 2024
- For more information about the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, 2023 inductees, or to nominate a Veteran for 2024, visit, <http://dvs.ohio.gov/hall-of-fame>

Building Chairman, Gene Joy

The world-famous Cleveland Pops Orchestra will be performing "A Tribute to our Armed Forces," which will be held at Severance Music Center on June 1 at 8pm.



They are excited to have a group of Veterans attend, so we can get a discount on ticket prices (\$28 - \$58 from the usual \$37 - \$77). There are no bad seats and we can be seated together as much as possible, depending on how soon we respond. With enough people we can get a shuttle bus. There will be a sign-up sheet on the board near the kitchen or text 513.315.9557.

Gene



American Legion



1st Vice Commander, Ed Leopold

Hello everyone,

Finally, maybe some warm weather will be on its way.

It has been a long battle to try and reach our quota for the Post...almost there. We still have 70 members who have not paid their dues for 2024. Come on folks, let's get them paid. We are at 94% and need about 30 more to reach our quota.

Memorial Day is right around the corner, and yes... there will be a parade to honor those that have fallen, and we will have a service at our Post like last year.

Happy Spring & Summer,

Big Ed

DUES ALERT

At the National Convention in August, 2023, National voted to increase our membership dues by \$5. That will be implemented for the 2025 membership year. The Department of Ohio will have \$5 dues increase on the ballot at the State Convention here in Independence in July. If approved it will be retroactive for the 2025 year. With that being said, we have no choice but to increase our dues by \$10 or we will be renewing members at a loss. At this time, this is all the information I have. I will keep everyone posted as I get any new information.

For God and Country,

James Lockyer

Attention

Solar Eclipse Ticket-Holders:

If you would like to pick up your t-shirts the day before the event, see Victoria at Post 91 on April 7th between 4-8pm.

- *Must present ticket to pick up*



Sneak Peek at our
Total Solar Eclipse T-shirts

On Left:
Backside of T-shirt



American Legion, Cont



Finance Officer, Mel Baher

Color Guard, Jon Silvis

Name	Memo	Amount
Alzheimers Association	Donation	\$200
American Legion 13th District Auxiliary	Birthday Dinner	\$240
American Legion Department of Ohio	Commander's project	\$1,000
Berea Animal Rescue	Donation	\$5,000
Berea Baseball Association	Team Sponsor	\$250
Berea Community Outreach	Donation	\$25,000
Berea Historical Society	Solar Panels	\$500
Berea Police Department	Rescue Kits for Officers	\$2,438
Berea Recreation Department	Summer Sponsorship	\$325
Cleveland American Veterans Association	Donation / new truck	\$500
Flags over Berea - Kiwanis	Flags Over Berea	\$180
Jason Malone Scholarship	Hole Sponsor	\$150
Joint Veterans Council / Cuyahoga County	2024 Veteran of the Year	\$420
Ride with Valor	Top Golf donation	\$950
Second Mile Outreach	New Vehicle	\$1,000
V V A Chapter 15	Donation	\$100
Wags 4 Kids	Donation	\$5,000
West Dennison Baseball League	Team Sponsor	\$250
		\$43,503
Albert E. Baesel Scholarship	not completed yet	\$1,000
Thomas Marks Scholarship	not completed yet	\$1,000
James C. Masie Scholarship	not completed yet	\$1,000
Virginia R. Offenbergs Scholarship	not completed yet	\$1,000
Don & Barb Vaji GFY Scholarship	not completed yet	\$1,000

Hi all,

I hope this finds everyone well for a change.

Here are the dates for our next drills:

Tuesday 19 March 2024 1900 (7:00pm)

Tuesday 16 April 2024 1900 (7:00pm)

Tuesday 21 May 2024 1900 (7:00pm)

Lets get everyone ready for Memorial Day.
Bring a friend who might be interested.

For more information, contact:

Bob Roginsky
440-582-5856

OR

Jon Silvis
440-823-1066

Regards,

Jon

Everyone has a story. Are you a Veteran, in active duty or a family member of someone who is? Please consider sharing your stories with your Post 91 family members.

We are also seeking patriotic artwork to use for our cover pages and throughout the newsletter.

Contact Victoria at vschaft@outlook.com and type "Post 91" into the subject line. The deadline for the June / July issue is May14th and is open to ALL who love our country!

Mel



American Legion, Cont



2nd Vice Commander, Keith Mattison

Well, as you are reading this newsletter it will officially be spring. And that means that summer is just around the corner. What a great time of the year; vacations, cook outs and spending time with family and friends. It's the best time of the year.

I would like to thank everyone who attended Night at the Races. Everyone had a great time. I would also like to thank all the volunteers that helped make it a success event. April 8th, we will be having an eclipse party at the Post. Make sure to see Victoria or one of our wonderful bartenders for details.



Our fish fry Fridays this year have been a great success as always, and I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude for all the volunteers that made this happen. As I have said in most of my newsletters, the events that take place at the Post can only happen with the volunteers that help out. It has saddened me to watch the different groups that helped make the fish fries happen and to see the Blue Caps, which is the largest group, have only four to six members show up to help. Out of almost 500 blue caps, that is really sad!!! As I have said many times, this Post belongs to all of us. As members have seen recently, there were two weeks in a row with no wings on Thursday due to lack of volunteers. Then I hear people complain about it. I have seen that it is always the same dozen or two that volunteer, and with the size of our membership, that is really appalling. It only takes one night to help out. Next time the kitchen is closed due to lack of volunteers, don't complain. Instead, become part of the solution and give a night to help out!!!!

Lastly with the time change and springing ahead, check your batteries in your smoke detectors. Enjoy the start of summer. Always remember to thank a Veteran, and God bless America!!!!!!

Keith

**Night at the Races,
2024**





American Legion, Cont



Night at the Races, 2024



**"The Red Hackle" Bag Pipe Band
Performing in the Canteen the Wednesday
Before St. Patty's Day, 2024**





American Legion Auxiliary



1st Vice, Nina Zdravecky

Hello Happy People!

By the time you read this, it will officially be spring and with any luck Mother Nature will recognize that! The Auxiliary will be having our annual spaghetti dinner on Saturday, April 6th. We are serving from 5pm to 7pm. The cost is \$12 and includes spaghetti and meatballs, salad, cheesy garlic bread and dessert. You can dine in or carry out. There will be an open jukebox from 7pm to 11pm. Hope to see you there!

If you can't make that, we will also be doing a sub sandwich night on April 27th from 5pm to 7:30pm. You will have your choice of a meatball sub or a sausage sub sandwich, both with a bag of chips. There will be plenty of meatballs this year!

Stay safe and God Bless,

Nina

2nd Vice, Stacey Lehmann

During the months of April and May, the Auxiliary will be selling flower certificates for \$20. The bearer of the certificate can redeem them at J&J Greenhouse on Folley Road in Columbia Station until May 31, 2024. They can choose from a nineteen dollar 10" hanging basket, flat of flowers or a flat of vegetables. The flats can be a mix of flowers and vegetables. Don't forget, flower certificates make great Mother's Day gifts as well as end of the year teacher gifts. A dollar from each certificate sold will go directly to Unit 91's Poppy Fund with the remaining fundraiser proceeds benefitting our Veteran, children and youth programs. For more information or to purchase a certificate please see an Auxiliary officer.

(Poppy garden and Memorial Day information on pages 10 and 11.)

Stacey

www.postbythelake.org

Membership Chairman, Nancy Douth

Membership Update

In February, our member Mary Ann Teklinsky entered eternal rest after fighting a good fight. Mary Ann helped with all of our Post children's parties, provided bakery and support for our events. She was blessed with a group of caring Auxiliary angels that stayed by her side during her battle. Thank you ladies for being there for her. Rest in peace, Mary Ann.

As of the writing of this letter, we processed 377 senior members, 15 junior members and one VIM member, which is a total of 393 and 100.77% of our goal of 390. Woowooo!! Thank you, everyone! Just a reminder, junior members do not receive a renewal notice from National. If you sponsored a junior, please pay their \$6.25 dues. Please call me at (440) 552-4713 if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Nancy

Welcome New Members

Maureen Broderick
Denise Elber
Karen Fisher
Tara Hadlock
Julia Martin
Michele Razdrh
Bobbie Zdravecky
New Juniors
Ava Hinojosa
Kathryn Hinojosa



American Legion Auxiliary, Cont



Community Service Chairman, Nancy Doutt

Purple Up for the Military Child

April is the month of the Military Child and April 15th is Purple Up Day in support of the military child. Wear purple to the Monday night drawing for a group photo (and get a treat). Can't make the drawing? Take a selfie and text it to Stacey at (440) 465-3868.

American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship & Garage Sale

Unit 91's American Legion Auxiliary scholarship application is available in the canteen or you can download it from the Post website. Any member or relative of a member of Post 91 who is seeking continuing education is eligible for this \$1,000 scholarship. The scholarship is funded by the annual garage sale, which will be May 2-4, 2024. Drop-offs begin Sunday, April 28, in the Post hall during daytime business hours starting at noon. If you'd like to volunteer during drop-off hours, sorting and pricing, or for the sale, please contact Nancy at (440) 552-4713.

Auxiliary Color Guard

The Auxiliary Color Guard needs YOU! We are in need of additional members. We participate in local parades, are occasionally asked to post Colors at ceremonies, and will participate in Auxiliary memorial services 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 Doutt at (440) 552-4713.

Homeless Stand Down

If you'd like to volunteer for the Homeless Stand Down on April 20, 2024, from 10am to 2pm, at the Cleveland Public Auditorium, Google BVU (Business Volunteers Unlimited) to register and select a volunteer opportunity.

Plastic Cap Collection

We are collecting plastic caps to help the Cuyahoga County Jr. Fair project of making a bench out of pressed plastic. We accept any kind of plastic cap from water and pop bottles, peanut butter jars, sour cream lids, prescription medication bottles, etc. Please leave your collection in the canteen in a bag marked to the attention of Nancy Doutt. Collection continues until June 17, 2024.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)

Wade Park is opening back up for bingo parties and possible ward visits. If you are interested in participating in these, please let Nancy know.



American Legion Auxiliary, Cont



Community Service Chairman, Nancy Doutt, Cont

Habitat for Humanity

If you'd like to volunteer for Habitat for Humanity through the St. Mary Berea Faith Build program, there are three opportunities. Locations to be announced:

- Saturday, June 8: Spruce-up day (painting, small repairs, yard-clean up, planting flowers, etc.)
- Saturday, September 7: Work on one or two homes (work varies depending if it's a new build or a renovation)
- Thursday, October 24: Same as above.

Nancy

To register:

For new VolunteerHub Users:

1. Go to:
<https://clevelandhabitat.volunteerhub.com/vv2/>
2. Click on "Create an Account"
3. Create username / password
4. Enter the following Join Code: St. Mary
5. Under "Events," select "Faith Build"
6. Sign up for the "St. Mary, Berea" Faith Build days.

For existing VolunteerHub Users:

1. Sign in using your username and password
2. Under "Events," select "Faith Build"
3. Find your volunteer dates
4. Sign up for the "St. Mary, Berea" Faith Build days.



American Legion Birthday Party Hosted by the 13th District Auxiliary at Post 91, 2024

Attendees Included:

13th District Aux President, Kim Bunch
Department of Ohio Adjutant, John Robinson
13th District Commander, Bert Boyd
13th District SAL Commander, Adam Budnar
13th District 1st Vice, Allison Nye
Past District and Post Commanders.



American Legion Auxiliary, Cont



National Poppy Day

After World War I, the poppy flourished in Europe. Scientists attributed the growth to soils in France and Belgium becoming enriched with lime from the rubble left by the war. From the dirt and mud grew a beautiful red poppy. The red poppy came to symbolize the blood shed during battle following the publication of the wartime poem "In Flanders Fields." The poem was written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, M.D. while serving on the front lines.

On September 27, 1920, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion family to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died during the war. In 1924, the distribution of poppies became a national program of The American Legion.

Led by the American Legion Auxiliary, each year members of The American Legion Family distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation to support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs.



This year the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 91 and Polaris Career Center are teaming up to continue growing our Post 91 Poppy Garden. With guidance from CWI/CWE (Certified Welding Inspector and Certified Welding Educator) Julio Martinez, the 11th and 12th grade students from Polaris's Welding Technology program are creating beautiful metal poppies which can be ordered from the Auxiliary for a donation of \$25 or more. The donation will include a laminated tag depicting the name of the Veteran that you wish to honor if you choose to do so.

All Poppies, including previously purchased poppies, will be placed in our Poppy Garden in front of Post 91 beginning on National Poppy Day, Friday May 24th, where they will remain through Memorial Day. On May 28th your poppy can be collected to take home or stored with the Auxiliary to be placed in the poppy field again next year. ALL funds derived from the distribution of poppies are used exclusively for rehabilitation of Veterans and assistance to active-duty military and their families in Ohio.

The form below along with your donation can be detached and left with a bartender at Post 91's canteen or mailed to 91 American Legion Parkway, Berea, Ohio 44017 ATTN: Stacey Lehmann

Orders must be received by Monday, May 20, 2024.

Contact Stacey with any questions at (440) 465-3868 or leave a message in her mailbox at the canteen.

Please make checks payable to American Legion Auxiliary Unit 91

Please print information

Donor Name: _____

Donor Address: _____

Phone Number _____

IN MEMORY OF or IN HONOR OF: _____

Branch of Military: _____

Cash _____ or Check # _____

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By The
Post Lake



American Legion Riders



Director, David Rodriguez

Hey All,

This is Dave Rodriguez Jr, the new ALR Director. Hope all is well. I would like to meet any of the Riders I haven't met yet.

We have some events coming up. The Riders hosted a Sock Hop on March 23, and the Blessing of the Bikes will be April 27 at 10am.

I would also like to thank the Riders that came out and volunteered for the fish fry Fridays. And as a reminder we have one more fish fry to volunteer for so anyone available to help out that would be great .

David



Memorial Day Information

Our annual grave decorating at Woodvale Cemetery will be held on Saturday, May 25, 2024 at 11am. For more information or if you would like to help, please contact Marianna Peris.

Memorial Day ceremonies will take place on May 27th beginning with Adam's Street Cemetery in Berea at 8am, followed by the service at Woodvale Cemetery in Middleburg Heights at 8:30am. The Memorial Day parade will step off from Coe Lake at 10am with the American Legion Memorial service immediately following at the Coe Lake Gazebo.

Please attend, participate and show your support to our fallen heroes and those whom have sacrificed so much for our freedom. Thank you,

Stacey





Sons of American Legion



SAL Commander, Duane Schaft

The Sons of the American Legion (SAL) had another successful season for our winter and spring activities.

We held our annual Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 11, 2024 in the Post 91 canteen, which worked out very well for the event. On Super Bowl Day we opened another square board for those attending the party. Everyone had an enjoyable evening. The proceeds will benefit our annual Bear Hof Memorial Scholarship. A special thank you to all who participated in our ticket sales, square boards, side boards and raffles. Also, thank you for the side dishes as well, and the people who volunteered their time preparing before the event, working the party and cleaning up afterwards.



During February and March, we held our annual square board fundraiser for the college March Madness basketball tournament. Thank you to Jeff Haas for running this activity. For all participants, we do appreciate your support of the SALs.

Once again, we will be selecting a deserving student for the annual Bear Hof Memorial Scholarship. A 2024 on-line application is available on <https://postbythelake.org/about-post-91/scholarships/>. From PostByTheLake.org, select About Us, then click on Scholarships. The application deadline is April 12, 2024.



The 13th District SAL Spring Conference is Sunday, April 14, 2024, at Post 610 in Brook Park. Doors open at 10am for refreshments and the meeting starts at 10:30am.

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

SAL Super Bowl Party, 2024

Bulletin Board

April

4: ALR Meeting, 7pm
6: AUX Spaghetti Dinner, 5-7pm
DJ Jerome, 7pm
8: Total Solar Eclipse Party, 1-5pm
AUX Meeting, 7:30pm
10: SAL Meeting, 7:30pm
11: Blue Caps Meeting, 7pm
13: Work Party, 8:30am
15: Purple Up Day Group Photo
22: AUX Meeting, 7pm
25: E-Board Meeting, 7pm
27: Blessing of the Bikes, 10am
28: AUX Garage Sale Drop Offs

May

2: AUX Garage Sale
ALR Meeting, 7pm
4: DJ Jerome, 7pm
8: SAL Meeting, 7:30pm
9: Blue Caps Meeting, 7pm
11: Work Party, 8:30am
13: AUX Meeting, 7:30pm
18: Armed Forces Day
23: E-Board Meeting, 7pm
24: National Poppy Day
25: Grave Decorating, 11am
27: Memorial Day
AUX Meeting, 7pm



TAPS

Daniel Castle
Ernest Cummings
John Grech
Mary Ann Teklinsky
Thomas J. Washtock



*Memorial Day and Poppy information
on pages 10 and 11*