

# By The *Post Lake*



*September / October 2025*





Albert E Baesel  
American Legion Post 91

91 American Legion Parkway  
Berea, Ohio 44017  
440-234-0091  
admin@postbythelake.org

### Canteen Hours

Monday-Friday 12-12 pm  
Saturday 12-1  
Sunday 12-8 pm

### Kitchen Hours

Tuesday-Friday 12-2 pm  
Monday, Thursday, Friday 6-8 pm  
(Third Thursday 7-9pm)  
Tuesday, Wednesday 5-7 pm

### Hall Rentals

For hall rentals, contact  
Wally Fadrowski: 757-642-2895  
walterfadrowski3@gmail.com

### Celebrations of Life / Sunshine Fund

\*Post 91 provides hall and food at no  
cost for members & immediate  
family members for celebrations of life  
Contact Marilla Baher  
(216) 299-7744

Commander  
James Lockyer  
Editor/Designer  
Victoria Schaft

# Commander's Corner



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Greetings Legion Family Members,

WOW. It's already time for the September and October newsletter. Where did the summer go? I hope everyone's summer was safe and enjoyable. I'm looking forward to the fall season. Please watch our bulletin boards for any activities and weekly specials.

The 9-11 ceremony will be held at the Berea Triangle at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 11, 2025. Please join us if you are free. Then on Friday, September 19, we will hold our annual POW/MIA ceremony in the pavilion at 7 p.m. We have a work party the second Saturday of each month. Extra and even younger bodies would be highly appreciated.

Veterans, this is your Post. Your voice counts as well as your vote. General membership meetings are the second Thursday of the month. Please join us; we value your opinion.

Please be safe. We're always looking to hear from our members.

*James Lockyer*



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ByThe  
**Post Lake**

www.postbythelake.org



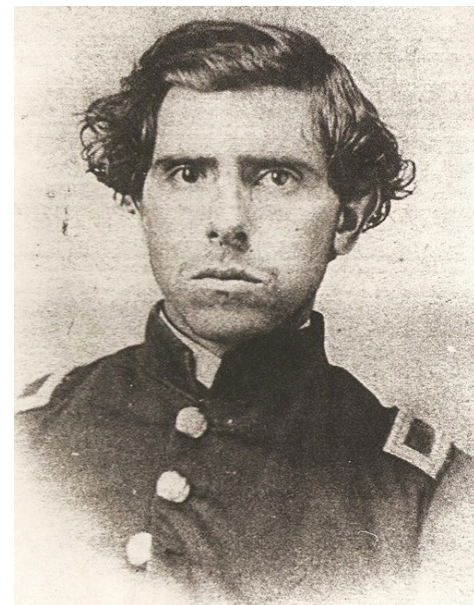
## *Dog of War - Dog of Peace - Veteran*

*--by Jon Silvis*

In July of 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued a call for an additional 300,000 volunteers. Ohio answered the President's call and surpassed the quota for volunteers.

In August of 1862, the newly formed 104th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (OVI) was beginning to muster at Camp Massillon, Ohio in Stark County. The "camp" was so new that no tentage or supplies had been issued, and arriving recruits were put up in local hotels and private residences. The camp was nothing more than an open field among the rolling hills just west of the Tuscarawas River (now the site of Oak Knoll Park in Massillon).

The members of the regiment spent their first weeks organizing, building the camp and learning the skills of a soldier. Drill, drill and more drill. On August 29, the Regiment was finally mustered into Federal Service numbering 1,017 men, mostly from Columbiana, Stark, Portage and Summit Counties.



One soldier was 25-year-old Daniel M. Stearns, who had previously attended the Baldwin Institute, but was working as a machinist for the P & C Railroad in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Daniel was a member of the prominent Berea Stearns family (the 6th of 7 children), whose father had formed the Daniel M. Stearns Company, named after Daniels oldest brother. This quarry operation was established in 1857 in Berea, while the actual offices were located in Cleveland, Ohio. (The office building still stands at the corner of French and Merwin Ave. in the Irishtown Bend area of the flats.)

After the shelling on Ft. Sumpter, Daniel immediately enlisted on April, 24, 1861, in the Pennsylvania Volunteer Reserve Corps (PVRC), where he was made 1st Sgt, 8th PVRC 37th Regt. Co. B. He was later promoted to 2nd Lt. in October of 1861, and served in the Washington DC area and Virginia. On May, 19, 1862, he resigned his commission in the 37th Regt. PVRC and returned to his family in Berea, Ohio.

After a short time, Daniel entered the service for the second time. On August, 9, 1862, Daniel enlisted for three years as 1st Sgt. of D Company 104th OVI. It was there at Camp Massillon that another volunteer entered the regiment, "Harvey," an American Pit Bull. Harvey was one of several dogs that followed the regiment into battle, but none were as beloved as Harvey. He was reportedly wounded at least three times in battles in Virginia, Resaca, GA and Franklin, TN. It was also rumored he had been captured by confederate forces and was traded in a prisoner exchange. He moved freely about the camp, bringing comfort to the men. Harvey became the mascot of the regiment, so much so, that the 104th OVI came to be known as the "Barking Dog Regiment."



*Continued on Page 12*





Hello Everyone,

Well, here it is—that time of year. It's time to pay your dues. Please mail them or stop by the Post to pay. We only had about 150 members pay to date. It really helps to pay early. You can also become a paid-up-for-life member. If you have any questions about that, see me or Mel, and we will help you out.

Thank You,

*Big Ed*

## 2nd Vice, Keith Mattison

Well, as I write this, it is almost the end of August. That means fall is not too far behind. I hope everybody's had a great summer and enjoyed the holidays.

We have a lot of upcoming events planned for the next couple months, starting with the fall festival on Sunday, September 21 from 12-4 p.m. Hot dogs, chili dogs and chips will be provided by the Post. There will be other activities included on this day. Also, mark your calendars for the annual clam bake, which is October 11. Prices are the same as last year. Serving times will be from 5-7 p.m. See our wonderful bartenders to purchase your tickets. Also remember, every Friday through the end of September, we'll be serving our delicious baby back ribs with two sides from 6-8 p.m. Stop down and enjoy.

Our annual Riddy Run was a complete success again, and all proceeds went towards scholarships for kids going to college. The James Masie Golf Tournament was also a complete success. The weather was beautiful. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the volunteers that helped back at the Post: Marianna, Angel, Stan, Darin and John Weaver. They all helped to make the steak dinner a delicious. I would like to thank them all again.

Always remember, the Post runs by all the help of volunteers to make everything happen. We are always looking for new volunteers to give us a hand.

As we get ready for fall, the turning of the leaves, the start of a nip in the air—it will soon be turning into the holidays again. I hope everybody had a wonderful, safe and memorable summer.

Always remember to thank a Veteran for their service. God bless you all.

*Keith*

*To the Colors!  
The Travel! The Excitement!  
The Pay! --just kidding*

**Your Post 91 Color Guard Needs  
YOU!**

**We are always looking for  
volunteers, Legionnaires and SALs.  
Represent your Post in local  
ceremonies and events. Uniforms  
are provided. Short monthly drills.**

For more information contact,  
Jon Silvis 440-823-1066 OR Bob Roginsky 440-582-5856







## Finance Officer, Mel Baher

## Donations (April-July, 2025)

Apr 4, 2025	Rescue Technology -	\$1,782.26	May 9, 2025	Akron Bikers for Boobs -	\$250.00
Apr 10, 2025	Berea Community	\$25,000.00	May 23, 2025	Second Mile Outreach -	\$2,500.00
Apr 10, 2025	Wags for Kids	\$5,000.00	May 25, 2025	Dept. of Ohio - convention ad	\$200.00
Apr 10, 2025	Berea Animal Rescue Fund	\$5,000.00	Jun 14, 2025	Berea High School Alumni	\$100.00
Apr 10, 2025	Troop 228G	\$3,000.00	Jun 14, 2025	Wounded Warrior Project	\$150.00
Apr 21, 2025	Scuba.com Berea Police	\$1,998.80	Jun 14, 2025	Berea Arts Fest - donation	\$250.00
Apr 21, 2025	Berea Fire Dept.	\$416.53	Jun 14, 2025	National World War Museum -	\$100.00
Apr 25, 2025	Berea Fire Dept.	\$454.15	Jun 14, 2025	National Multiple	\$150.00
Apr 25, 2025	City of Berea - Fields crew	\$1,500.00	Jun 16, 2025	Morley - Wood Memorial -	\$100.00
Apr 25, 2025	City of Berea - Live @ the lake	\$2,500.00	Jul 15, 2025	American Cancer Society -	\$100.00
Apr 25, 2025	City of Berea - Community	\$1,000.00	Jul 15, 2025	Susan G. Komen -	\$100.00
Apr 25, 2025	Camp Corral - donation	\$500.00	Jul 15, 2025	National World War II Museum	\$250.00
Apr 25, 2025	Audrey's Outreach -	\$500.00	Jul 15, 2025	Coast Guard Foundation -	\$200.00
May 9, 2025	VFW 3345 - Auxiliary -	\$100.00	Jul 15, 2025	Jason Malone Scholarship	\$150.00
May 9, 2025	D-Day Ohio Inc - donation	\$250.00	Jul 15, 2025	Paralyzed Veterans of	\$100.00
			Jul 15, 2025	SchnitzAle Brewery - outing	\$150.00

		SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED	
Jun 24, 2025	Michael Masie	Albert E. Baesel Scholarship	\$1,000.00
Jun 24, 2025	Gavin Berger	Thomas Marks Scholarship	\$1,000.00
Jun 24, 2025	Emma Lautzenheiser	James C. Masie Scholarship	\$1,000.00
Jun 24, 2025	Tyeson Carter	Virginia R. Offenberg	\$1,000.00
Jun 24, 2025	Arlen Jennings	Don & Barb Vaji GFY Scholarship	\$1,000.00



Mel

By The  
Post Lake

[www.postbythelake.org](http://www.postbythelake.org)





**Work Parties**

Every 2nd Saturday  
Breakfast and Eggs a'la Leopold at 8 a.m.

Work Duties Vary Month to Month,  
Please Come Lend a Hand

The poster features a central illustration of a smiling bacon strip and a sunny-side-up egg. Surrounding this are various tools: a hammer, a wrench, a screwdriver, a paint roller, and several screws. The entire design is enclosed in a hand-drawn rectangular frame with decorative corner loops.



*Post 91*  
**Clam Bake**

Chicken and Clams \$35

Extra Clams \$10

Steak and Clams \$40

**October 11, 5-7 p.m.**

Purchase Your Tickets in the Canteen

The poster has a black and white speckled border. It features illustrations of two clam shells on plates, a chicken drumstick, and a steak with a grill pattern. The text is arranged in a central layout with prices and the event date clearly visible.



Hello Happy People!

It's that time again. Pumpkin roll season is here! Please look for order slips to be sure you get yours. You will find the box in the usual place on the counter near the kitchen. We are always looking for helpers to make our pumpkin rolls, so if you have a day or part of a day that you can help, please let Nancy Doult know. We can use helpers between 7 a.m. and 2 p.m. on the following days: September 13, October 11 and November 1. We use the kitchen at Divinity Lutheran Church in Parma. Thank you and have a blessed fall!

*Nina*

Hi,

Here's to sweaters, crisp air and pumpkin spice.

Thank you for supporting our raffle basket. During the month of June, we raised \$765 to donate to Maryssa's Mission Foundation. We also donated baskets to the Riders and the Masie Golf Outing. Whenever the community needs help, we try to offer assistance. We can only do this because of you, and together we can make a meaningful difference.

*Linda*

## **Membership and Community Service Chairman, Nancy Doult**

### **Membership Update**

Congratulations to our Unit for exceeding our 2025 goal of 407 members! We have not yet received our official 2026 goal, but it will be at least 410, and we will need your help to achieve that. You are our best representatives in promoting our membership and all our programs. As of August 14, we have processed 18 senior members' dues. Please help us keep our membership roster up-to-date by letting me know if you've changed addresses or phone numbers. First dues reminder from National will be sent to you in September, but you do not need your notice to pay your dues. Senior dues (ages 18 and over) are \$40, and juniors (age birth to 17) are \$6. Juniors do not receive notices, so please pay your junior's dues when you pay yours. Thank you.

### *Welcome New Members*

Margaret Ashdown  
Megan Gupko

### **Habitat for Humanity**

If anyone is interested in volunteering for Habitat for Humanity in Cleveland on Thursday, September 18, or Saturday, November 8, please contact Nancy Doult at (440) 552-4713 to receive a link to sign up. Exact assignments are not known until a couple of days before the event, but work may include demolition/ripping things out, painting, building, yard clean-up, etc. No experience necessary.

### **Upcoming Projects**

November: Americanism & Government Test / Grading tests

December: Giving Tree





Auxiliary District and Department Convention Summary

Thanks to all the dedicated work done by our members, Unit 91 received the following awards at our 2025 District and Department conventions.

**District 13 Awards** (We are Unit 91, part of the 13th District, which includes 13 Units in Cuyahoga County.)

- We received 1st place certificates for our membership group for all five major programs, which includes: Americanism, Children & Youth, Community Service, Junior Activities, and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R).

**Department of Ohio Awards** (Department of Ohio is the State of Ohio, which includes 400+ Units in the state of Ohio.)

Unit 91 received the following certificates and awards:

- Department President’s Citation of Merit – Issued to Units who made goal AND submitted all the mandatory reports. Only 3 Units in District 13 achieved this distinction.
- Buckeye Girls State – Department District Certificate of Achievement – Stacey Lehmann
- Chaplain – Department certificate for 1st place for group 5 membership
- Children & Youth – 1st place in our membership group
- Community Service – 2nd place Department District Certificate
- Education – Nurses Scholarship Donation Certificate
- Legislative – Certificate of Achievement
- Membership – Goal Ribbons for both Senior and Junior membership
- National Security – Department District 1st place Certificate of Achievement for group 5
- Public Relations Certificate of Achievement
- Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation – Sue Friedrich plaque for most outstanding VA&R program narrative; Blanche Klein award – 2nd place certificate; Marie Moore Fund plaque (equivalent to Gifts for the Yanks)

Our narrative reports are based on all of the activities our members do throughout the year for all of our programs, and submit their information to Stacey and Nancy. Thank YOU for all you do, and all you report!

Nancy



Independence Day Celebration, 2025





## ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL?!



This fall, we will again be hosting our Browns Tailgate (vs. the Baltimore Ravens) on Sunday, September 14 at 1 p.m. It will be in the pavilion at Post 91, but will be moved into the hall if we have inclement weather. Admission is \$10 for all you can eat and drink. There will also be several raffles, including a 50/50, lotto tree and a Browns basket. It's going to be a great time. Look for flyers inside the Post, on the SAL wall, event screen in the canteen, and/or the SAL Facebook page. I hope to see you there!

Our OSU vs. Michigan Tailgate Party will be in the canteen on November 29 at 12 p.m. Keep an eye out for those flyers in the canteen and on our Facebook page.

On August 9, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the James C. Masie Annual Golf Outing. A great time was had by all. A special thanks to Jim Matej and his wife, Judy, for making a raffle basket for the event.

We are living in a strange time, full of many mixed thoughts, feelings, difficulties and uncertainties. I believe these quotes speak volumes about how we should be thinking about our country and each other. I hope you like them as much as I do.

“This country will not be a good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a reasonably good place for all of us to live in.”

—Theodore Roosevelt

“Spring is beautiful, and summer is perfect for vacations, but autumn brings a longing to get away from the unreal things of life, out into the forest at night with a campfire and the rustling leaves.”

— Margaret Elizabeth Sangster

Please visit the Sons of American Legion Squadron 91 Facebook page for updates on future events and activities. As always, please consider joining us for one of our monthly meetings. They are held every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the upstairs hall. If you have any inquiries about our organization and/or membership, questions, comments or concerns, please contact an officer. Feel free to send us a message on Facebook or email [Salpost91@gmail.com](mailto:Salpost91@gmail.com).

*Sean*





# Membership Chairman, Jim Matej

## Membership Report for Fall, 2025

It's renewal time for Squadron 91's 2026 membership year. Annual dues stay steady for another year at \$30. We just ended our 2025 year on June 30, and it's time to start the 2026 year. We fell a little short of our state quota of 380 new and renewed members by only 17, ending the year with 363 folks on the books. Even with the slide in membership, we continue to be the largest and best Squadron in the 13th District and the third largest in the State of Ohio.

This year's State quota is 377 for new and renewed memberships, and we are off to a fast start. As of this writing, we have already recorded 64 on file, which includes three new members. Your membership is the life-blood of our organization, and your \$30 membership dues contribute to the overall programs of the Sons of American Legion at all levels: National, State, District and Post. Your dues go a long way to keep our organization growing. Remember, each of you are important to us and your promptness in forwarding your dues is greatly appreciated. The biggest impact of renewing your membership in the Sons of American Legion is what we do on a local level within our community. Your Squadron funds help support multiple organizations in Berea and the surrounding area. Over this past year, we have helped fund several youth baseball and football teams, the Auxiliary 91 Christmas Giving Tree, Wreaths Across America, The "Bear" Hof Scholarship, City of Berea, Berea Schools, the Veterans Day dinner, Veterans at the Wade Park VA Hospital, and The James C. Masie Scholarship Golf Outing, just to name a few. If you are reading this, please take time to renew now so we can continue supporting our Veterans and the Berea community.

There are several ways you can renew: mail your dues to Sons of American Legion Squadron 91 (91 American Legion Parkway, Berea Ohio 44017), pay your dues directly in the Post 91 canteen, or you can pay online at mylegion.org. If you have moved or have not received a renewal notice, please drop us a note so we can correct it.

As always, our meetings are on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Post hall. They only last about an hour. Come see what we have planned for our members of the Post 91 family. We can always use your input and help. If you have a question about membership, drop us a note or send us an email at salpost91@gmail.com. You can learn more about the Sons of American Legion programs and the benefits of membership at www.mylegion.org. You can also create your Legion account, update your profile information, pay your yearly renewal dues and print your membership card.

For God and Country,

Jim

ALR Presents  
91 American Legion Pkwy

Cigar and Bourbon  
Night

September 27th



Smoke 'Em If You Got 'Em  
A CIGAR EXPERIENCE

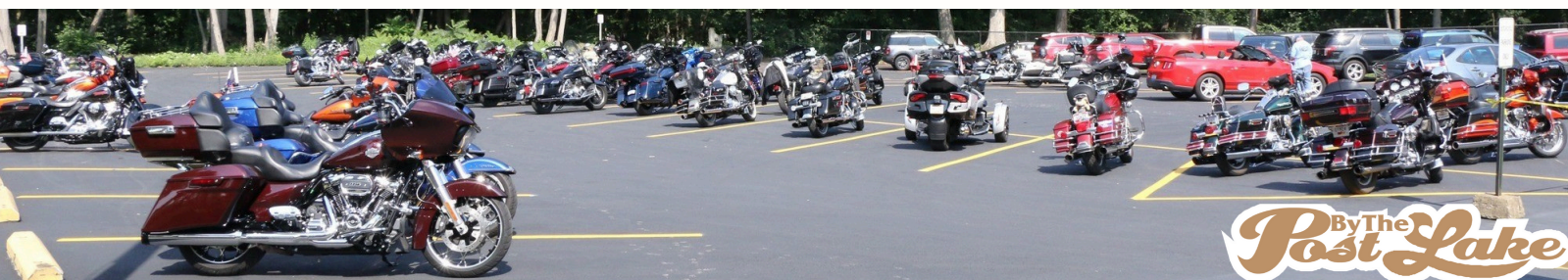
\$45  
Food, 2 Cigars  
Flight of Whiskey

American Legion  
Post91 Berea Ohio  
Starts @ 6:00p

Made with PosterMyWall.com



# Brian Riddle Memorial Fund POKER RUN







Daniel had a special collar made for Harvey. It read, "I am Lieutenant D.M. Stearns Dog, whose dog are you?" Along with the nameplate are several other nameplates citing the battles Harvey served and participated in. (Harvey's original collar is on display at the Battle of Franklin Museum in Franklin, TN.)

Both Daniel Stearns and Harvey survived the war, and they participated in the reunions of the 104th for many years. A special portrait of Harvey was painted in 1885 and taken to reunions of the regiment where it was proudly displayed. Harvey was said to be the "longest serving member of the Regiment."



**Harvey Painting at Regimental Reunion**

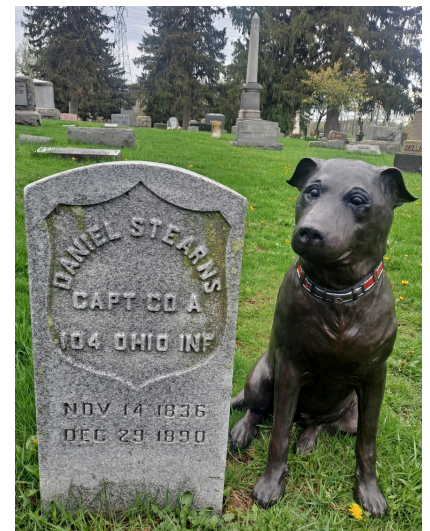
Daniel returned to Berea, Ohio, and was employed as a salesman in the family business. At age 33, he married Julia Ann Ackley in 1869 and eventually had three children. Daniel was said to have had a hard time adjusting to civilian life. Affidavits in his pension file in the national archives, mentions he preferred the company of his loyal dog, Harvey. Daniel was probably suffering from what we today call PTSD or "Seeing the Elephant," as it was called in his day.

It is not known when Harvey passed away, but we know Daniel was eventually admitted to the Northern Ohio Insane Asylum in 1888 by his wife and living brothers. His wife, Julia, removed him from the asylum shortly before his death at age 54 on December, 29, 1890. He died of war injuries and Brights disease in a boarding house of Mr. & Mrs. Richardson in Brooklyn Village. (Daniel is buried in Woodvale Cemetery in Middleburgh Hts., Ohio, (on the hill, Sect. 12, Lot. 1, Grave 1), just a short distance from the grave of Albert Baesel.)

On May 10, 2025, The Cuyahoga County Soldiers and Sailors Monument dedicated a statue of Harvey. It's located just off the corner of the monument, which is a dog park and pet relief station. This occurred in conjunction with their 3rd annual mental health fair. The statue was cast and dedicated with the assistance of the Parker Hannifin Veterans Resource Center and the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission.

Daniel M. Stearns is listed on Panel #15 inside the Cuyahoga County Soldiers and Sailors Monument. He is also listed in the Allegheny County Soldiers Memorial Hall in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

On April 25th, 2025, Monument executive Director, Greg Palumbo, and County Monument Commissioner, Jon Silvis, dognapped Harvey prior to him being installed on Public Square, and took him to see the grave of Capt. Stearns and a trip to Oak knoll Park (formerly camp Massillon).



# Bulletin Board

## September

- 4: ALR Meeting, 7pm
- 5: Post 91 Birthday
- 6: DJ Jerome, 7pm
- 8: AUX Meeting, 7:30pm
- 10: SAL Meeting, 7:30pm
- 11: 9-11 Ceremony  
(at Berea Triangle), 9am  
Blue Caps Meeting, 7pm
- 13: Work Party, 8:30am
- 14: SAL Tailgate Meeting, 1pm
- 19: POW/MIA Ceremony, 7pm
- 21: Fall Festival, 12-4pm
- 22: AUX Meeting, 7pm
- 25: E-Board Meeting, 7pm
- 27: ALR Cigar & Bourbon Night, 6pm

## October

- 2: ALR Meeting, 7pm
- 4: DJ Jerome, 7pm
- 8: SAL Meeting, 7:30pm
- 9: Blue Caps Meeting, 7pm
- 11: Work Party, 8:30am  
Clam Bake, 5-7pm
- 13: AUX Meeting, 7:30pm
- 23: E-Board Meeting, 7pm
- 27: AUX Board Meeting, 7:30pm



### TAPS

**John Viscomi**  
**Julius N. (Billy) Nichols Jr.**

*NOT A MEMBER?*  
*Ask an Officer or Bartender*  
*how You can Join*  
*Our American Legion Family*



To share your patriotic stories, messages, photos and artwork, contact Victoria at [vschaft@outlook.com](mailto:vschaft@outlook.com) and type "Post 91" into the subject line.