

SeaBreeze

NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291 OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



Legionnaires,

As Commander, I would like to invite you to come and visit the Post with your friends.

A number of changes have been accomplished in the past few months which you should see.

We have a new look in the Great Hall with an open ceiling, new lighting, air conditioning (and heating) for the first time and new kitchen equipment.

We have an expanded menu and we still have the best drinks in Newport Beach.

Evin Planto
Commander Post 291

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 6 AUXILIARY 291
Summer Kick-Off Luau Party

May 7 AL YACHT CLUB
Opening Day

May 10 AL POST 291
Election Day

May 14 AL POST 291
Mother's Day

May 22 AUXILIARY 291
Troop Shipping

May 27 SAL SQUADRON 291
Fairway of Honor

May 29 AL POST 291
Memorial Day

June 14 SAL SQUADRON 291
Flag Day

June 18 AL POST 291
Father's Day

July 4 AL POST 291
Independence Day

SEABREEZE

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AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291

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Newport Harbor Post 291 The American Legion Family



AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS

Commander	Evin Planto
1st Vice Commander	Brian Fleming Jr.
2nd Vice Commander	Ray Ricard
3rd Vice Commander	Cindy Baker
Jr. Past Commander	Jon Reynolds
Finance Officer	Hal McNaughton
Sgt. at Arms	"Skipper Tim" Bercovitz
Chaplain	Brad McDermott
Historian	Johnny Arganda
Adjutant	Dave Ortolf
Judge Advocate	Diane Torrianni
Service Officer	Cory Virgil

MEMBERS AT LARGE

David Zamudio Eric Schroeder Mike Schubert
Nick Giordano Dennis De Rosia Kevin Van Otterloo

American Legion Post 291 Meetings

General Membership Meeting 2nd Wednesday at 5:30pm
E-Board Meeting 1st Thursday at 6:00pm



AUXILIARY UNIT 291 OFFICERS

President	Cindy Edes
1st Vice President	Mary Beth Martin
2nd Vice President	Dana Johnston
Secretary	Heidi Maturino
Treasurer	Janis Oakes
Chaplain	Sharon Morgan
Historian	Sue Lindsey
Auxiliary Emergency Fund	Jan Woolford
Sergeant At Arms	Jan Simmons
Executive Committee	Cynthia Culp
Executive Committee	Lily Romanow
Executive Committee	Kim Philhart
Executive Committee Poppy	Bobby Renaghan
Jr Past President	Debbie Schubert
Parliamentarian	Peggy Bengry

Auxiliary Unit 291 Meetings

General Membership Meeting 3rd Wednesday at 6:00pm
E-Board Meeting 2nd Thursday at 6:00pm



SAL SQUADRON 291 OFFICERS

Commander	Tim Sullivan
1st Vice Commander	Jeff Gottfredson
2nd Vice Commander	Art Jimenez
3rd Vice Commander	John Long
Adjutant	Don Allen
Finance Officer	Todd Clucas
Chaplain	Randy MacDougall
Judge Advocate & Historian	Rene Alvarez
Sgt. at Arms	Brad Semonell

SAL Squadron 291 Meetings

General Membership Meeting 1st Wednesday at 6:00pm
E-Board Meeting 1st Wednesday at 6:00pm



AMERICAN LEGION YACHT CLUB OFFICERS

Commodore	Stephen Alfano
Vice Commodore	David Campagnari
Rear Commodore	George Shinrock
Fleet Captain	John Donahue
Port Captain	Ben Scanlan
Jr. Staff Commodore	Tommy Wheeler

DIRECTORS

Richard Savage Donald Swords Manju Vig
Jim O'Connor George R. Kuper Brent Evans

American Legion Yacht Club Meetings

General Membership Meeting Every other Month 2nd Thursday at 5:30pm
Bridge Meeting 4th Thursday at 6:00pm



Message from the Commander

Evin Planto

I would like to welcome everyone back to the post.

*Your Post has survived the pandemic and it is ready to serve you. We have made quite a few changes. There are some new events that you will find in the **This Week at the Post** email. There are specials in the bar including drinks and wine and the kitchen keeps coming up with new menu items. Come on by for a meal or a drink and look at the changes we have made.*

The Post has needed upgrades but I knew it when it was pointed out to me that Tracey's and my desk was a door on its side held up by three filing cabinets. We remodeled the office with new furniture, flooring, and paint. What a difference it made..

The Post Great Hall has been upgraded with air conditioning (and heating) that allows us to rent to our members and the community during the hot summer months. The new ceiling with exposed beams gives the legion hall a more modern and far more attractive appearance.

Lastly, our kitchen has been upgraded with new equipment and we now have improved our cooking capacity by more than 30%. Equally important, the new hood and fire suppression equipment have been installed and this kitchen will not burn the building down. We added 18 hours a week to the kitchen schedule so we now serve from our menu seven days a week to 7 or 8 pm.

These projects were all completed in January and February by our team with me as the project manager. There was some resistance from

the E-Board over various decisions that had to be made quickly but we worked with our contractors to complete the project successfully.

The post had a record year in 2022 with over \$4,100,000 in revenue and a small profit. Our future looks bright!

Fortunately, previous Commanders managed to put aside some funds for the future. Without their efforts, the current projects would not have been possible. We need to thank Doug Nye and Jon Reynolds.



The last four months have been very busy!

The City's seawall project started out with a bang. Phase one went as smoothly as could be expected with little to no impact on our business. Phase two has not been smooth at all. Phase two work was to begin on January 9th. So, we moved boats to Marina Park in preparation for the work to begin. By early March the work had not started. The contractor had run into several problems, but we expect work to begin soon and to be completed by mid-May.

In my effort to improve the membership experience, I was finally successful in getting the Executive Committee to support the membership desires for a remodeled hall, air conditioning and heat for the entire building, and increasing our kitchen capacity with new equipment to meet our expected business growth in 2023. Accomplishing all these projects in the month of January was quite an endeavor. The final city inspections were passed in the first week of February and the HVAC became operational in February. The Hall is usable, but we are still working on acoustics and a new audio-visual system. If you have not been to the post this year you should come down and see the improvements. I know you will be pleasantly surprised.

We held the Superbowl Party hosted by the Crisp Family Foundation in the remodeled Hall with 250 marines from Camp Pendleton (check out the video on our website.) We also held our Grand Reopening on February 18th with a full house and the Vietnam Welcome Home party March 25 was a great success. Please check out our website to keep up with all the events at the post.

This year my focus will be to work with the City to address ADA issues, the renewal of our lease in 2027 and projects for new upgraded bathrooms and kitchen expansion. In addition, we plan on replacing the Marina bathroom facilities.

Lastly, I cannot forget our preparation for the **Post's Centennial** in 2024 celebrating 100 years in Newport Beach. As I learn more from the city and our plans for the Centennial Celebration, I will get the updates out to the membership.



Our new remodeled kitchen



Letter from the Auxiliary Unit 291

Cindy Edes, President



There is an old proverb that says,

“March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.” It was been a crazy month of weather.



As the clouds clear and the sky turns blue again, we regain our momentum and optimism to continue serving our military, veterans and their families.

In March, the winners of our annual raffle were presented with their checks. We gave away \$1,000, \$2,000, \$3,000, \$4,000 and \$5,000 dollars. Four of the five winners were Legion members. Congratulations and thank you for supporting our Auxiliary!!!!

Our poppy mailings were sent out to the Legion families. The poppy is a very important symbol to the Auxiliary. In the spring of 1919, with the complete devastation on the battlefields of France, the poppy bloomed in abundance where so many of our men died in battle. In 1920, the Auxiliary adopted the poppy as its memorial flower. The red crepe poppies you receive in the mail are hand made by veterans and 100% of the donations go to our Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation program. So please be generous in your giving and please fill out the remembrance cards with the name of your loved one who served so honorably. The cards will be on displayed on the mirrors inside the bar area. May 26th is National Poppy Day so don't forget to proudly display your poppy.

The month of April is the “Month of the Military Child,” #MOMC and April 15th is “Purple up Day,” a day when purple is worn in support of the children of our military. Our Children and Youth Chairman Bea Foster will be busy all month with events planned for our children.

On April 17th, our Community Service Chairman Sharon Morgan and her helpers will be stuffing “Bags of Love”

which are quart size bags of small personal hygiene items for the homeless. It also has a VA hotline number.

At our general membership meeting in April, we will have open nominations for our 2023-2024 Executive Board. Any member in good standing may run for any office. You may contact any board member if your are interested. In May, the general membership will vote to elect a new board. We will also be presenting our 16 Girls State Delegates who we sponsor to attend a one week leadership course in Sacramento.

Two major events occur in May. May 6th will be our summer kick off “Luau Party.” The committee is working out the details as we speak; keep you eyes out for a flyer coming soon. And last but not least, Troop Shipping on May 20th. We have the items we need on fliers around the Post and of course we accept cash donations. Each box cost \$24 to ship overseas. We typically ship well over 150 boxes at each Troop Shipping event.

I have served as this Unit's president for three years and it is time to pass the gavel to the next president. Even with the challenges of Covid, the shutting down of the Post and lack of access to the VA hospital, our Unit manages to do incredible things. I am so very proud to have served in this capacity and so very proud of everyone I have had the pleasure to work with.

Yours in service,

Cynthia Edes
President

The American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program began in 1921. During “Poppy Days” each May, millions of red crepe paper poppies -handmade by veterans- are distributed across the country in exchange for donations that go directly to assist disabled and hospitalized veterans in our communities.

Please support this year's Poppy Auxiliary Unit 291 campaign!



The Sons of The American Legion Squadron 291

Timothy Sullivan, Commander



Greetings from the largest Sons of the American Legion Squadron in the world. It is a great thing to be able to contribute once again to the Seabreeze.



We always say that biggest isn't good enough, let's be BEST! Second best is always easier than best. We work hard and are always seeking to be BEST! Be proud Sons291, we do great things. I guess the main question for you is have you been a part of it? It's not too late. Jump right in! Best isn't always comfortable, but it's always worth it!

We set our sights on the goal of giving away \$100,000 a year. Between our giving and our community events we created, Flag Day and Patriot Day 9/11 Memorial, we've done just that every year, but in 2022 we were able to not include the holidays and the total was still over \$100,000 in giving. I'm so proud of our executive team, all of the volunteers, and our team of friends who volunteer at every event and aren't even members. You've become our family and we are so grateful for you.

With the choice to become BEST, there is often adversity and we have had our share. We've lost a Chaplain and a friend in Jeff White. Our 2nd Vice Commander was in the hospital for 18 months and as soon as he could, he got in there from his hospital bed and planned some of our greatest events. Why? Because that is how a person of excellence handles things. Art Jimenez is a true "overcomer" and we've benefited so much from his kindness, determination, creativity, and network of people. He is a great part of our success. John Long, who selects the charities that we fund,

is another great achiever who has put in hours to make sure that we are giving to causes that need our help and will benefit greatly in what they do for our Veterans. John started a \$1000 stipend in the name of Walt Wagner for Veterans in college. The program now gives 10 \$1000 stipends for 10 Veterans. Every member of our Board has stepped up, assisted others, stayed away from "no" and helped us find the "how". Don Allen, Todd Clucas, Rene Alvarez, Super Sarge Brad Seminole, Jeff Gottfredson, and our Chaplain's replacement, Randy McDougall, have all been integral parts of all of our successes! THANK YOU!

What did we do last year?

We connected with a great couple of guys with a dream called the Veterans Relief Foundation and we helped fund paddleboards to get paralyzed Veterans out on the water. We had two members participate in the Mt. Baldy Hike for Heroes, which gets amputees and otherwise injured Veterans out on a hike in the mountains. It's a tough hike! Another outstanding event! We give to charities that help "down on their luck" Veterans. They help them get apartments, furniture for apartments, even pets. We raised a record amount at the Christmas Boat Parade and reinvented our annual golf tournament to be more focused on the Memorial Day weekend and in honoring those we've lost in combat.

**SONS 291
SATURDAY
MAY 27**



**FAIRWAYS
OF HONOR**
MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
SONS 291



SCAN TO REGISTER

We're always growing. Always adapting. Always getting better! Striving for BEST! Benny Hallock, Mike Manclark, and Steve Murow are a force to be reckoned with and our golf tournament is going to be crazy and raise more money than ever for our charities. Thank you, gentlemen for all that you are doing this year! Thank you to those who have recently given us extremely generous donations for believing in what we do!

We give back to our Post by repairing things, replacing things, and in the form of Concierge/Parking duty. We save the Post at least \$150,000 so far this year by the simple act of volunteering a few hours at the gate. It doesn't get easier than that. We have guys that have done this every week now since it began.

They are the guys in the Navy Blue shirts that say SAL on the back in yellow. They earned those shirts and truthfully way more than we could ever repay them.

THANK YOU SOOOOO MUCH! KEEP IT UP! NOW... WHAT ABOUT YOU? CAN YOU JOIN THEM?

The theme is SONS291 striving to be BEST. Everyone has a unique situation. Everyone works or has a family or other obligations. Not everyone can volunteer nor has money to give. All that I ask is that each of us be honest with ourselves and give our BEST! Whatever that is for you, make that commitment in honor of your Fathers, Grandfathers, or any other relative that gave their BEST and some who made the ultimate sacrifice with their lives VETERANS FIRST!

Celebrate with The Sons 291 of The American Legion! **Flag Day - June 14th | Patriot Day - 9/11 Memorial**





AMERICAN
LEGION

POST 291

Join us on Tuesday
4th of July for

Independence Day

Pancake Breakfast

7:00am - 11:00am

Open to Public

Barbeque

Noon - 5:00pm

Live Music

1:00 - 5:00pm

Old Glory Boat Parade

1:00 pm - 3:30pm ALYC

Passing by the Post at about 1:20

MAY

National Military Appreciation Month

A month to recognize
and show appreciation
to the Armed Forces of
the United States of America.



*Don't forget the
VEAF
Memorial Day
Campaign*



ELECTIONS

NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291

**Election of Officers & Executive Committee
for Command Year 2023 - 2024
will be held Wednesday, May 10th, 2023**

VOTING PLACE Newport Harbor Post 291

Members must present a current Membership card at the Post polling place to receive a ballot.

Polls will be open and Post members may vote any time during the five-hour period 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm on the day of the election, Wednesday 10 May 2023.

Post members must be present to vote. Neither proxy voting nor absentee voting is permitted.

Ballots will be counted after the polls close at 7:00 pm Wednesday 10 May 2023.

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONIES

Monday, May 29th

At Pacific View Cemetery, 11:00 am ★ At Newport Harbor Post 291, 1:00 pm





Cory Vigil
American Legion Post 291
Service Officer
714.643.3854
OIF VETERAN

Service Officer Duties

Cory Vigil, Service Officer

If you are new to the Post, you might ask: ***What does the Service Officer do?*** My name is Cory Vigil and I have been a service officer for three years. Some of my most crucial work came during the pandemic. I am also active in the community as a social worker working with veteran & military connected families. Our mission at the American Legion is to help local veterans and I get most of the calls within the community.

Our Post is the largest American Legion Post in Southern California and because we are the largest, we get many calls from desperate veterans looking for assistance. The Service Officer takes those calls, qualifies the veteran, collects information on the application and provides help as needed. We try to never turn a veteran down. It may be as easy as a referral to another agency or help with a VA claim. It may require working with another agency and sharing costs. Even though there are over 100 veteran service providers in Orange County of all sizes, many have limited resources or restrictive grants that limit the help that they can provide. The Veteran Emergency Assistance Fund or VEAF offered by AL291 is flexible and

quickly available. The VEAF has become an important resource for solving problems and is administered by the Service Officer.

As an example, an ARMY veteran asked us to help him fix his very old car that he and his girlfriend were living in. Without the car, they might be forced onto the street. We were told that his car needed extensive work including the transmission. We asked him to take the car to another repair shop which we trust because it is owned by a veteran. We discovered that the car was not worth the money needed. We suggested selling the car for \$400 to a junkyard and applying that money towards a transportation car which we would help him buy. He ended up with a working car that still had a few good years ahead of it. In addition, we helped get him off the street and into an apartment using the VA VASH program. He was very appreciative of the coaching and the financial support to help him become more stable. Now he is actively looking for a job.

Respectfully,

Cory Vigil, Service Officer
OIF VETERAN



*Show your support!
Please donate to help other
veterans in our community.*

VEAF

VETERAN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND

**An American Legion Post 291 Program
to support veterans in need in Orange County.**

Please contact coryvigil61@gmail.com Tel: 714.643.3854



VETERANS RESOURCES

Fellow Veterans,
We have four local resources for our medical and related questions such as benefits, health issues and burial.

VA Hospital of Long Beach

Department of Veteran Affairs
Tel: 562.826.8000

Laguna Hills VA Clinic

23719 Moulton Parkway
Laguna Hills, CA 92653 - Tel:
949.587.3700

Anaheim VA Clinic

2569 W. Woodland Dr.
Anaheim, CA 92801 - Tel: 714.763.5300

Santa Ana VA Clinic

1506 Brookhollow Dr, Suite 100
Santa Ana, CA 92705 - Tel: 714.434.4600

Riverside National Cemetery

22495 Van Buren Blvd.
Riverside, CA 92518
Tel: 951.653.8417 · Fax: 951.653.5233

County Veteran Service Office

1300 South Grand Ave.
Santa Ana, CA 92705 - Tel: 714.480.6555

County Veterans & Military Families Collaborative OCVMFC

Coordinator Jeff Pagano
Email: paganoj@uci.edu
Tel: 949.824.2435

Brad McDermott, Chaplain

Email: chaplain@al291.com
Tel: 949.596.5085

Cory Vigil, Service Officer

Email: coryvigil61@gmail.com
Tel: 714.643.3854



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Held in the Main Hall every second
Wednesday of the month.

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Buffet Served at 6:00 pm - Cash Donation

Learn the latest news from your post!

www.al291.com/calendar



**2023
Membership Renewal
SCAN ME**

Restaurant Dining Hours

Monday 11:30 am – 8:00 pm

Tuesday Lunch 11:30 – 3:00 pm

Taco Tuesday 4:00 – 7:00 pm

Wednesday 11:30 am – 7:00 pm

Thursday 11:30 am – 8:00 pm

Friday & Saturday 11:30 am – 8:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am – 8:00 pm

Breakfast 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Lunch & Dinner 12:00 – 8:00 pm





Commodore's Update

Stephen Alfano, ALYC Commodore



ALYC Commodore's Update Spring 2023

2023 started off with a bang. We had our Commodore's Ball at Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club in January due to the construction at the Post. It was a great time with "M Street Band" providing the entertainment. Michael Darr was recognized as our yachtsman of the year and Larry Munroe was recognized for member of the year. We are grateful to all they did in the past year to help our club. We had many volunteers throughout 2022 and could not have hosted so many wonderful events without all our volunteers. Thank you!

We have continued our monthly socials usually held on the second Saturday of each month. In March George Kuper, Tommy Wheeler, and Mike Berdine put on a fantastic Sea Shanty Festival complete with singing, drinks, and laughs. Next month we will host a wine tasting aboard Valor during our cruise to Dana Point. No need for a boat, drive down and join in on the fun. We will be having dinner at Dana West Yacht Club following the wine tasting on Saturday April 1st. Cruises to and from Dana Point on Valor will be available as well as a Whale watching cruise. In early March we had a Whale watching cruise on Valor and are hosting a Veteran's cruise on March 18th. Check the calendar online and sign up for some events and come out and meet your fellow members.

We had our first General Membership meeting in the newly renovated hall on February 3rd. Lt Smith, the CO of the Coast Guard Cutter Narwhal, entertained us with stories of the activities in and out of the harbor. Our next GMM will be April 13th with details to come soon. The ALYC will once again be hosting the easter egg hunt on April 9th. Check the post event calendar for more information. In May, we are planning another Stand Up Paddleboard clinic as well as a Duffy Rally.

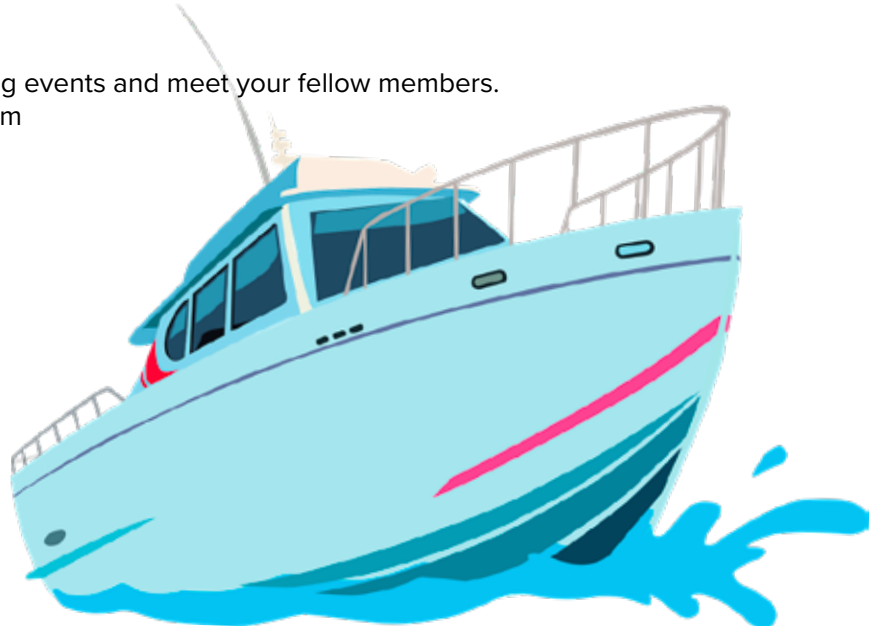
The Dive and Snorkel group has been active with some fascinating speakers and is going to Sau Bay, Fiji April 26. Check the calendar on the website for more information and join us at a Dive meeting the last Wednesday of each month. Wyatt Hoag has done an outstanding job setting up informative speakers and organizing fun activities. If you want to learn how to dive Wyatt can get you pointed in the right direction.

The summer sailboat racing season will be here in no time with Monday Sundowner's races starting May 1st. Join up on the West patio after racing for awards and dinner. Our race chair, Scott Barnes, has developed a new race "C's the Day" to be held on April 29th. Check the calendar for details on these races. If you are interested in joining the race committee and helping us host these events please contact our Vice Commodore, David Campagnari, at vicecommodore@alyc.com.

I encourage you all to volunteer for some upcoming events and meet your fellow members. We have a fun engaged group of members and I am eager to meet everyone.

Sincerely,

Stephen Alfano
Commodore, 2023





Celebrating 100 Years of History in Newport Beach

1924-2024

Post 291 History

American Legion Post 291 was founded in 1924 by a group of World War I veterans.

One of the first problems to be solved by the new Post was securing a permanent home for meetings. By various fundraising activities, enough money was raised to purchase from the City a building site on 10th Street, near the Balboa Pavilion, for the enormous sum of \$1,500. With the property went a 25 year lease on the tidelands intervening between it and the bay.

The Post incorporated and held more fundraisers to provide for actual construction of a Post facility. Original plans called for a two story hut but it was decided that would be too expensive.

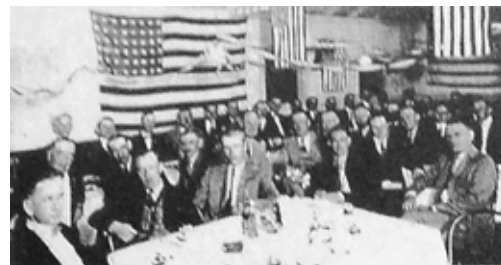
In October, 1925, construction began. The building, complete with all

equipment including wiring and plumbing, cost \$1,900. and was financed by a mortgage from the Bank of Balboa. The note was personally secured by several members of the Post.

The new hut was build almost entirely by volunteer labor provided by Post 291 Legionnaires and took about two months to complete. The first meeting was held in the new hut on December 2, 1925.

Post 291 then held its next great membership drive, starting in February 1926. That resulted in a total Post membership of 80 who met for dinner in the new hut on April 20, 1926.

The original hut on 10th Street showing the original organizing meeting of Post 291 in 1924.



On March 26, 1926, the Post voted to use a portion of its property for another hut site for the Newport Beach Boy Scout Troop which was formed in 1922 by Scoutmaster A.J. Twist. The Post then sponsored Boy Scout Troop 291 and eventually built another hut.

Scouting always had a problem with what to do with boys a year or two younger than the minimum scout age of 12 years. Scoutmaster Twist solved



Balboa Pavilion in 1924



Original Post Hut, 1924



Original Boy Scouts hut on 10th Street.

the problem by creating a branch called "Cubs." At that time, Cubs had no official standing in Scouting circles, but by 1929, the movement inaugurated by Twist was formally adopted and recognized by the National Council of Boy Scouts of America. Thus, the Cub Scouts of America organization was born right here at Newport Harbor Post 291.

On April 20, 1936, a new lease was granted to Post 291 on the tidelands north of Bay Avenue but the property was too small for the Post's purposes. On September 2, 1940, the lease of April 20, 1936, was canceled by mutual agreement with the City.

On September 2, 1940, the City granted to Post 291 a new lease on 15th Street (our current location) and set aside the tidelands for a permanent home for the Post.

The original building here at 15th Street was built in 1940 with the Legion Great Hall. Most of the work was done by volunteer members and friends.

In February 1958, the American Legion started construction of a public marina with all construction funds provided by Post 291. In July 1958, bulkheads and dredging commenced. The American Legion Yacht Club founded with the completion of the marina sponsors many harbor events including the annual July Fourth Old

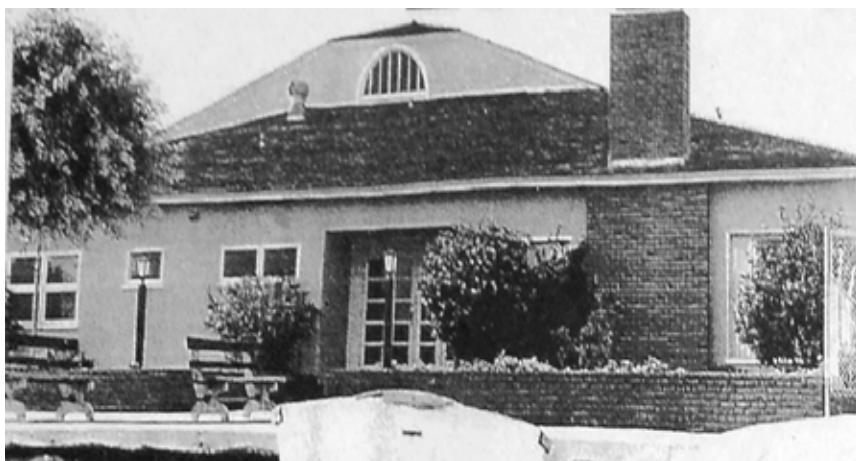
Glory Boat Parade which has become one of the largest spectator events of the summer in Newport Beach.

On the night of November 14, 1979, a devastating fire destroyed most of the building. The building was fully engaged when the fire department arrived and during the three hour battle to save the building three local firemen were injured. A floor furnace left on all night was found to be the source of the blaze. Most of the Post's pictures and memorabilia of WWI and WWII veterans were lost in the fire. Fortunately, the building was insured and with the insurance money and volunteer labor from Post members, the building including the Great Hall was rebuilt by July 1980. The Newport Beach Historical Society designated the Legion Great Hall as a Historical Site on May 18, 1995.

The Post negotiated a new lease with the City of Newport Beach in late 2002. This 25 year lease with an option for another 25 years thus leaves a path for our future veterans to follow.

During our entire 99 year history, Newport Harbor Post 291 has shown a steadfast commitment to supporting all veterans in Orange County. In addition, we have provided an inexpensive venue for parties, anniversaries, and celebrations of life for the entire community. The Post offers during the year public service programs such as the Veterans Emergency Assistance Fund (VEAF,) sponsorship of Girls and Boys State, Oratorical and Americanism contests for local high school students and support for first responders including police and firemen with the annual Law and Order banquet and awards ceremony.

On July 4th, 2024, American Legion Post 291 Newport Harbor will celebrate its 100th anniversary in Newport Beach. The Post has supported our local veterans and active duty military with the promotion of Americanism and Patriotism throughout its history and has become an institution in Newport Beach serving the entire community. Please join us to celebrate this event in 2024 and, if you have old pictures of Post events taken by relatives, please share them with us.



This picture shows the rebuilt Post 291 after the devastating fire in 1979

Crisp Imaging in the Community...

CRISP

Crisp Imaging Hosts 12th Annual Super Bowl Party for Camp Pendleton Marines & Veterans at the American Legion Post 291 in Newport Beach, CA

Crisp Imaging CEO Gary Crisp said, "It's a joy to put on this day of fun and football for these men and women who serve our country. They don't generally get much recognition, and seeing their faces when they realize this party is all for them is beyond gratifying."

(Newport Beach Independent)



The Santino Bros. Wrestling exhibition was on the agenda at the Super Bowl Party
(photo by Lawrence Sherwin)



Hosts Gary and Carter Crisp welcoming hundreds of Marines from Camp Pendleton
(photo by Gary Mathieson)



Reunited Vietnam veterans posing with the Las Vegas Raiderettes cheerleading squad
(photo by Gary Mathieson)



Hundreds of Marines from Camp Pendleton dig into their breakfast at the Super Bowl Party
(photo by Lawrence Sherwin)



The USC Marching Band made an appearance at the Super Bowl Party
(photo by Lawrence Sherwin)



National Anthem being sung by all at the start of the Super Bowl Party
(Photo by Mandy Schauer, Orange County Register/SCNG)



Post 291
Newport Harbor

215 15th Street
Newport Beach, CA 92663

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CA
PERMIT NO. 70



Huge investment made in AL291

Over the past three months our Post team, lead by Commander Evin Planto as project manager, has completed the largest remodel of the Post in decades. The Great Hall has a new look with exposed beams, the Hall is now air conditioned for the first time since it was built in 1950, the front office has new furniture and paint, and new equipment has been installed in the kitchen increasing capacity by 30%.

Come and see the improvements and bring your friends.



*Chef Ulises Dominguez and Dennis Fitzpatrick,
Restaurant Operations Manager*