



# BEACH NEWS

December 2022



January 2023



## AMERICAN LEGION HUNTINGTON BEACH POST 133

**Next meeting is  
January 11th  
6:30 PM social,  
7:00 PM meeting,  
at Memorial Hall,  
1718 Orange Ave.**



### Commander Russ Dohrmann

Have you noticed that there's only two more pages on the calendar and November is already over half gone? The major holidays are on the horizon and the shopping and decorating are in full swing. Isn't retirement supposed to be a time for slowing down?

#### FUTURE EVENTS

First on the list is the long-awaited grand opening of our new home. After a good deal of negotiating with city officials, the building has been named "Memorial Hall" in tribute to the former Post 133 facility's name. We have a full-time office and storage areas, and access to the conference rooms for our functions. The city will formally dedicate the building in a ceremony on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM. All Post 133 members, friends and family are strongly encouraged to attend and show your support. The facility is located at 1718 Orange Ave on the site of the old Rodgers Senior Center, next door to our former meeting location.

Next on the great news list is our posts 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday, which we'll celebrate on December 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm. Once again, we'll utilize the Elks Lodge #1959 facility, located at 7711 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach. The menu is all set, and might I add a tasty one cooked by Sal, the Elks Lodge chef. Your choices are Salmon for \$33.00, Ribeye steak for \$35.00, or Pasta Primavera for \$26.00. All the dinners include a salad, coffee, iced tea and dessert. Please reserve your spot soon by sending an email to Second Vice Commander, Frank Passarelli at [fpass28@verizon.net](mailto:fpass28@verizon.net) or to Commander Russ Dohrmann at [wpdohrmann@gmail.com](mailto:wpdohrmann@gmail.com), or by phone at 949 510-4151.

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 11.**

**VRC news** - We have a new organization called the Edison Helping Heroes Club providing much appreciated help at the VRC. The group is working on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and they recently provided seven students to help us with our Buddy Checks. They've begun by calling and checking up on our Korean War Veterans and will move on to Veteran's from other eras in the future. As mentioned before, we also have a new and highly experienced Veteran Service Officer (VSO) that comes to the VRC once a month to help Veterans obtain their hard-earned benefits. Our Post has funded this new position to enhance the level of assistance provided by our VRC. Our next VSO meeting is scheduled for December 5<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 5 PM.

Remember that we also offer Veteran oriented informational programs once a month at the library and there's content for the entire family. Our November program featured the Guide Dogs of America organization. They demonstrated their dog's capabilities utilizing nine labs. The dogs were highly trained, cute and well behaved, (I wish I could say the same about my dog's behavior).

In closing, I thank you once again for selecting me as your Commander for a second term and wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and prosperous new year.

**ALWAYS FIND TIME FOR THE THINGS THAT MAKE YOU FEEL HAPPY TO BE ALIVE.**

#### **POST 133 OFFICERS:**

**Russ Dohrmann, Commander**  
949-510-4151

**Elaine Parker, 1st Vice**  
714-421-0860

**Frank Passarelli, 2nd Vice**  
714-402-1923

**Jim Rossman, 3rd Vice**  
714-267-7094

**Dennis Bauer, Adjutant**  
714-536-3855

**George Focht, Finance Officer**  
714-842-2410

**Jim Seiler, Judge Advocate**  
714-910-8833

**Tom Welch, Chaplain**  
714-968-7732

**Frank Passarelli, Serv. Officer**  
714-402-1923

**Jim Seiler, Historian**  
714-910-8833

**Norm Sumner, Sgt-At-Arms**  
714-848-5488

**John Gontarz, Asst. Sgt-At-Arms**  
714-884-5327

#### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

**Bill Jeffords**

**Bob Laizure**

**John Gontarz**

**Bud DeWees**



## UNIT 133 AUXILIARY NEWS Tina Bauer President



The American Legion Auxiliary's official birthdate is November 10, 1919, and this year celebrated its 103rd Birthday. The history of our Unit 133 actually began sometime in the 1920's; unfortunately we do not have our early Unit history, except for a few newspaper articles and a scrapbook in the HB Historical Archives at city hall. We always worked with The American Legion Huntington Beach Post 133 for many years surrendering our charter in 1982 because there were not enough members to continue Unit 133. Huntington Beach Unit 133 was re-born in 2003 when our charter we submitted in 2002 was signed by the Department of California. Today we are 200 members strong, although 55 members have not renewed for this year. Our membership year is July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> and can create confusion as your new card will state **2023**, yet we are still in calendar year 2022, we are now half-way through our membership year, let's make 100%. Please renew today either online with a credit card or mail a check.

Auxiliary members kept themselves very busy in November supporting the patriotic assemblies organized by Post 133 and attending the Veterans Day Ceremony held at Huntington Beach Pier Plaza on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Our Thanksgiving Dinner was wonderful, with over 35 people in attendance, thank you to everyone who helped. These events don't happen without the help of some talented people and contributions from our Unit 133 members. This fundraising event was catered by Boston Market and Auxiliary members contributed cranberry dishes, and desserts.

**LBVAMC ADOPT A FAMILY FOR THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS** – Beginning in 2008, every few months we have donated food, gas, and other gift cards to the Tibor Rubin VA Medical Center, Long Beach (LBVAMC) Post 9/11 Military2VA Case Management Program (Veterans Transition Center and Care Management Program), the VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement (Voluntary Services Department), and other programs on the Long Beach campus; for Case Managers, Social Workers and program specialists to give to veterans in need. This holiday season for Thanksgiving we donated 30 gift cards for \$80.00 each from grocery stores for a

complete dinner for a veteran and their family; and 15 gift cards for \$25.00 - \$30.00 for single veterans to purchase a meal of their choice from Boston Market or a grocery store. For Christmas we will be providing holiday gift cards for \$100.00 each for those who are receiving services from the Transition and Care Management Program for distribution to the young men and women, who are in need. We will also be adopting local veterans and their families through the VA Long Beach Health Care System, Voluntary Services Department - Operation Santa program. Please contact Tina Bauer via email or phone if you would like to help support the families we adopt.

As we begin 2023, we will have many projects to be accomplished, and we are looking forward to continued support and volunteers from our Unit 133 members. January will be a busy time for our Unit 133 Girls State Chairperson Carolee Focht who will begin the process contacting the high schools (Edison, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Marina, Ocean View, and recently added Westminster) we support to promote the program with the principals, teachers and students. We also coordinate our efforts with the Post 133 Boys State Chairperson, as we are working with similar schools. In January the students are identified, February we interview and select a delegate and alternate from each school, and then work with the girls and their parents to complete applications and submit on-line by the mid-March due date.

As a reminder, our Unit 133 does not meet in December. The next Unit 133 meeting will be January 11th, 2023, at 7:00 PM. We will be meeting at the same location as Post 133 in separate rooms, at the City of Huntington Beach, Memorial Hall, located at the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Park, 1718 Orange Ave. Please join us for a refreshment social with begins at 6:30 PM

Happy Birthday wishes to Unit 133 members who are celebrating birthdays in December and January.

Wishing our HB Legion Family members a Happy Holidays and a New Year, filled with good health, happiness, and peace. Please contact me if you have any questions about our activities, membership for family and friends, or volunteering. I look forward to seeing you at our next events.

Tina Bauer, 714-655-7333 or

E-mail: [alahuntingtonbeachunit133@gmail.com](mailto:alahuntingtonbeachunit133@gmail.com)

**Post 133 has some long term members.** Listed below are those with 35 years membership or more. William Kettler at 75 years, William Bull at 51 years, Leo Gomez at 44 years, Swan Soderind at 44 years, Richard Adams at 38 years, James Shipps at 38 years, Francis Burghardt at 37 years, William Osness at 37 years, Michael Hiser at 36 years, and Ronald Goodman at 35 years.

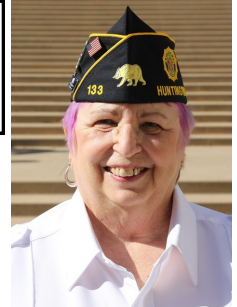
**Free Entrance to National Parks for Veterans**

The National Park Service in partnership with Operation Live Well would like to thank military personnel and their families for their service and invite them to enjoy their national parks.

The free Military Pass is a way to thank current US military members and their dependents, and US military veterans for their support of our country and to encourage them to explore recreational opportunities on their public lands and waters.

A free **lifetime Military Pass** is available for US military veterans. A free **annual Military Pass** is available for current US military members and their dependents. The passes provide free access to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas, including national parks, wildlife refuges, and forests.

**1st Vice Commander  
Elaine Parker**

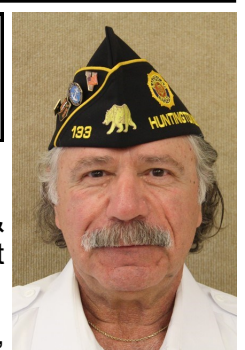


**MEMBERSHIP:**

2023 membership dues of \$45 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023) is now due. You may renew online at [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew) or by check. Make your check payable to American Legion POST 133 and mail to: American Legion Post 133, P.O. Box 133, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.

NOTE: National has put member since 2022 on all dues notices! Please disregard.

**2nd Vice Commander  
Frank Passarelli**



**SOCIAL CALENDAR:**

**Coffee:** 9:00 AM December 2, & 19, at McDonald's, Goldenwest and Yorktown.

**Lunch:** 11:30 AM January 25, check website for location.

**Veterans Resource Center Special Events:**

Tuesday January 10.  
6:00pm - 7:00pm at the HB Central Library - Talbert Room

**Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Squadron 133**

Squadron 133 has received their 2023 membership cards. It is time to pay your dues, make your check payable to American Legion Post 133, with SAL in memo. Squadron 133 is welcome to attend Post 133 meetings and social events. See social calendar above.

**AMERICAN LEGION HUNTINGTON BEACH RIDERS 133**

American Legion Riders Chapter 133 organizes local rides throughout the month. Please check our website and Facebook page for all our upcoming events. If you are interested in joining us on any rides, or becoming a member of the Riders please email [ALRchapter133@gmail.com](mailto:ALRchapter133@gmail.com) or call (714) 393-1904 [www.alrchapter133.com](http://www.alrchapter133.com)



American Legion Post 133  
 P.O. Box 133  
 Huntington Beach, CA 92648



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**Veterans Day  
 Ceremony  
 pictures.**

