



BEACH NEWS

June



2023



AMERICAN LEGION HUNTINGTON BEACH POST 133

June 14 will be an installation dinner at Olive Garden on Beach Blvd. at 6 PM. See page two for more details.



Commander Russ Dohrmann

Two years ago there was a major event. Nope, it wasn't another academy awards show, or a new "reality" TV show, or even the opening of another burger stand that's selling the "world's favorite" burger. It was bigger than all those combined, it was the year that you chose me as your Commander. Now I'm coming to the last days of my second term, and I'll soon be passing the reigns to your next Commander, Jim Ghormley. But you're not getting completely rid of me quite that easily. As your past Commander, I'll continue the practice of attending all board meetings to help ensure consistency and context for your new Post Commander, as needed.

I've been thinking about the last two years, our various members, and recalling our many successes and some challenges too. In the end I think our central theme and most important quality is how much our members truly care for each other. Our members have shown this in many ways, including by assisting each other with important projects, business decisions, and of course the financial aid and guidance that our Post provides to the needy. This compassion, empathy and team spirit is what keeps our Post thriving. Although there are many of you who have contributed in important ways during my tenure as your Commander, I want to recognize and thank two special individuals that stand out because they've helped me so often and so much. First is Robert McClish, our most recent Past Post Commander, for his friendship and for always being there for me. Thank you, Robert. Next is my friend Dennis Bauer, for your ongoing dedication to our post. You've always taken care of business even during the pandemic uncertainty during 2000 when you and a few others worked so hard to help our Post continue to thrive despite the many challenges. Thank you Dennis.

Here's the list of your new Board and Officers, please help me to welcome them aboard and congratulate these new, and a few continuing, *cast of characters*. They will transition into their new roles in June.

Commander – Jim Ghormley, 1st Vice Commander - Elaine Parker, 2nd Vice Commander – Frank Passarelli, 3rd Vice Commander – Jim Rossman, two board positions – David Beigel and Gary Robles. All other officer positions are appointed and selected by your new Commander. The installation of new officers will take place on June 14th at Olive Garden, at 6pm. Remember to RSVP to Tina Bauer (714-655-7333) if you plan to attend!

New Legion members that joined at our May 10th meeting. I'm excited to welcome into our family the following Legion Members. Jeff Booth - USA, Bobby Britton - USA, Jerry Brockhoff – USA, Ed Creamer – USMC, Donald Carrick – USN, Michael Colosimo – USAF, Mark Foley – USA, Debra Land – USMC, Emanuel Marner – USMC, Nicholas Okeneski – USN, Jose Rojas – USMC, John Vasquez – USAF, Bruce Woodruff – USN. Welcome aboard one and all, and from me to all of you **THANK YOU FOR A GREAT RIDE!**

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



Thank you to all the Auxiliary and Legion members who helped to distribute over 2,000 Poppies during May. The poppies we distributed are hand made by veterans and others throughout California. You found Post, Rider, SALS and Unit members at local markets and stores, talking to friends, family members and colleagues at work, speaking to community groups and at the HB Pier Plaza for the Memorial Day Ceremony. Participants included John Gontarz; Tina and Dennis Bauer; Noella and Frank Passarelli; Susan Lowe; Bud Dewees; Brenden Bauer; Jim Seiler; Bill Jeffords; Larry Stoll; Ernie Delgado; Pete Goldade; Reggie Chun; Gary Robles; Harriet Price; Elaine and Bill Parker; Robert McClish; Terry Schnitzer; Buffy Harris; Tom and Carol Welch; Linda Hahn; Judy Deaton; and students from the Edison HS Helping Heroes Club. Every year 100% of the donations support our outreach programs for rehabilitation of



veterans, assistance to their families, and support for active-duty military with medical needs. Thank you to Unit 133 members who helped to distribute our patriotic scarves during May.

GIRLS STATE UPDATE The American Legion Auxiliary District 29 held the Girls State Orientation Tea for all Orange County Girls State Delegates on Sunday, April 30, 2023. We had parents and their daughters, and Auxiliary members attend. It was very informative for them to learn about the program they were selected to attend shortly after the school year ends in June. The 80th ALA CA Girls State Session

will be held at Sacramento State University. We are looking forward to talking with our 2023 Girl State and Boys State participants, meeting their families, and hearing about their experiences at the Labor Day BBQ and picnic, Monday September 4th, 2023 at the Lake Park Clubhouse.



On May 20th a drive through Baby Shower was held for Women Veterans at the Tibor Rubin VAMC (Long Beach). Unit 133 members donated gift cards and items for the mom and baby. Each veteran received a diaper bag filled with an assortment of things to help with a new baby; a date night gift of movie tickets and popcorn; t-shirts for the siblings; gas cards; and Walmart gift cards.



For those members unable to attend our May 2023 meeting, we elected our Unit 133 Officers for 2023 – 2024 and selected our Delegates and Alternates for the June 22 to June 25, 2023 American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention in Visalia, California. Thank you for your vote of confidence, I will continue as President, Susan Lowe is 1st Vice President, Sheila Castillo is 2nd Vice President, Harriett Price is Secretary; Noella Passarelli is Treasurer; and Buffy Harris is Executive Committee Member.

Mark your calendars, Dinner and Installation of Officers (Post 133 and Unit 133 together) will be held on June 14, 2023, at Olive Garden Italian Kitchen at 6:00 PM. The restaurant is located at 18611 Beach Blvd.; the menu choices are Spaghetti & Meatballs (\$28); Lasagna (\$30); Chicken Parmigiana (\$31) or Shrimp Scampi (\$32). All prices include salad/soup/breadsticks, non-alcoholic beverages, tax and tip. Please RSVP your participation and meal choice to Tina Bauer at 714-655-7333 by June 9th.

Happy Birthday to all our members who are celebrating birthdays in June this year. Please contact me if you have any questions about our programs, upcoming events, membership for family and friends, or volunteering. You can reach me at 714- 655-7333 or by e-mail at alahuntingtonbeachunit133@gmail.com

Thank you for your continued support.

Memorial Day Ceremony May 29, 2023,
11 AM at Pier Plaza

This year the National Anthem is sung by Natalie Bowen. The POW/MIA Banner is placed by Mike Ali, Huntington Beach Post 133. The pledge of Allegiance is by Boy Scout Troop 319. Invocation by Rodger Wing. The speaker is Mayor Tony Strickland. Remembrance of our Fallen Heroes is the reading of the names on the war memorial at city hall by H B City Council and elected officials. Music is by the Huntington Beach High School Band. The American Legion Huntington Beach Post 133 Honor Guard fires a rifle salute, followed by Taps.



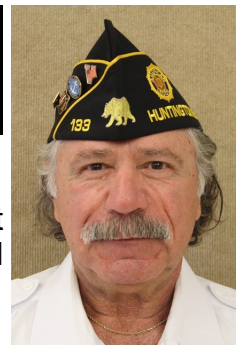
**1st Vice Commander
Elaine Parker**



MEMBERSHIP:

402 have paid their dues thus far. About 70 have not paid their dues. We will miss you. You may renew online at 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.

**2nd Vice Commander
Frank Passarelli**



SOCIAL CALENDAR:

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

Veterans fish fry: June 6 , 11:30 AM at Zack's on the beach north of the pier. Free to all veterans.

The **Veteran Resource Center (VRC)** is open Monday thru Thursday 2-6pm, and Friday 9am-1pm. We also have a veteran service officer who visits the VRC once per month to help our veteran with benefit claims. This is by appointment only. Contact Frank Passarelli at 714-402-1923 for an appointment.

Join us for a June 13 presentation by: **BE Well, the Navigation Center, and HB Homelessness Solutions.** Come find out how these services are helping our community! It will be in the Talbert room of the central library at 6:00 PM. Sponsored by the Veterans Resource Center and the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Squadron 133

Squadron 133 is welcome to attend Post 133 meetings and social events. See social calendar above. To join the SAL, go to www.hbpost133.com and click on the SAL button on the left.

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 or call (714) 393-1904 www.alrchapter133.com

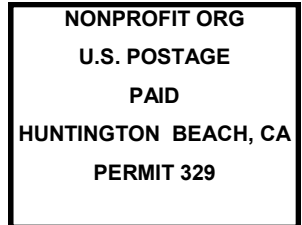


American Legion Post 133
P.O. Box 133
Huntington Beach, CA 92648



Serving Surf City Since 1919

www.hbpost133.com



American Legion Huntington Beach Post 133 helps homeless veterans

Since December 2019 Post 133 has been helping veterans in Huntington Beach with their financial needs. In some cases, it is a car battery for a veteran's truck, so he can go to work. In other cases a homeless veteran needs housing, or he doesn't have the funds to pay for his car license.

Many times they need food, so Post 133 provides food gift cards. Another may need gas for his vehicle so he can get to his medical appointment.

A family of seven needed housing. Their car needed repair. Their children needed to get to school. Post 133 provided housing, temporary car rental and car repair.

Unfortunately, there are many veterans with financial needs. Post 133 is doing its best to help and also find resources to sustain them.

In the past Post 133 has received funding from Tee it up for the Troops, and the Nelson Foundation. This year Post 133 is holding a car show August 20 at the Huntington Beach Sports Complex. These funds will be used to financially assist veterans in need.

Huntington Beach Post 133 has only had the financial resources to do this since our 100 year birthday gala.

Post 133 has also received donations from Huntington Beach businesses and members of our Post. Thank you to all who assist us in our efforts serving our community.