# BEACH NEWS

June 2026

# AMERICAN LEGION HUNTINGTON BEACH POST 133

**Next meeting is**
**June 10**
**at 7:00 PM**
**at Memorial Hall**
**1718 Orange Ave.**

**POST 133 OFFICERS:**
**Jim Rossman,** Commander
714-267-7094
**Elaine Parker,** 1st Vice
714-421-0860
**Frank Passarelli,** 2nd Vice
714-402-1923
**Robert McClish**, 3rd Vice
562-201-0239
**Dennis Bauer,** Adjutant
714-642-8846
**David Beigel,** Finance Officer
714-421-6077
**George Focht,** Judge Advocate
760-401-4645
**Tom Welch**, Chaplain
714-968-7732
**Frank Passarelli,** Serv. Officer
714-402-1923
**Norm Sumner,** Sgt-At-Arms
714-848-5488
**John Gontarz, Asst.** Sgt-At-Arms
714-884-5327
**BOARD MEMBERS:**
**Reggie Chun**
**Bud DeWees**
**Gary Robles**
**John Vasquez**

## Commander Jim Rossman

I can't believe it's already halfway through the year. May is a busy month for our post, and I want to share several upcoming events and updates with you:

- May 21st: We participated in the unveiling of the new 250th banner at the HB pier.

- Memorial Day: We participated in the ceremony at Pier Plaza.

- June 10 General Meeting: We will host a speaker from the Alzheimer's Family Center to discuss veterans' day care benefits, which are often available at no charge.

- July 4th: We will once again be in the parade, with members walking and riding on two 5-ton trucks.
- We are also excited to announce that we were awarded a fireworks stand this year, located at the 5 Points Shopping Center. We will need volunteers to man the stand, and we hope you will consider purchasing your fireworks from us. All proceeds go to the Veterans Resource Center to assist veterans in need.

As a reminder, the Veterans Resource Center is located inside the HB Central Library. It is open Monday through Thursday from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM, and Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. If you served in Vietnam, Afghanistan, or Iraq and are not signed up at the Long Beach VA Hospital, you may be entitled to compensation under the PACT Act.

We have over 350 members in our post, and while we are very active, we only see a few of you at our meetings and activities. We typically have speakers at our general meetings and host coffee get-togethers twice a month to share stories. We would love to see more of you there. Our activities calendar is on our website. www.hbpost133.com

Finally, did you know that veterans can salute the flag during the national anthem while leaving their hats on.

We look forward to seeing you at these upcoming events.

# UNIT 133
# AUXILIARY NEWS
## Tina Bauer President

**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 26, 2026. We had parents and their daughters, and Auxiliary members attend. It was very informative for the young ladies eager to learn about the program they were selected to attend shortly after school closes in June. The ALA CA Girls State Session this year will be held at the University of California, Riverside (UCR). We are looking forward to talking with our 2026 Girl State and Boys State participants, meeting their families, and hearing about their experiences at the Labor Day BBQ and picnic, Monday September 7, 2026 at the Lake Park Clubhouse.

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 in California. You found HB 133 Unit, Post, Rider, and SALS 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 Tina and Dennis Bauer; George Focht, John Vasquez; Larry Stoll; Georgia Cunradi, Judy Deaton, Ace Deaton, Elaine Parker, Pete Goldade; Noella and Frank Passarelli; Terry Schnitzer; Wendy Leavell and Buffy Harris. Every year 100% of the donations collected support our outreach programs for rehabilitation of veterans, assistance to their families, and support for active-duty military with medical needs.

On May 16th a Baby Shower was held for Women Veterans at the Tibor Rubin VAMC (Long Beach). Unit 133 members donated gift cards, books, baby toys and items for the mom and baby. Each veteran received a gift bag filled with an assortment of things to help with a new baby; gas cards; and Walmart/ Target gift cards. The speakers were informative for those in attendance; there were some games with prizes and a table full of gift items to select to help as they welcome their new bundle of joy.

For those members unable to attend our May 2026 meeting, we elected our Unit 133 Officers for 2026 – 2027 and identified the Delegates and Alternates for the June 24 to June 28, 2026 American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention in Visalia, California. Thank you for your vote of confidence, I will continue as President, Wendy Leavell is 1st Vice President, Dee Azzara is 2nd Vice President, Harriett Price is Secretary; Carolee Focht is Treasurer; and Buffy Harris is Executive Committee Member. Thank you Unit 133 members who agreed to continue in appointed positions Judy Deaton is Chaplain and Dee Azzara is Sergeant at Arms. We are looking for volunteers to chair/co-chair the Unit 133 Girls State Program and other programs which we discuss at our monthly meetings. The HB Unit 133 and Post 133 will hold a joint installation of Officers on June 10, 2026 at 7:00 PM at Memorial Hall.

To learn about the many programs for Auxiliary members to participate and volunteer, visit the National website www.ALAforVeterans.org - as a Unit 133 member you can sign up on the website and receive your newsletters and read other articles about the programs and activities of the American Legion Auxiliary: spend some time and take the free online courses in the ALA Academy; the first course, “ALA 101”, is an orientation and will provide excellent information.

Wishing all our members who have birthdays and special celebrations in June this year – a very happy and special day celebrating.

In closing let us all reflect on the mission of The American Legion Auxiliary, founded in 1919, we are one of the world’s largest women’s patriotic service organizations with over 9,000 units and 800,000 members.

> *“In the spirit of service, not self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.”*

Thank you for your continued support. 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

e-mail at alahuntingtonbeachunit133@gmail.com

## How to arrange military funeral honors

Tell the funeral director the deceased is a veteran', and they want military honors.

The American Legion have been providing Military 'funeral honors for deceased service members for decades, while Congress directed the U.S. military to provide honor guard details for veterans "upon request" beginning in 2000.

The Department of Defense "is committed to supporting as many requests as possible for funeral honors.

Arranging for a military honor guard requires a DD-214 or other proof of honorable service.

Other helpful resources include:

- The article "Arranging Military Funeral Honors For a Veteran" at war.gov
- VA'S National Cemetery Administration, cem.va.gov
- Military OneSource (militaiyonesource.mil, 800-342-9647), which provides instructions on how to request a DD-214, a Military Funeral Honors Directory, and resources for funeral directors and planners.

## Plan ahead for burial in a VA national cemetery

In 2025, the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) launched its first nationwide ad campaign promoting pre-need burial eligibility at VA national cemeteries (cem.va.gov) and all burial and memorial benefits available for eligible veterans and their families.

The Plan Today, Honor Forever campaign has exceeded expectations, with a record number of pre-need applications for eight consecutive months. In January, nearly 12,000 applications were received. Applying online takes fewer than 10 minutes and saves families from having to look for a veteran's DD-214 at time of death.

Upon approval, veterans will receive a link to their own personal Veterans Legacy Memorial (VLM) page, giving them the opportunity to tell their stories in their own words before they die through autobiographies, photos, and military and life milestones. VA keeps the content hidden until the veteran's death and approves a request for a burial or memorial benefit. Following approval, the content becomes public.

## 1st Vice Commander Elaine Parker

### MEMBERSHIP:

The Post 133 membership year is July 1, 2025—June 30, 2026. If you have not yet paid, please send in your dues of $50.00 on line or mail to American Legion Post 133, PO Box 133, Huntington Beach, CA 92648. Please note that Post 133 dues will be $55 next year. This is due to National's increase.

## 2nd Vice Commander Frank Passarelli

### SOCIAL CALENDAR:

**Coffee**: June 5 & 15, at McDonald's Goldenwesy north of Yorktown at 9 AM.

**Veterans Fish Fry June 6 at 11:30 AM at Zack's. Free to all veterans.**

# Fireworks sales

**Post 133 was selected to sell fireworks this year.**

**Our booth will be at five points shopping center, Main and Florida. Tell your friends to support veterans.**

**To volunteer to help, contact**

**Dennis Bauer at 714-642-8846.**

## Veterans Resource Center (VRC)

Hours are Monday—Thursday 2 to 6 PM, and Friday 9 AM to 1 PM. For more information, contact Frank Passarelli at 714-402-1923.

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

*Serving Surf City Since 1919*

www.hbpost133.com

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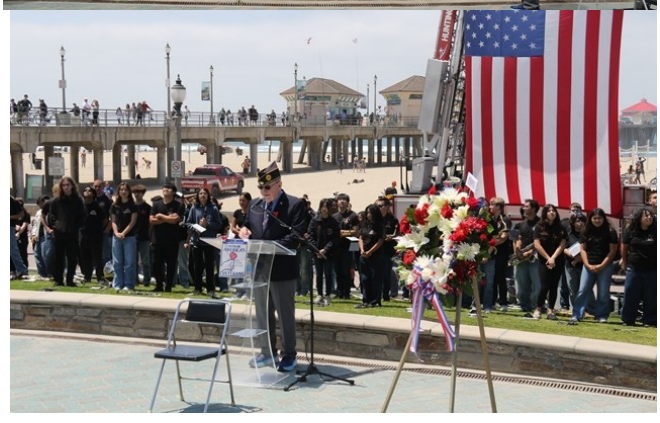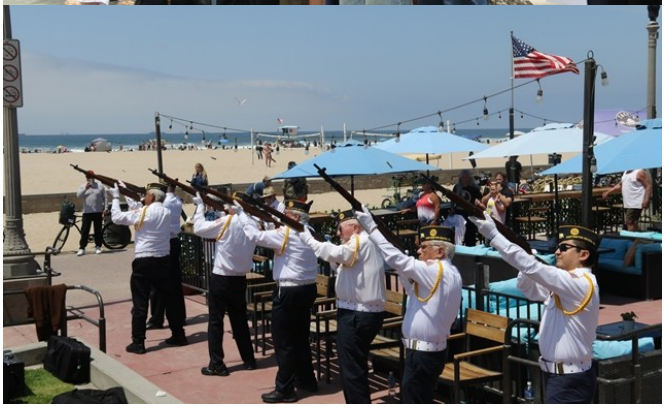
# Memorial Day ceremony May 25, 2026