



BEACH NEWS

March-April



2023



AMERICAN LEGION HUNTINGTON BEACH POST 133

**Next meetings are
March 8 & April 12
6:30 PM social,
7:00 PM meeting,
at Memorial Hall,
1718 Orange Ave.**



Commander Russ Dohrmann

Have you ever thought about how many different components it takes to sustain a successful American Legion Post? There are quite a few, Internally, some of them are units like our VSO, Color/Honor Guard, various special projects teams and the Board members. Although all of these programs are staffed by volunteers, like yourselves, they are all sustained by external supporters, without whom our Post would be unable to perform many of our missions. So this month I'd like to send a loud thank you to all of our donors at all levels and to recognize some who have recently provided very substantial donations.

Our biggest donor to date is Tee It Up For The Troops which granted our post thirty thousand dollars. Their check was presented to us at our general meeting on February 8th by Directors Mark and Leslie Mayes (see picture insert). Other notable donors include Pacific Western Bank's donation of two thousand five hundred dollars, presented by Debbie Lovenburg Branch Manager and the Robert Nelson Foundation's donation of two thousand dollars presented by Mr. Bryant Domina. These funds allow us to continue to help needy Veterans and their families.

Here's a breakdown of how some of those funds are utilized. During all of fiscal 2020-2021 we provided a total of thirty-seven thousand four hundred dollars in aid, and in 2021-2022 we provided thirty-seven thousand six hundred dollars. Notably, from the beginning of our current fiscal year to date, we've already provided twenty-six thousand nine hundred dollars in aid, expending an average of three thousand four hundred dollars per month to address important Veteran's needs.

Memorial Hall: On February 6 we had our first board meeting at Memorial Hall. Yes, we finally have a home. After being bounced from Rodgers during the remodel, then shifted to Lake Park and told that its remodel would be completed soon, we were once again moved to Harbor View club house, and yep, you guessed correctly, another remodel started so we went back to Lake Park until our new home was completed. Thank you for your patience during this shuffling extravaganza! Now come support your Post and attend our meetings in our new home.

American Legion Family Day will be an open house day April 29 at Memorial Hall. This will be a great opportunity to invite our friends and neighbors and the public in general to see what the American Legion is all about and what we've been up to. We'll provide details as the day gets closer.

Nominations for next year's officers will be at our April 12 meeting. If interested, let me know.



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



Our Southern California Spring/Summer is trying to arrive, depending on the day of the week. The rainy days and colder weather has brought about plant/trees/flowers growing spurts, some fog, and beautiful sunsets. This time of year can provide us moments and time to reflect as we recharge and put our own energy to good use – taking care of ourselves and family, helping others as we are able, and supporting our veterans, their families and the HB community.

In February, we provided over 20 valentine gift bags for the Long Beach VA Community Living Center (CLC). Each bag contained snacks, valentine goodies, socks, cards with envelopes and postage stamps, games, and Valentine Cards made by HB Girl Scouts. All the bags (over 300) were delivered by District 29 to the hospitalized veterans and a special lunch was provided.



Also during February, HB Unit 133 held interviews to select delegates and alternates for the 2023 Girls State Session to be held in June of this year. We had an awesome group of girls from our 6 high schools. Thank you to Carol-ee Focht, our Unit 133 Girls State Program Chairperson for coordinating this program, working with each school, the applicants and their parents, conducting interviews with the assistance of Unit 133 members answering questions, monitoring due dates to ensure our delegates submit their applications, and communicating with District 29 and Department of California Girls State Chairpersons.

Each year at our April meeting we have discussions/nominations for our Unit Elected Officers for the July 1st to June 30th year. The HB Unit 133 elected positions are President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Executive Committee, Secretary and Treasurer. Appointments for all other Unit 133 positions and committee chairpersons are made at a later date by the Unit President. If you wish to be considered for any of the elected offices or would like to continue serving in a current position, please contact me via email or telephone to discuss your interest. Our Unit achievements are a direct result of the continued commitment and participation of all members. Your time and effort is appreciated. Many Unit 133 members think they cannot assume a leadership position actually find it much easier than they imagined. It is important for our Unit to get candidates to keep our programs going. Mem-

bers who have continually stepped each year to serve as officers and committee and program organizers will not give up their commitment to HB Unit 133 that has given so many support and a helping hand.

Last month I mentioned the many scholarships available which have either a March 1st or March 31st application deadline. Another program which many of you may not be aware of is the **Junior Activities Patch Program**. American Legion Auxiliary Junior members and Sons of the American Legion youth members can be active participants of both organizations with the Patch Program. Regardless of where one lives, and whether she/he belongs to an active Junior group or squadron, Junior Auxiliary members and SAL youth members can serve their communities and veterans, and learn about patriotism, health, fitness and leadership through this program. Each sheet explains the criteria and what must be accomplished in order to earn a specific patch. When the activities are completed, an adult or senior Unit 133 member must sign the form to verify that the Junior or SAL youth has met the patch criteria. There are three levels of patch criteria:

- Red—Level 1: Kindergarten through 3rd grade
- Gold—Level 2: 4th grade through 8th grade
- Blue—Level 3: 9th grade through 12th grade

Each patch sheet can be downloaded at www.ALAFORVeterans.org or I can send them as a pdf document. **Once the form is completed, HB Unit 133 will verify and forward to the ALA Department Junior Activities Chairperson for processing.**

Our next Unit 133 meetings will be March 8th, 2023 and April 12th, 2023; join us at 6:30 p.m. for refreshment social and 7:00 p.m. for our meeting at Memorial Hall located at the City of Huntington Beach, 17th Street Park on Orange Avenue. At our March 2023 meeting we will have our St. Patrick's Day and Easter and spring scarves in addition to our Patriotic scarves. The scarves are only \$10.00 and the proceeds support our Veterans and their families, Girls State and our community.

In closing let us all reflect on the mission of The American Legion Auxiliary, founded in 1919, that continues to serve as one of the world's largest 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."

Happy Birthday wishes to HB Unit 133 members who are celebrating birthdays in March and April. Please contact me via email or phone if you have any questions about our scarves fundraiser, programs/activities, or membership for family and friends, or volunteering.

Tina Bauer, e-mail: alahuntingtonbeachunit133.com
or 714-655-7333.

American Legion Family Day

Post 133 will participate in this activity at Memorial Hall on April 29.

The National Executive Committee passed [Resolution No. 7, American Legion Family Day](#) at its Fall Meeting in October 2022. The resolution established an American Legion Family Day to be observed annually on the last Saturday of April.

This year for Legion Family Day on April 29, posts are encouraged to open their doors to members of their community for the day to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Legionnaires, Sons of The American Legion members, Legion Riders and American Legion Auxiliary, and to bring awareness to the organization's ["Be the One" initiative](#) to reduce the rate of veteran suicide.

1st Vice Commander Elaine Parker

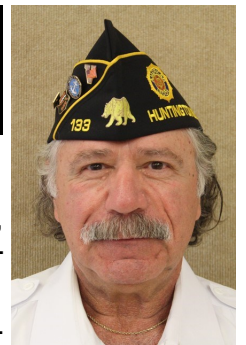


MEMBERSHIP:

373 have paid their dues thus far. We need the rest of you to renew.

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 March 3, & 20, and April 17 at McDonald's, Goldenwest and Yorktown.

Brunch April 1 at Longboard downtown.

Lunch: 11:30 AM March 22, StoneFire Grill, 8727 Brookhurst St, FV

The **Veteran Resource Center (VRC)** is open Monday thru Thursday 2-6pm, and Friday 9am-1pm. On March 14, in the central library Talbert Room from 6-7pm we will have our next presentation. For more information, go to our website at www.hbpost133.com. 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.

January 2023 Post 133 Spent \$2,466.93 assisting veterans in need.

Vietnam recognition day – March 29th – Held by VRC at HB Central library.

Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Squadron 133

Squadron 133 will be joining Post, Auxiliary and Riders at the American Legion Family Day Saturday, April 29 at Memorial Hall. 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 or call (714) 393-1904 www.alrchapter133.com

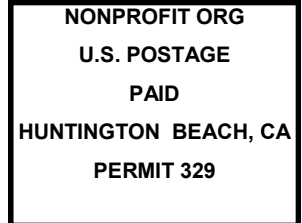


American Legion Post 133
P.O. Box 133
Huntington Beach, CA 92648



Serving Surf City Since 1919

www.hbpost133.com



Post 133 sponsoring four Delegates to the BOYS/GIRLS State Conference, June 17 to June 24, 2023 at Cal. State University, Sacramento campus.

With the events going on in our country today, the need for our Americanism Programs is critical to our youth. In recent years, we have modified our message to: “The American Legion California Boys State is designed to replicate reality, without polarization, how our forefathers intended our system of government to function.

Due to the hard work of Edison teacher Rick Myers and Edison Career Counselor Monica Hamilton, the Post has received 6 Edison High school applications for Boys State. On Feb. 18, 6 Legionnaires will be interviewing 7 candidates for the 4 delegate slots. Post 133 Oratorical contest winners typically also compete for the Boys State selection, so Edison high junior Samson R. who took 2nd place at the District Oratorical will also be interviewed. This years conference will cost \$625 per delegate for the program, room & board and bus transportation.

Prominent Boys State alumni include Astronaut Neil Armstrong, President Bill Clinton; Vice President Dick Cheney; Senators Richard Lugar and Joe Lieberman, Alabama football coach Nick Saban, basketball legend Michael Jordan; and many more.

Program participants are divided into subgroups referred to as cities. The citizens of each of these cities elect mock municipal officials and representatives to the mock state legislature. The participants also elect county & state officials, such as governor, lieutenant governor, and other state-level officials mirroring their actual state. The legislature meets to organize, elect leaders, and to pass bills, in a way that is similar to how their actual state legislature--taking a more hands-on approach by running mock government activities all week.