



# BEACH NEWS

March-April



2025



## AMERICAN LEGION HUNTINGTON BEACH POST 133

**Next meetings are  
March 12  
and  
April 9  
at 7:00 PM  
at Memorial Hall  
1718 Orange Ave.**



### Commander Jim Ghormley

Winter greetings to you all, or as the Irish say, “Grianstad an Gheimhridh” (literally, Winter Sun Stop). Most of us here in Southern California have been very fortunate as we have had a mild winter so far! A large portion of my family lives in Virginia and Pennsylvania where temperatures have been averaging between 6 and 25 degrees with very copious amounts of snow and ice! All are OK to this point!

As we all know, a substantial part of Southern California experienced horrific wildfires in January with the Eaton fire in Altadena, and the Palisades fire in Pacific Palisades. These fires started on 7 January and were finally contained on 31 January 2025. Loss of life and property was staggering. Immediately, American Legion Palisades Post 283 went to work setting up locations to assist veterans identifying 120 veteran families who lost homes in the fires.

Your American Legion Huntington Beach Post 133 donated \$5,000.00 directly to Post 283 to aid in their support of these veterans. The contribution proceeds were used to provide immediate food and gas resources. Post 283 has setup a long-term support program to aid the impacted veteran families. You can visit their website at <https://www.alpost283.com> to see the support systems they have in place.

As an integral part of our family, Post 133 is privileged to have Unit 133 Auxiliary. The last sentence of the Auxiliary mission states: For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security. Our Unit 133 is very active. Please see the second page of this newsletter to see all they do for our Post, the community, and our youth.

In each newsletter, I speak to membership dues and meeting attendance. Post 133 is very active in the community and among veterans in the cities of Huntington Beach, Costa Mesa, and Fountain Valley. Post 133 is also well connected with VA representatives and other veteran organizations in this geography. Your participation in Post activities and meeting attendance enhances Post ability to support veterans in our area of responsibility. Consider contacting a Post Board member or attending meetings to find out how you can help Post 133 continue its commitment to veteran support.

Post 133 will be hosting American Legion Huntington Beach Post 133 National Vietnam Veterans Day. The date is Thursday, 27 March 2025. Location is the Huntington Beach Central, downstairs in Rooms C/D. Address is 7111 Talbert Avenue. Time is 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. This is a special day to honor all Vietnam War Veterans. All veterans are welcome to attend. There will be a continental breakfast and light lunch provided; guest speaker; and veteran resources. We look forward to seeing you there.

#### POST 133 OFFICERS:

**Jim Ghormley**, Commander  
562-355-7223

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

**David Biegel**, 2nd Vice  
714-421-6077

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

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

**George Focht**, Finance Officer  
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:

**Bud DeWees**

**Gary Robles**



## 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 have brought plant/trees/flowers growing spurts, some wind, rain, thunderstorms, 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.

On a positive note, the HB Unit 133 held interviews end of February 2025 to select delegates and alternates for the 2025 Girls State Session to be held in June of this year. We had an excellent group of girls apply from the 6 high schools we support; the Unit 133 delegates selected are from Edison HS, Fountain Valley HS, Huntington Beach HS, Los Amigos HS, Marina HS and Ocean View HS. We also have 1<sup>st</sup> Alternates and 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternates for most of our participating schools. Thank you Noella Passarelli 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 and community volunteers, answering questions, monitoring due dates to ensure our delegates submit their applications, and communicating with District 29 and Department of California Girls State Chairpersons.

In February, we provided over 20 valentine gift bags filled with requested items and handmade cards working with all the Auxiliary Units in District 29. Over 200 valentine gift bags were delivered to the Long Beach VA community living center, blind ward and all spinal wards. The team from District 29 also provided valentine gift bags to the Gold Star Manor in Long Beach to make their day special. The residential facility provides housing to gold star mothers, fathers, grandmothers and veterans helping to make their day special.

Each year at our April meeting we have discussions/nominations for our Unit Elected Officers for the July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> year. The HB Unit 133 elected positions are President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Our members have continually served as officers, committee and program organizers each year and will continue their commitment to HB Unit 133 programs that has given so many support and a helping hand.

Our next Unit 133 meetings will be March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and April 9<sup>th</sup> 2025; 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, 17<sup>th</sup> Street Park on Orange Avenue.

At our March and April 2025 meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month) 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 8,000 units.

*"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."*

In closing we would like to send wishes to our members celebrating birthdays and special occasions in March and April. Thank you to our renewing members and welcome to our new members who have joined HB Unit 133 your generosity helps us to maintain the much needed support for our Veterans and their families, our youth, and our community.

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 the next meeting or upcoming event.

Tina Bauer, e-mail: [alahuntingtonbeachunit133.com](mailto:alahuntingtonbeachunit133.com) or 714-655-7333.



**AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE**

As a program of The American Legion, Boys State developed from the concept that youth should be offered a better perspective of the practical operation of government; that the individual is an integral part and commensurately responsible for the character and success of his government. As such, it is an activity of high educational value, born out of a need for youth training in practical citizenship.

American Legion Boys State is easily classified as a leadership action program where qualified high school juniors take part in a practical government course designed to develop in the young citizens a working knowledge of the structure of government and to impress upon them the fact that government is what they make it.

In February Post 133 conducted interviews for students from local high schools to send in June to Cal. State Univ. Sacramento campus. The Post pays for the delegates' transportation, & room & board. Past delegates state that it was an unforgettable experience.

**1st Vice Commander  
Elaine Parker**



**MEMBERSHIP:**

Good news - 80% of our members have paid their dues - Congrats. Remember, your Legion dues are good for the current Membership Year (1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025). If you skip a year, you will lose your continuous years of membership. You can pay online at [mylegion.org](http://mylegion.org) or send your check (\$50.00) made payable to American Legion Post 133 and mail to American Legion Post 133, PO Box 133, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.

**2nd Vice Commander  
David Beigel**



**SOCIAL CALENDAR:**

**Coffee:** March 7, & 17 and April 4 & 21 2025 at McDonalds at 9 AM.

**Lunch:** March 26 at StoneFire grill on Brookhurst, FV and April 23 at Boudin Main and Beach, both at 11:30 AM.

**Veterans Resource Center (VRC)**  
 Hours are Monday—Thursday 2 to 6 PM, and Friday 9 AM to 1 PM.  
 We now have a certified VSO representative on site the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month by appointment only.  
 To schedule an appointment please contact Robert McClish at 562-201-0239.

**HUNTINGTON BEACH  
HOME TOWN  
HEROES**



The City of Huntington Beach and the American Legion Post 133 Huntington Beach established the Hometown Heroes Program to honor the brave men and women of Huntington Beach serving in the United State Armed Forces. The personalized banners are displayed on light poles within the city of to celebrate their dedication to our country.

Please contact the City Manager's Office at 714-536-5202 with questions. Donations and sponsorships are accepted by the American Legion Post 133. Download the Hometown Heroes Brochure from the City of HB or Post 133 website.



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



*Serving Surf City Since 1919*

www.hbpost133.com

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**HBPL VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER  
 AND AMERICAN LEGION HB POST 133**

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**NATIONAL VIETNAM VETERANS  
 DAY**

**SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 27, 2025**



• CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST & LIGHT LUNCH PROVIDED •  
 • GUEST SPEAKER • RESOURCES •

A special day to honor Vietnam War Veterans. All veterans are welcome to attend and to recognize their service to our country.

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Thursday, March 27, 2025, 10 am-1 pm  
 Huntington Beach Central Library, C/D Rooms  
 7111 Talbert Avenue

REGISTER ONLINE VIA LIBRARY WEBSITE OR QR CODE:  
[HTTPS://HBPL.LIBCAL.COM/EVENT/12350818](https://hbpl.libcal.com/event/12350818)




**American Legion HB Post 133**



**VETERANS**

*Car Show*



**August 10, 2025**  
**9am - 2pm**  
**GoldenWest Plaza**  
**7012 - 7232 Edinger Avenue, HB CA 92647**  
**Live Music, Opportunity Drawings and more...**

Proceeds Benefiting Veterans

For more info:  
 Jim Rossman  
 Phone: 714-267-7094  
 Email: Jrossman480@gmail.com

To register:



American Legion HB Post 133 is a 501(c)(19) #95-6196622