



BEACH NEWS

March



2021



AMERICAN LEGION HUNTINGTON BEACH POST 133

NEXT MEETING:

March 10

via Google Meet

www.hbpost133.com



Commander Robert McClish

Hope everyone is doing well during these first two months of 2021. From July 1st 2020 until now we have financially supported 46 veterans with \$14,882 and a \$5,000 financial contribution to our Auxiliary to help veterans and their families at the VA. The grand total in financial support is \$19,882. The

following categories are where the monies typically go. Moving Assistance 2, Food and Gas Cards 6, Rental Assistance 6, Hotel Voucher for the homeless 8, Car repair and registration 10, Storage 5, Misc. 6 and Burial Expenses 1. The veterans helped live in either Fountain Valley, Costa Mesa, Huntington Beach, or Seal Beach.

Special thank you to Tee it up for the Troops for their generous donation of \$20,000. Pacific Western Bank, NuVision, Huntington Beach Elks Lodge 1959, American Legion Post 291, The Cockrell's and everyone who has donated at our website (hbpost133.com). Without the financial support from donors, we would not be able to help during these hard times. Each one of these veterans have expressed their gratitude and appreciation of the hand up during their time of need.

Thank you to Dave Lautner from Longboards for hosting our American Legion Post 133 breakfast on the first Friday of the month. The food was great, and location was perfect to gather and enjoy each other's company. Our youth programs have started off with a bang. Our Oratorical contest is in process and our contestant Landon Rakhshani won District 29 and is going to the Area 5 contest this March the 7th in Ontario. If he wins there, he will be going to the Department Contest. Good luck Landon.

Reggie Chun is our Youth Program Chairman. We will be doing our Boys State interviews in March. If you are interested in interviewing the candidates, please reach out to Reggie at 818-590-3514. American Legion Baseball has returned to Orange County. At this time we have 4 teams participating which allows us to play in our own league and compete to go to the American Legion World Series. American Legion Huntington Beach Post 133 will be sponsoring one of the four teams.

I have been invited to join a steering committee pertaining to Veteran needs that the VA does not fill. If anyone would like to share their story, please reach out to me at 562-201-0239 so that I can pass on the information.

Flag Disposal program is back, simply drop off your flag at the Central library on the first floor. Thank you to everyone who has given their time and support to our post during these Covid-19 times.

POST 133 OFFICERS:

Robert McClish, Commander
562-201-0239

Russ Dohrmann, 1st Vice
949-510-4151

Ernie Delgado, 2nd Vice
714-904-4330

Dan Brady, 3rd Vice
949-966-1917

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
714-801-4452

Jim Seiler, Historian
714-910-8833

John Jones, Sergeant-At-Arms
714-846-7208

Norm Sumner, Asst. Sgt-At-Arms
714-848-5488

BOARD MEMBERS:

Bill Jeffords

Bob Laizure

John Gontarz

Bud DeWees



UNIT 133 AUXILIARY NEWS Tina Bauer President



The weather has been a challenge for all of us; remember to bundle up for the colder temperatures. Our membership has grown to over 130 members this year. Thank you to our renewing members and welcome to our new members (112 total members have paid to date for 2021; reminder letters were mailed to 20 members who have not renewed for 2021 **As a reminder if your membership card does not read 2021, please send in your payment of \$30.00 immediately to keep your membership current; or pay online (with a credit card) at the American Legion Auxiliary National website alaforveterans.org.** Remember our membership year is July 1st to June 30th. Please contact me if you have questions about your membership status, how to bring your membership current if you owe more than 1 year (2019) or need help to pay your dues.

Your generosity helps us to maintain the much needed support for our Veterans and their families. With your membership dues we are able to support our veterans in the community; help those at the Tibor Rubin VA Medical Center including the PIER Center for the homeless, the Blind Rehabilitation Center for the visually impaired, the Substance Abuse Treatment Program (SATP) outpatient services, Volunteer Services, HUDVash, Women's Mental Health Services, Women's Clinic, provide requested support to women veterans, support activities at the Community Living Center, provide assistance to OIF/OEF/ODN Veterans at the Transition and Care Management Program and support monthly programs for Veterans; send high school students to Girls State; send care packages to our troops, participate in school and community programs honoring our veterans; and participate in the Auxiliary annual Poppy Program.

GIRLS STATE UPDATE: Delegates to the ALA Girls State program are selected by American Legion Auxiliary units, which work with local high school educators and counselors to select young women demonstrating leadership qualities. California Girls State is a leadership program of the American Legion Auxiliary designed to increase awareness and knowledge of the governmental processes while learning about the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Delegates come away with a greater appreciation of the American Flag and of the sacrifices

made by our veterans. While at Girls State, they make friends with outstanding girls from around the state and have a fun week they'll remember for the rest of their lives. Our Unit 133 Girls State Interview Team led by Carolee Focht conducted virtual interviews for the 2021 Girls State Session which will be held as a virtual event this year. This year in addition to Unit 133 members we had support from Unit 133 Girls State alumni from each school to publicize the program with students and participate in the interview process. High School Juniors from the 5 local high schools we support; Edison HS, Fountain Valley HS, Huntington Beach HS, Marina HS and Ocean View HS, participate in this program we have been supporting since 2004. We started with just two high schools Edison HS and Huntington Beach HS and have expanded to the five HS we support today.

There are many resources for you to learn about American Legion Auxiliary Huntington Beach Unit 133 Programs, at our meetings, our social events, and other activities which are mentioned in the American Legion Post 133 website and the monthly newsletter "Beach News". To learn about the many programs for our members who have internet access, visit the National website alaforveterans.org. As a Unit 133 member you can sign up on the website and receive your newsletters, renew your membership dues paying with a credit card, and read other articles about the programs and activities of the American Legion Auxiliary which was established in 1919 and celebrated their 100th anniversary.

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 March.

UPDATE: We will be holding a virtual meeting on Zoom Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 7:00 pm. We will provide a "link" and a call in number for members, who would like to participate. Please let me know your interest by March 7th via email or phone.

For information about Unit 133 membership & programs, contact Tina Bauer, 714-655-7333 or

e-mail: alahuntingtonbeachunit133.com

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 male 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.

Beginning in March, Post 133 will be holding interviews for boys from local high schools we will be sending to Boys State.

**1st Vice Commander
Russ Dohrmann**



MEMBERSHIP: So far this year 471 of our members have paid their dues for 2021. It is now time to pay the 2020-2021 dues of \$45. Pay your dues online at www.legion.org/renew. This is easy and you can use your credit card or mail a check to American Legion Huntington Beach, P.O. Box 133, Huntington Beach, CA. 92648. If you know of any Veterans that might want to become a member of our post, please have them contact me. I would be happy to discuss with them the benefits of membership to our post and most importantly the American Legion Family.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

Since 1925, The American Legion has sponsored a nationwide youth baseball program. During these past seven decades, millions of young players have enjoyed playing baseball. The American Legion Huntington Beach Post 133 has raised hundreds of dollars each year for players to learn the importance of teamwork, discipline, leadership and good sportsmanship

Post 133 is looking to create a team for this year's Legion Baseball. The teams will compete within Orange County.

**2nd Vice Commander
Ernie Deldado**



SOCIAL CALENDAR:

Breakfast: 9:00 AM March 5 at Longboard restaurant (217 Main St, HB) \$10 fee, and coffee
March 15 at Lake Park BBQ tables (Lake St and 11th St). Wear a face mask, we social distance!

Check our website for future activities:
www.hbpost133.com

KOREAN AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE MEDAL

Embassy of the Republic of South Korea Seeks Korean War veterans to honor with the Ambassador for Peace Medal

To be eligible, the veterans must have served in country during the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953. It is also available for the veterans who have participated in UN peace keeping operations until the end of 1955.

If a veteran was a Navy service member and has served aboard a Navy vessel, then he is eligible if the vessel was assigned into Korean waters during the 1950 to 1953

The Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal may be awarded posthumously. The next of kin may receive the medal on behalf of the deceased.

American Legion Huntington Beach Post 133 has been contacting Korean war veterans and assisting them to apply for this medal.



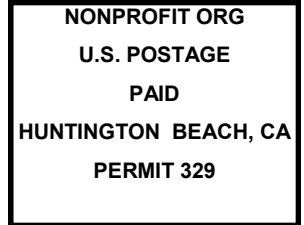


American Legion Post 133
P.O. Box 133
Huntington Beach, CA 92648



Serving Surf City Since 1919

www.hbpost133.com



The **American Legion Oratorical** Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Young orators earn some of the most generous college scholarships available to high school students. Over \$138,000 in scholarships can be awarded each year. The overall national contest winner gets an \$18,000 scholarship. Second place takes home \$16,000, and third gets \$14,000. Each department (state) winner who is certified into and participates in the national contest's first round receives a \$1,500 scholarship. Those who advance past the first round receive an additional \$1,500 scholarship. The American Legion's National Organization awards the scholarships, which can be used at any college or university in the United States.

High school students under age 20 are eligible. Competition begins at the post level and advances to a state competition. Legion department representatives certify one winner per state to the national contest, where department winners compete against each other in two speaking rounds. The contest caps off with a final round that decides the three top finishers.

Speaking subjects must be on some aspect of the U.S. Constitution, with some emphasis on the duties and obligations of citizens to our government. Speeches are eight to 10 minutes long; three- to five-minute speeches on an assigned topic also are part of the contest.

This year Post 133 oratorical winner went on to win District. He is now competing at Area 5. Good Luck.

Publisher: Dennis Bauer. To receive this newsletter in color via e-mail, contact Dennis Bauer, at dennisbauer@socal.rr.com See it in color at: www.hbpost133.com.