



BEACH NEWS

Nov.-Dec.



2024



AMERICAN LEGION HUNTINGTON BEACH POST 133

Next meetings are
November 13
and
December 11
at 7:00 PM
at Memorial Hall
1718 Orange Ave.



Commander Jim Ghormley

The holidays are upon us! Barbara and I are very much looking forward to their arrival. Our youngest daughter from Seattle will be with us for Thanksgiving. Our eldest granddaughter from Pennsylvania comes on 14 Dec and departs on 27 Dec. Our eldest daughter and youngest granddaughter from Virginia will be at our home on 20 Dec and depart on 27 Dec. We are very excited to have our family with us. We wish all of you a bountiful

Thanksgiving; a very Merry and Holy Christmas; and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

The next major event for your American Legion Post 133 is Veterans Day. Your Post will be supporting two events on 11 November. The first event is sponsored by Nuvision Credit Union at their Huntington Beach Edinger site. The festivities begin at 8:00 am with opening ceremony, then program and breakfast for veterans. If you are interested in having a rewarding experience with other veterans, join us. **The second event is the City of Huntington Beach Veterans Day celebration at Pier Plaza. The program begins at 11:00 am.** Join us for this one and bring family and friends!! Here are a few lesser-known facts about Veterans Day: (1) Veterans Day was not always celebrated on 11 Nov. In 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Holiday Bill. The Bill placed Veterans Day at the fourth Monday of October. Numerous states complained, and in 1975 President Ford returned Veterans Day to 11 November. (2) The first celebration referred to as Veterans Day was held in Birmingham, AL on 11 November 1947. (3) New York has the oldest and largest Veterans Day parade; the first New York parade was held in 1919 (then called Armistice Day).

Your HB Post 133 Honor Guard Supports a myriad of requests for honors throughout the year. These requests include rendering final honors at grave site for deceased veterans; executing the flag ceremony in church, outside of church, or at interment. The Honor Guard receives requests from schools, businesses, and private individuals for flag presentations, taps, and award ceremonies. The Honor Guard also performs the rifle salute at grave site, official functions, and when requested by appropriate authority. If you have not seen your HB 133 Honor Guard perform, come to Pier Plaza for the Veterans Day celebration. The Honor Guard will present a rifle salute near the end of the program. The experience is very moving. HB Post 133 can be justifiably proud of the Honor Guard!

As I am sure you know, HB Post 133 operates a Veterans Resource Center at the Huntington Beach Central Library. The hours of operation are shown in this newsletter. I take this opportunity to remind you that any veteran can receive help for almost any benefit due veterans. If you need help, take advantage of this wonderful resource.

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
 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:

Bud DeWees

Bob Laizure

Gary Robles

David Biegel



UNIT 133 AUXILIARY NEWS Tina Bauer President



Happy Fall to everyone, as you know it is daylight savings time as we set our clocks back one hour. Our members were busy in September and October attending many activities. On September 1st we hosted the LBVAMC Community Living Center bingo. We provided 30 gift bags to the participants as a thank you gift. Auxiliary members participated helping the veterans with their bingo cards as many play multiple cards and visiting before and after each game.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Labor Day Picnic on September 2nd at Lake Park. We had a great turnout with over 50 HB Legion Family Members in attendance; our 2024 Girls State and Boys State delegates and their families. Unit 133 members provided side dishes, desserts, and beverages to augment the hamburger, hot dogs and fish main course donated and grilled by Post 133 members. Besides the food, the highlight of this event is always meeting our Girls State and Boys State delegates who share their experiences, and goals for college.



Each Girls State delegate was presented a stole from HB Unit 133 and individual certificates from the California State Senate and Assembly.

In October we had our 1st Quartermania event fundraiser in support of our youth programs. HB Unit 133 members were very involved; Divita Elliot Meisinger hosted the event with help from Noella Passarelli. We had 12 vendors featuring Pampered Chef, Scentsy, homemade jams and pickles, Tupperware, lots of bling and home décor. Those who came enjoyed a delicious lunch, had lots of fun and tons of laughter. We plan to have another Quartermania in the spring and hope that you will be able to join us again with family and friends. Thank you to everyone who generously donated, but were unable to join us.

Thank you to all our members, HB 133 Legion Family members and friends who supported our Holiday Wreath fundraiser for 2024, we appreciate your generosity. If you would like to place an order, please contact me and I can provide you the information to order directly for shipment via FED-EX.

On Saturday, November 11th there will be a Veteran's Day Ceremony at the Huntington Beach Pier Plaza at 11:00 a.m. If any Unit members can arrive early, at 10:00 a.m., we will be distributing patriotic scarves as our fundraiser.

They are only \$10.00 and the proceeds support our Veterans, their families, programs benefitting our youth (Girls State) and community

LBVAMC ADOPT A FAMILY FOR THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS – Beginning in 2008, every few months we have donated food, gas, and other gift cards to the Tibor Rubin VA Medical Center, Long Beach (LBVAMC) Post 9/11 Military2VA Case Management Program (Veterans Transition Center and Care Management Program), the VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement (Voluntary Services Department), and other programs on the Long Beach campus; for Case Managers, Social Workers and program specialists to give to veterans in need. Again this holiday season for Thanksgiving we will donate grocery store gift cards for a complete dinner for a veteran and their family, gift cards for single veterans to purchase a meal of their choice at a grocery store, and food items for Thanksgiving care packages. For Christmas we will be providing holiday gift cards for those who are receiving services from the Transition and Care Management Program for distribution to the young men and women, who are in need. We will also be adopting local veterans and their families through the VA Long Beach Health Care System, Voluntary Services Department - Operation Santa program. Please contact Tina Bauer via email or phone if you would like to help support the families we adopt.

We are now half-way through our membership year. We are 260 members strong, although 96 members have not renewed for this year. Our membership year is July 1st to June 30th and can create confusion as your new card will state **2025**, yet we are still in calendar year 2024, let's make 100%.

If your card states 2024 you will need to renew for 1 year (\$40.00); however if your card states 2023 you will need to renew for 2 years to stay current sending a check for \$68.00 which will cover your past dues to Department and National Auxiliary and your current year Unit 133 membership (2025) renewal. To pay with a credit card or with Zelle, please contact me for information. Your continued support is appreciated and helps us to maintain our programs. Please renew today!

The next HB Unit 133 meeting will be held Wednesday, November 13th, 2024 at Memorial Hall located at the city of Huntington Beach 17th Street Park on Orange Avenue. Join us at 6:30 p.m. for a social and 7:00 p.m. for our meeting; you will make new friends, learn about our activities, programs and volunteering. We will have our Holiday Scarves at this meeting. As a reminder, our Unit 133 does not meet in December..

Best wishes to all our members celebrating birthdays and other special occasions in November and December.

Please contact me (e-mail: alahuntingtonbeachunit133.com or 714-655-7333) if you have any questions about our fundraisers, activities, membership for family and friends, or volunteering.

Thank you for your continued support of our Unit.

Patriot Day ceremony was held at Pier Plaza remembering the 9-11 tragedy and Post 133 honored HB first responders.



**1st Vice Commander
Elaine Parker**



MEMBERSHIP:

National increased dues on July 1 by \$5, therefore Post 133 dues have increased to \$50.00 FY 2024 ended 30 June 2024. FY2025 started on 1 July 2024 and dues are now \$50.00. Please make a check payable to American Legion Post 133 and mail it to: American Legion Post 133, P.O. Box 133, Huntington Beach, CA 92648. Also, Please inform the post of any legionnaire's death.

**2nd Vice Commander
David Beigel**



SOCIAL CALENDAR:

COFFEE: NOV. 1ST at 09:00 at MCDONALDS, 16866 BEACH BLVD, HB., and NOV. 18TH at 09:00 at MCDONALDS, GOLDENWEST & YORKTOWN

LUNCH: NOV. 20TH @11:30 at STONEFIRE GRILL, 18727 BROOKHURST ST, FV

COFFEE: FRIDAY, DEC 6TH and 16th at 09:00 at MCDONALDS, GOLDENWEST & YORKTOWN .

LUNCH: DEC. 18th at BUON GUSTO, 4911 WARNER AVE, 109, HB . **This is the Post 133's 105th birthday celebration.**

Sons of the American Legion (SAL):

The 2024-25 membership cards are here. Please note that July 1, 2024 is the beginning of the new membership year. Our dues remain at \$30.

Most of you have not paid this years dues. Please send \$30 to American Legion Post 133, PO Boxx 133, HB, CA 92648 with SAL in the memo.

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 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month by appointment only. To schedule an appointment please contact Frank Passarelli.

Volunteers are welcome to contact Frank Passarelli or Noella Passarelli.



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



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**Veterans Day ceremony will be held on
November 11th at 11:00 AM at
Huntington Beach Pier Plaza.**

