

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Post 9934 Auxiliary 9934



Dana Point, California
November 2024



HONOR THE VALOR

On September 27th, seven Post 9934 members were honored at the Dana Hills High School Football Stadium before the game: Dana Hills v St. Margaret's Episcopal School. Commander Rick did the coin toss. (Dana Hills won 35-14)

ALL STATE POST 2004-05, 2005-06, 2007-08,
2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13,
2013-14, 2014-2015, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-2018-
2019-2020, 2021-2022, 2023-2024

ALL AMERICAN POST 2007-08
2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-2014,
2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2019-2020, 2021-2022,
2023-2024

2018 & 2022 NATIONAL OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Commander's Message

Greetings Comrades,

It's difficult to believe that it's November already. Our thoughts have gone from the end of summer to the upcoming holidays. We have started putting together the schedule for Buddy Poppy weekend. If you have not signed up, please do... or you just might get a phone call.

Before talking about what is coming up, I would like to recognize the Post for all that was accomplished this past month. The Post received several requests to assist the community and specifically Veterans families. Requests were received for speaking engagements, memorial services, Honor Guard duties and for emergency financial assistance. I am proud to say that we were able to handle each of these requests with the help of our Post members who stepped up to give up their own time. Our Veterans Day ceremony will be held at 1000 Hrs. on Monday, November 11th. Please invite your friends and family to the event. This year our keynote speaker will be our own USMC Retired 1st Sergeant Nelson Curn. Please join me to support our Military brothers and sisters.

As you read this message, the Post is still cleaning up from Trunk or Treat. It was held at the Community Center on Saturday the 26th of October. I am told that there were ghosts and goblins galore, including a tiger or was it "Tigger" (Phil Jimenez). Plus, a Viking (Wayne Yost) was also in attendance. This Saturday, November 2nd, the City of Dana Point is observing the Day of the Dead with a small celebration at La Plaza Park. They have invited our Post to participate in this observance. So, we will be joining several other organizations with our "Ofrenda" (altar). The "Ofrenda" will have a Veteran/patriotic theme to honor our friends and loved ones who have passed on. Jr Vice Carlos Garcia has been working diligently to make it a success. Please stop by to see his hard work.

What is now in the works are the Veterans Day observances occurring in a few days. There are several schools that have invited our Post to participate with their students in honoring our Veterans. I will see you at the November 12th meeting at South Shores Church at 6PM. Please be safe and be kind to each other.

*Rick Jauregui, Commander,
Post 9934, Dana Point*

POST OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

Post Commander	Rick Jauregui	Service Officer	Aaron Pluff
Senior Vice Commander	Richard Alonzo	Service Officers Team	Jim Socks
Junior Vice Commander	Carlos Garcia		John Coon
Post Quartermaster	Phil Jimenez		Ben Valencia
Assistant Quartermaster	Wayne Yost	Service Officer Advisor	Marty Hoffman
Adjutant	David Vera	Service Officer Support	Debbie Yost
Post Chaplain	Ron Egigian		
Judge Advocate	Dolores Padgett	Trustee (3-year term)	Rodney Bradley
Post Surgeon	Gil Castro	Trustee (2-year term)	Robert Pruitt
Post Color Guard Captain	Carlos Garcia	Trustee (1-year term)	Scott Roberts

AUXILIARY OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

President	Lisa Mers	Conductor	Ralph Mariano
Senior Vice President	Sharon Miller	Guard	Tory Boegeman
Junior Vice President	Lupe Brady		
Secretary	Terry Marr	Trustee 3	Mary Koebler
Treasurer	Cindy Somerville	Trustee 2	Sharon Miller
Chaplain	Carlene Chew	Trustee 1	Judy Brandmeier

From the Desk of the Quartermaster



I would like to welcome our annual members that have upgraded to life membership of our Post. It's a great advantage to be a life member as you will no longer be bothered by paying the annual membership fee each year. It's never too late, I encourage all of our members to become Life Members of Post 9934.

for showing the community that we not only care for Veterans and active service members but also reach out to those in our community.

November 25th is our day of thanks. I wish each and every one of you and your families a blessed Thanksgiving. In your prayers at your Thanksgiving meal, remember our service people that are away in a foreign land and not able to give thanks with their families. We wish them a safe day of grace and welcome them home upon their return. Happy Thanksgiving to all.

On 19th October we had our annual Post inspection, we scored 100% in 15 minutes, in keeping with the tradition that Bill Manes has set over the last 26 years. I would like to thank Commander Rick, Wayne, Cindy, David, and Peggy for the moral support. This was a show of force that members and Auxiliary care about our post.

This month we will hold our annual Veterans Day Ceremony will on 11th of November. Our Buddy Poppy drives will be on 9th and 10th of November. We have two store locations, and your volunteer help is needed, even for one or two hours to give others a break. This is an important fund raiser for our post and all money raised goes into our relief fund to be used for the benefit of our active military families and veterans that are in need. Please email dpvfwpost9934@gmail.com or call the office (949) 248-1419 to volunteer for an hour or two, morning or afternoon. The Post needs you and we appreciate your help with this.

Our Auxiliary held their annual garage sale with great success. All monies go to helping our military families. We thank all that helped with this fundraising event.

*Phil Jimenez, Quartermaster
Dana Point VFW Post 9934*

We ended the month of October with our fun Trunk or Treat afternoon. The kids decorated pumpkins, Comrades passed out candy to excited kids in Halloween costumes. Thanks to members of the Post and Auxiliary

Auxiliary Corner

“Nothing is as strong as the heart of a volunteer”
(Jimmy Dolittle)

First, we want to extend a big THANK YOU for your support with our Garage Sale Fundraiser. It was a huge success. We look forward to finding new ways to support our Amazing Veterans.

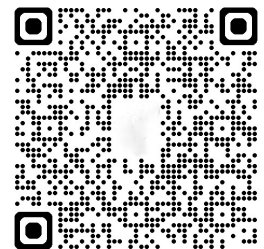
The Holiday Season has started with a “SPOOKTACULAR” event. We volunteered with the Post at the Dana Point Halloween Festival. Our booth included a pumpkin decoration table. There was a swirl of glitter and paint everywhere as we helped the kiddos create their masterpieces.

We are asking you to become a member of the VFW Auxiliary 9934 Dana Point Facebook page and support our latest fundraiser: Flower Power – enjoy the beauty of Holiday flowers and bulbs.

*Terry Marr,
Secretary, Historian
VFW Auxiliary 9934*



Visit our Flower Power Fundraiser Page



POW/MIA MEMORIAL - RIVERSIDE NATIONAL CEMETARY

VA national cemeteries contain numerous memorials honoring the service members who became prisoners of war (POW) or went missing in action (MIA) from the Revolutionary War to the present. While all pay powerful tribute to the sacrifices and suffering of POWs and MIAs, the memorial at Riverside National Cemetery in southern California is notable for an additional reason. In 2004, while it was still under construction, Congress designated it the “Prisoner of War/Missing in Action National Memorial.”

Since opening in 1978, Riverside has become the nation’s largest national cemetery as well as one of the busiest, averaging more than 8,000 burials a year. Over 290,000 grave sites are spread across 1,236 acres. The POW/MIA memorial stands east of the main gate. The dramatic bronze sculpture created by Vietnam Veteran Lewis Lee Millett, Jr., forms the centerpiece of the memorial plaza. The statue depicts an American serviceman, exhausted, kneeling in agony, bound by captors with arms pinned behind his back by a bamboo rod, looking upward. Millett based the sculpture on U.S. Air Force Captain Lance Sijan, who ejected from his damaged aircraft over Laos in November 1967 and evaded capture for more than a month before he was finally taken prisoner. After being tortured and enduring severe privation, he died in captivity on January 22, 1968. President Gerald Ford presented Sijan’s parents with a posthumous Medal of Honor in 1976.

The artist, Vietnam Veteran Lewis Lee Millett, Jr. (right), and his father, decorated Veteran of three wars Colonel Lewis Lee Millett, Sr. (center), view the memorial during its production phase. The elder Millett received a Medal of Honor for his heroic action during the Korean War. (NCA)

Millett himself served in Vietnam in 1972 and afterwards was assigned to the 101st Airborne from 1974 to 1977. His father was the much-decorated Veteran of three wars, Colonel Lewis Lee Millett, Sr.* As an Army captain in the Korean War, the elder Millett received the Medal of Honor for his heroic conduct leading a bayonet charge against a hilltop position. POWs were an important issue to the Millett family. Millett, Jr., donated his \$80,000 artist’s commission for the sculpture to the memorial and pledged to do the same with all proceeds



from the sale of replicas of the statue. Funding for the monument, which cost around \$675,000, came entirely from private donations.

Millett said that he wanted his work to convey the message that “No American is expendable. No American should be left behind. That should be a national as well as military motto.” A semi-circle of nine vertical black marble slabs around the central figure provides a sense of imprisonment. An inscription on one of the end slabs captures the meaning and spirit of the memorial:

We honor here the sacrifice of hundreds of thousands of Americans held Prisoner of War, and those still listed as Missing in Action since the time of the American Revolution. Some died from disease and starvation, some perished in death marches, some were tortured, and some were lost, gone forever from their families...All were deprived of their liberties so that you may enjoy yours.

Riverside National Cemetery is also home to the Medal of Honor memorial, dedicated in 1999, and the Fallen Soldier/Veterans’ Memorial, completed a year later. Dedication of the POW/MIA memorial occurred, fittingly enough, on September 16, 2005, the date earmarked by presidential proclamation as National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

*Lewis Lee Millett, Sr. died November 14, 2009, and is buried in Riverside National Cemetery

[By Richard Hulver, Ph.D., Historian, National Cemetery Administration, and Nalia Warmack, Virtual Student Federal Service Intern, National Cemetery Administration]

VFW National Home

The origins of today’s VFW National Home can be traced to a 23-year-old woman named Amy Ross. In 1922, Ross made it her mission to help find jobs for the thousands of unemployed veterans in Detroit.

THE BEGINNING

News of Ross’ efforts reached cattleman Corey Spencer, who gifted 472 acres of land near Eaton Rapids, Michigan, to build on Ross’ vision of supporting veterans.

On Jan. 7, 1925, the VFW National Home was founded, helping to fulfill the VFW pledge to “honor the dead by helping the living.” Later that spring, the Home welcomed its first family in an old frame farmhouse, Mrs. Pollett and her six children. Pollett had become suddenly widowed and lost her husband’s military pension.

THROUGH THE YEARS

Since its founding, the VFW National Home has grown from an old frame farmhouse to a sprawling campus with playgrounds; park areas; and



V F W
N A T I O N A L H O M E

multiple buildings, including single-family homes, a community center and gymnasium, child care facility, guest lodge, chapel, and administrative offices.

Over the years, the National Home has evolved to meet the changing needs of America’s military and veterans’ families. Through it all, one thing has remained constant: the National Home’s commitment to honor our nation’s veterans and active-duty military by providing help and hope for their children and families.

To learn more visit the VFW National Home website: vfnationalhome.org

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Buddy Poppy Distribution Drive

Our 2024 Veterans Day Weekend Poppy Distribution Drive will be held on November 9th and 10th 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Locations:

Albertsons - 30241 Golden Lantern, Laguna Niguel

Pavilions - 989 Avenida Pico, San Clemente

Please show your support: Drop by to say hello and help us distribute Buddy Poppies.

Veterans Day Ceremony

Dana Point VFW Post 9934 and the City of Dana Point will hold the annual Veterans Day Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial, Strand Vista Park, Selva Road, Dana Point. Ceremony begins at 10:00 am.

Nelson Coburn, USMC First Sergeant (Ret’d) and Life Member of Post 9934, will be our guest speaker.



VETERANS NATIONWIDE CAN NOW USE THEIR PHONES TO GET EMERGENCY CARE FROM VA

Veterans can now access emergency care from a Department of Veterans Affairs hospital by telephone or video under a new program that links patients experiencing medical distress with a VA provider.

The VA announced that its tele-emergency care program, called tele-EC, is now available across the country, following a gradual rollout this year that has helped 61,182 veterans get care.

According to the VA, nearly 60% of callers who contacted the department through the program had their health needs solved at home without requiring a visit to urgent care or an emergency room.

"It might seem a little strange that we can treat a medical emergency through a telephone call. ... But we've all been there -- we have a cut and don't know if we need stitches. We may have fallen and don't know if we broke our wrist.

The benefit works like this: Veterans enrolled in VA health care contact VA Health Connect, which links them with a triage nurse who, in turn, connects them to a VA emergency physician if needed.

The provider, who has access to a veteran's VA medical records, assesses the patient over the phone or by video and recommends treatment, follow-up or, in the case of a life-threatening emergency, calls 911 and stays on the line until emergency medical services arrive.

"Veterans can simply pick [up] the phone, call VA, and we can give them advice on what to do and where to go for care. ... Now, every veteran can feel like they have a doctor in the family," Patel said.

From 2016 through 2022, 3.9 million veterans made nearly 20 million visits to an emergency room, with roughly 73% going to the VA and the remainder landing in a civilian emergency department, according to research published earlier this year in JAMA Network Open.

The study found that, from 2016 to 2022, the cost to the VA of visits by veterans to a civilian emergency room rose from \$1.18 billion to \$6.14 billion.

The program should reduce the VA's emergency medical budget and also lower wait times in VA facilities as more veterans learn about it and use it.

Patel said that, as an example, he handled a call from an 80-year-old veteran who was feeling lightheaded but lived more than an hour away from an emergency department. During the tele-EC call, Patel learned that the veteran had recently changed medications, with dizziness being a common side effect of the new regimen.

Patel was able to advise the veteran to drink fluids, change his dose, and take it at a different time to reduce side effects. Then, Patel followed up with the patient a few days later.

"He was feeling great and was so, so thankful that he didn't need to go to the ER and spend hours in a waiting room," Patel said.

The program, now available in all 18 VA network regions, has been gradually introduced this year. With the emergency provider's access to VA medical records and the ability to prescribe medications and order lab tests and imaging, the program is able to provide "whole health" services to veterans that become integrated into their record and follow-on care.

"There are health care systems out there that are doing virtual care options. What we are doing at VA is, to my knowledge, unique in that we get to do it in an integrated health care system ... as opposed to treating the acute issue and hoping they get care later on," Patel said.

To access tele-emergency care, veterans should reach out to VA Health Connect (<https://www.va.gov/initiatives/va-health-connect/>) or the VA Health Chat app. Veterans also can find their local VA Health Connect number by searching for their local facility.

Patel said if vets are experiencing a life-threatening emergency, they should call 911 or go to an "emergency room right away."

[*Patricia Kime, Military.com*]

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR EVENT



VFW Post 9934 joined the City of Dana Point and the Dana Point Police Services at the SPOOKTACULAR Trunk or Treat event on October 26, 2024 at the Community Center. The Post set up tables for pumpkin decorating and handed out toys and Halloween candy to kids in costumes. It was a Beautiful day in Dana Point. Fun had by all!



Visit our Website
vfwpost9934.org



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - NOVEMBER 2024

- ◇ Saturday, November 2nd, 3:30 to 8:00 pm - Dia de los Muertos, La Plaza Park, Dana Point
- ◇ Wednesday, November 6th, 2:00 to 4:00 pm - Disability Clinic. Dana Point Community Center, 34052 Del Obispo St.
- ◇ Saturday, November 9th and Sunday, November 10th - 10:00 am to 5:00 pm - Buddy Poppy Donation Drives in San Clemente and Laguna Niguel.
- ◇ Monday, November 11th, 10:00 to 11:00 am - Veterans Day Ceremony, Strand Vista Park, Dana Point
- ◇ Tuesday, November 12th, VFW Post Meeting – 6:00 pm, South Shores Church, 32712 Crown Valley Pkwy.
- ◇ Tuesday, November 19th, 6:00 pm - Dana Point City Council Meeting
- ◇ Wednesday, November 20th, 2:00 to 4:00 pm - Disability Clinic. Dana Point Community Center, 34052 Del Obispo St.
- ◇ Thursday, November 28th - Thanksgiving Day.

CONTACT VFW POST 9934

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Website: vfwpost9934.org
Facebook: facebook.com/vfwpost9934

NOVEMBER 2024 MEETINGS

The next meetings of Post and Auxiliary 9934 will be on Tuesday, November 12, 2024.

The Post meeting will be held at South Shores Church, 32712 Crown Valley Parkway, starting at 6:00 p.m.



Monday, November 11th



Thursday, November 28th