

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Post 9934 & Auxiliary 9934
Dana Point, California



Mail Call

October 2026



September 11th - Dana Hills High School held there annual Honor the Valor ceremony before the Football Game. (Dana Hills defeated Wilson/Long Beach 35-10. Go Dolphins!) Post 9934 Color Guard presented the colors while the DHHS band played the National Anthem.



September 22nd - Long Beach VA Bingo. Quilts were donated by Surfside Quilter's Guild. Post 9934 gave out LBVA Patriot's Store Coupons. Auxiliary 9934 provided crochet hats and blankets.



Commander's Message

Greetings Comrades,

Well, it is hard to believe that Fall is here already. As usual, your Post comrades did not stop working for the last days of summer.

The request for Honor Guards has never been greater. At the present time we have at least two scheduled in the coming weeks. Also on the horizon are the events scheduled for Buddy Poppies and Veterans Day.

Your Post Officers have been hard at work, specifically Phil Jimenez and Dave Vera. They have been preparing for our yearly Post inspections. To those of you who have never been involved in the inspection process, I can assure you that it is a time consuming and work intensive process.

All posts must account for all the Post business during the year. Monies spent, activities planned and attended, all programs completed, the list goes on. The staff then must present all this to a designated VFW inspector.

Of course, none of this happens without our Office Manager Cindy Laursen maintaining the infinite amount of paperwork we produce.

Before I leave you, I would like to tell you a quick story from a few days I spent in South Carolina. While I was there on personal business, I made it a point to do a "Commander's Visit" to one of the local VFW Posts.

This Post depends on their canteen for membership and community support. I called ahead as a courtesy. While I saw the canteen doing quite well as a "bar" there was only one Post member among the crowd. I was also informed that there had not been a regular Post meeting in several months due to the lack of interest. I found this sad and disheartening as a VFW Comrade.

Again, I am so grateful to be a member of Post 9934 and privileged to be your commander. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

The next meeting is on Tuesday, October 13th at 6pm at South Shores Church.

Please be safe and be kind to each other.

Rick Jauregui, Commander
Post 9934, Dana Point



POST OFFICERS FOR 2026-2027

Post Commander	Rick Jauregui	Post Chaplain	Tim Laursen
Senior Vice Commander	Richard Alonzo	Judge Advocate	Michael Turner
Junior Vice Commander	Carlos Garcia	Post Color Guard Captain	Carlos Garcia
Post Quartermaster	Phil Jimenez	Benefits Advisor	Rodney Bradley
Adjutant	David Vera	Trustee (3-year term)	Michael Turner
Assistant Quartermaster	Wayne Yost	Trustee (2-year term)	David Priddy
Post Surgeon	Gil Castro	Trustee (1-year term)	Rodney Bradley

AUXILIARY OFFICERS FOR 2026-2027

President	Lisa Mers	Conductor	Ralph Mariano
Senior Vice President	Sharon Miller	Guard	Lupe Brady
Junior Vice President	Terry Marr	Trustee 3	Sharon Miller
Secretary/Historian	Terry Marr	Trustee 2	Ralph Mariano
Treasurer	Cindy Laursen	Trustee 1	Judy Brandmeier
Chaplain	Carlene Chew	Patriotic Instructor	Lupe Brady

From the Desk of the Quartermaster



As we enter the fall and holiday season, we are reminded that this time of year can be especially difficult for some of our active-duty military families. Many are struggling with the rising cost of rent and the basic necessities of putting food on the table. As members of Post 9934, we have an opportunity—and a responsibility—to stand beside these families and help ease some of their burdens.

Our Post has been a strong supporter of the Camp Pendleton Pantry, and we are asking for your continued help during the months ahead. Please bring **household cleaning supplies and personal hygiene care products** to our October, November, and December meetings. Every donation, large or small, helps provide much-needed assistance to military families who are facing difficult circumstances.

This is also a time to show the pride and compassion that define Post 9934. In October, we will once again support the **Halloween Spooktacular and Trunk or Treat** on October 24th at the Dana Point Community Center, 34052 Del Obispo St., Dana Point. If you can spare an hour or two between 1:00 and 5:00 P.M. please come out and join the fun. Help us distribute treats, paint pumpkins, and bring a little joy to the children and families in our community.

Please also mark your calendars for our **Veterans Day service at Strands Beach** and our annual **Poppy Drive**. We will have two locations for the Poppy Drive, and I am asking for volunteers to sign up early so we can make sure we have sufficient support for the distribution of our poppies.

As we distribute these poppies, let us remember what they represent. **Every dollar raised goes into our Veterans Relief Fund**, providing assistance to veterans and their families when they need it most. The need has been greater

this year, making your participation more important than ever. Your time, your generosity, and your willingness to serve others are a meaningful continuation of the service and sacrifice that define the veterans we honor.

We are also requesting **unwrapped toys for MAG-39** this year, as we will not be receiving toys through Spark of Love. If you are able, please bring an unwrapped toy to one of our meetings. A simple gift can make a tremendous difference to a military family during the holiday season.

I realize this is a substantial wish list. The Post does not ordinarily ask our membership to support so many causes at once. We make every effort to use our general funds whenever possible so that we do not place an undue burden on our members. This year, however, the needs are greater. In addition to our ongoing support, the Post has already made several important contributions, including **two memorial plaques and several rent-assistance payments** for those in need.

These efforts are about more than donations and fundraisers. They are about **service, obligation, and honoring the commitment we made to support our veterans, their families, and those currently serving our nation**. When we come together as a Post, we demonstrate that the bonds of military service do not end when someone takes off the uniform.

Thank you for your continued generosity, understanding, and willingness to help. Every contribution of time, money, food, or a simple toy helps us fulfill our mission and reminds those we serve that they have not been forgotten.

I look forward to seeing you at the Halloween Spooktacular.

Phil Jimenez
Quartermaster
VFW Post 9934

Chaplain's Corner



October is an important month for the military, both historically and continuing assistance to local charitable organizations. Here's a run-down of both.

October 3, 1993

Battle of Mogadishu, Black Hawk Down. A raid by U.S. Army Rangers and Delta Force operators to capture lieutenants of Somali

warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid erupted into a 17-hour battle through the streets of Mogadishu after two Black Hawk helicopters were shot down. Eighteen Americans were killed, 73 wounded, and one captured. Somali casualties numbered in the hundreds. The battle profoundly shaped American attitudes toward humanitarian intervention.

October 7, 2001

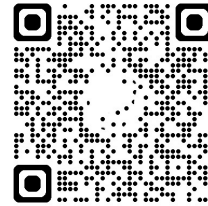
Start of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) in Afghanistan. Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) was the official name used by the U.S. government for both the first stage (2001–2014) of the war in Afghanistan and related military operations during the broader-scale global war on terrorism. On 7 October 2001, in response to the September 11 attacks, President George W. Bush announced that airstrikes against al-Qaeda and the Taliban and the had begun in Afghanistan.

October 13, 1775

The United States Navy was officially established on October 13, 1775. This date marks the creation of the Continental Navy by the Second Continental Congress, aimed at combating British naval forces during the American Revolutionary War. Although the Continental Navy was relatively small and disbanded after the war, its formation represented a significant step towards maritime independence for the colonies. The establishment of the Navy laid the groundwork for what would eventually become the world's premier naval forces.

We are expanding our relationship with ASYMCA Pendleton Pantry. Please continue to bring donations to the monthly meeting. We deliver donations at least once a month. There is also an option to donate via their website. To reach the website, you can use

QR code below or go to: camppendleton.asymca.org



This Thanksgiving we will be supplying 50 complete turkey dinners to Pendleton Pantry families in addition to the turkey dinners we will be supplying the Marine Air Group (MAG) 39. There is also an option to "Adopt a Marine" if you would like to share your Thanksgiving meal with a Marine in your home. This is also through ASYMCA.

United to End Homelessness is an outreach of the United Way of South Orange County. Their goal is to house 50 homeless veterans this year. I personally work with this organization in this noble effort. For more information and to donate, go to: unitedtoendhomelessness.org.

Homeward Bound Veterans (HBVets) is a 6-bedroom/10 bed single family dwelling in a nice neighborhood in Laguna Hills. HBVets provides safe transitional housing, structured reintegration, and essential support services - delivered by people who understand the journey firsthand. They offer stability, accountability, and a clear path forward.

Our Post partners with HBVets in this effort. There are five veterans there that we directly support or have supported in the past. They also take donations of slightly used clothing for the residents. For more information, visit hbvets.org

As always, I am available as your spiritual leader. Let me know if and how I can serve you. Keep me posted on comrades and their family members who are in need of assistance.

God bless you, and God bless the United States of America!

Tim Laursen,
Chaplain VFW Post 9934, Dana Point
vfw9934chaplain@gmail.com

VFW Action Corps September 2026 MIA Identification

There were no new identifications during the month of September 2026.

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” Winston Churchill

Although June is PTSD awareness month, it's very important to be aware of it daily. Please check out the resources the VFW provides:
<https://www.vfw.org/home-bottom-rotator/national-ptsd-awareness-day>

Terry Marr
Secretary, Historian
VFW Auxiliary 9934



Donations Received for the Pendleton Pantry at the Bunco Fundraiser



VFW AUXILIARY
UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Dana Point Trunk or Treat - October 24

Join us and the City of Dana Point for a fun-filled Halloween themed event at the Dana Point Community Center parking lot, 34052 Del Obispo St. 1:30 to 5:00 pm. The City's Recreation Division is teaming up with Dana Point Police Services and local non-profits for a fantastic family event. Activities include an indoor arcade, spooky maze, crafts, entertainment, and the Dana Point Police Services Trunk or Treat display. Come meet the bloodhounds, bomb squad, K-9 unit, mounted patrol, and the dedicated staff that keeps Dana Point safe. A kid's costume parade will take place at 3:30pm on the baseball field, with prizes! Refreshments and food are available to purchase from food trucks.



Photo from 2025 Trunk or Treat. We sure do miss you, Ben!



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO THE DEDICATION OF

RETURNING HOME

 **WEDNESDAY,**
OCTOBER 28, 2026

 **10:00 A.M.**

 **HERITAGE PARK**
OLD GOLDEN LANTERN
DANA POINT, CALIFORNIA

★

TOGETHER, WE HONOR SERVICE,
SACRIFICE, FAMILY AND
THE JOY OF COMING HOME.

★



**LUNCH RECEPTION
TO FOLLOW AT
SHELTER DISTILLING
24701 DEL PRADO**



**DANA POINT 5TH MARINE
REGIMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

★ SEMPER FIDELIS ★

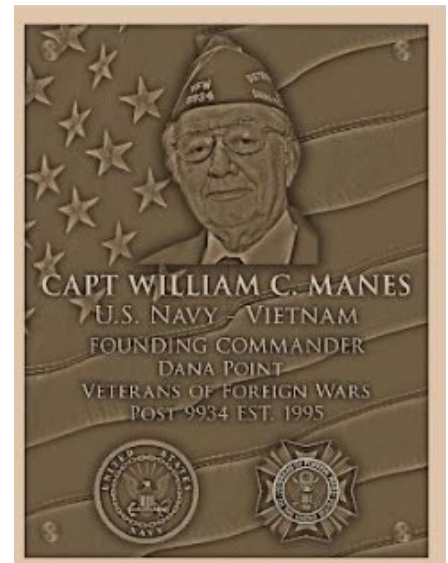


October 28 - 10:00 am. The public is warmly invited to join the Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group for this special dedication ceremony. Anyone can

Guests are encouraged to bring their own chairs.

Post 9934 will have two plaques displayed. One with the VFW logo and our motto "NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS."

The other is a special tribute to honor our Post Founder Bill Manes.



★ VFW CALIFORNIA ★ HALF-OFF LIFE MEMBERSHIP

LIMITED-TIME CAMPAIGN!

INVEST IN YOUR
BROTHERHOOD.
SECURE YOUR LEGACY.

GOING
OVER &
ABOVE
TOGETHER
★ ★ ★

★ CAMPAIGN STARTS ★
0000 OF
OCTOBER 13TH



HELP GOATIE CELEBRATE
THE NAVY'S
251ST BIRTHDAY!
HONOR THEIR LEGACY.
SUPPORT THEIR FUTURE.

50% OFF

REGULAR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Pay only half of the current
life membership rate and
become a Life Member for life!

LIFE MEMBERSHIP MEANS:

- 🛡️ NO MORE ANNUAL DUES
- 👥 LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP SECURITY
- ★ SUPPORT VETERANS FOR GENERATIONS
- 🚩 A STRONGER VFW – TODAY & TOMORROW



READY TO BECOME A LIFE MEMBER?

SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED & SIGNED
LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
WITH CREDIT CARD INFORMATION TO:



info@vfwca.org



DO NOT MAIL APPLICATIONS.



LIMITED FUNDS AVAILABLE
OFFER EXPIRES ONCE THE \$25,000
CAMPAIGN FUND HAS BEEN EXHAUSTED.



THIS OFFER IS ONLY FOR CURRENT ANNUAL MEMBERS.
NEW MEMBERS FOR THE 2026-2027 YEAR ARE NOT ELIGIBLE.

Schedule of Events - October 2026

- ◇ Tuesday, October 6, 6:00 pm - Dana Point City Council Meeting
- ◇ Wednesday, October 7, 2:00 to 4:00 pm - Disability Clinic. Dana Point Community Center, 34052 Del Obispo
- ◇ Monday, October 12 - **Columbus Day**
- ◇ Tuesday, October 13, 6:00 pm - VFW Post 9934 Meeting, South Shores Church, 32712 Crown Valley Pkwy.
- ◇ Tuesday, October 13, 6:30 pm - VFW Auxiliary 9934 Meeting, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 33501 Stonehill
- ◇ Tuesday, October 20, 6:00 pm - Dana Point City Council Meeting
- ◇ Wednesday, October 21, 2:00 to 4:00 pm - Disability Clinic. Dana Point Community Center, 34052 Del Obispo
- ◇ Saturday, October 24, 1:30 to 5:00 pm - Dana Point Trunk or Treat Halloween Spectacular, 34052 Del Obispo
- ◇ Wednesday, October 28, 10:00 am - Dedication of Returning Home at Heritage Park. Old Golden Lantern

Commemorative Tributes

October 3 –Battle of Mogadishu, Black Hawk Down - 1993

October 7 - Start of Operation Enduring Freedom - Afghanistan 2001

October 13 - U.S. Navy Established (1775)

October 18 - Recognition of Women in Military Service

CONTACT VFW POST 9934

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Facebook: facebook.com/vfwpost9934



Caps personalized with “Post 9934” will be available for purchase at our next Post meeting, October 13, 6pm at South Shores Church. Price is our cost of \$32

OCTOBER 2026 MONTHLY MEETINGS

The next monthly meetings of the Post and Auxiliary 9934 will be on Tuesday, October 13th. The Post meeting will be held at South Shores Church, 32712 Crown Valley Parkway, starting at 6:00 p.m. The Auxiliary will meet at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 33501 Stonehill, starting at 6:30 pm.



Monday, October 12th