

# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Post 9934 & Auxiliary 9934  
Dana Point, California



## Mail Call 📢

August 2025



Dana Point VFW Post 9934 set up a refreshment & recruiting booth for the three “[Concerts in the Park](#)” in July at Sea Terrace Park, Dana Point. These concerts provide excellent entertainment for Dana Point locals, as well as guests, from surrounding cities. Post Comrades and Auxiliary volunteer for every concert to distribute snacks and drinks for donations to aid our Veterans and Active Military and their families. Sea Terrace Park is located at the corner of Niguel Road and Pacific Coast Hwy in Dana Point. See page 5 for the Concerts in the Park Schedule.



## Commander's Message

Greetings Comrades,

Well, my brothers and sisters, this was not the Commander's Message I had planned on sending out. I was planning on talking about the National Convention and all the post activities this summer.

Due to some unforeseen medical issues, I have had to step away from my duties as Post Commander for an unknown period. I am awaiting a decision on my treatment from the medical staff at Hoag Hospital.

Sr. Vice Commander Alonzo will step in and assume duties as acting Post Commander. Jr. Vice Commander Garcia and Quartermaster Jimenez will be there for assistance and consultation.

I want all of you to be ready to assist Comrade Alonzo when he asks for your help.

Our intrepid Office Manager, Cindy Somerville, is in the office every day to field phone calls and requests for assistance relating to our Service Officers.

I have been ordered by my doctor to not attend gatherings and crowded public places. This is due to a compromised immune system.

I will miss seeing you at the Post meetings and the summer concerts. I have faith that all this will pass and I will be able to be a useful part of Post 9934 as soon as I get a release from my physician.

Before I sign off, I would like to thank all of you for the emails and texts that I have received over the past few days.

The next meeting is August 12th. The meeting will be at South Shores Church at 6 PM.

Please be safe and be kind to each other.

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

\* \* \* \* \*

### POST OFFICERS FOR 2025-2026

Post Commander	Rick Jauregui	Post Color Guard Captain	Carlos Garcia
Senior Vice Commander	Richard Alonzo	Service Officer	Aaron Pluff
Junior Vice Commander	Carlos Garcia	Service Officer	Rodney Bradley
Post Quartermaster	Phil Jimenez	Service Officer Advisor	Marty Hoffman
Adjutant	David Vera	Service Officer Support	Debbie Yost
Assistant Quartermaster	Wayne Yost		
Post Chaplain	Tim Laursen	Trustee (3-year term)	David Priddy
Judge Advocate	Dolores Padgett	Trustee (2-year term)	Rodney Bradley
Post Surgeon	Gil Castro	Trustee (1-year term)	Bob Pruitt

### AUXILIARY OFFICERS FOR 2025-2026

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

## From the Desk of the Quartermaster



The Dana Point Concert Series is in full swing at Sea Terrace Park. We have been very busy collecting donations for sodas, water, tea, popcorn, chips, and other snacks. If you can spare the time, come down, listen to the music, and enjoy the fellowship with other Post and Auxiliary members. Concert details are on Page 5.

Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, the Dana Point Classic Car Show on Del Prado opens with our Color Guard at 10:00 am and continues until 3:00 pm. This outdoor event will feature over 300 classic cars. There will be vendors of all kinds and music. We will be barbecuing hot dogs and providing chips and drinks for donations for our Veterans. The event is expected to attract thousands of spectators, so come on down to Del Prado, see the classic cars, and stop by the booth to say hello and help out.

This is a good time to recruit new members to our Post at the concerts and the car show. Our goal this year is to become once again an All-State and All-American Post. Commander Rick would like to increase the membership to accomplish this goal by the end of December 2025. Let's show him what we can do! The Post will have a contest for the purpose of recruiting new members. There will be a drawing of each of the following categories:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place Winner (Recruit 5 members)	\$100 Gift Card to Jack's Restaurant
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Winner (Recruit 4 members)	2025 Silver Dollar
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Winner (Recruit 3 members)	\$50 Home Depot or Amazon Gift Card
4 <sup>th</sup> Place Winner (Recruit 2 members)	\$25 Home Depot or Amazon Gift Card
5 <sup>th</sup> Place Winner (Recruit 1 member)	\$10 Gift Basket

This contest is for the purpose of recruiting *new* members for our post. The drawing will be held at our January meeting. There will be one winner per category. This is for our Commander Rick. Best of luck to all.

***Phil Jimenez, Quartermaster***  
***Dana Point VFW Post 9934***



1968 Chevy Camaro RX

## Dana Point Classic Car Show

Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> on Del Prado Avenue.  
 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

This event attracts thousands of spectators to enjoy hundreds of custom and classic cars, awards, food trucks, spirits on the street and more. FREE for spectators.

VFW Post 9934 will have a booth to offer grilled hot dogs and refreshments for a donation.



## Auxiliary Corner

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

Summers in Dana Point are always beautiful, and we had a gorgeous start, volunteering with the Post at their booth at Sea Terrace Park for the Dana Point Concerts in the Park Series. We will be there every Sunday through August 17.

Please come by to support and say hello. This is a great way to meet some of the Auxiliary members and learn more about us. Did you know that our small but mighty group worked with the city and installed a couple of benches in honor of Gold Star families at the Strands Veterans Memorial Park?

We also assist in supporting amazing organizations like SCMFO and Fisher House. We have a couple of new projects that we are determined to complete as well. We will keep you posted, but please consider joining us to be a part.

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>

If you want to become a member, please contact Cindy Somerville at [vfw9934cindy@gmail.com](mailto:vfw9934cindy@gmail.com).

If you are an auxiliary member but live too far or find the drive difficult, please consider joining us on Zoom! You can participate from the comfort of your home. It is a terrific way to participate. We value everyone's thoughts and ideas.

We are asking you to join the VFW Auxiliary 9934 Dana Point Facebook page. This is a fantastic way to find out what we are up to. Contact us at [VFWAux9934@gmail.com](mailto:VFWAux9934@gmail.com) for more information and join us!

**Terry Marr,**  
**Secretary, Historian**  
**VFW Auxiliary 9934**



**VFW AUXILIARY**  
UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®





POWERED BY  
**RIVIAN**  
CITY OF DANA POINT PRESENTS  
**CONCERTS  
IN THE  
PARK**

SUMMER  
SUNDAYS AT  
SEA TERRACE  
PARK

<b>JULY 13TH</b>	2:30PM-4PM   Britian's Finest 4:30PM-6PM   Mick Adams and the Stones	<b>AUG 3RD</b>	2:30PM-4PM   Flock of 80's 4:30PM- 6PM   Yachty by Nature
<b>JULY 20TH</b>	2:30PM-4PM   Anthony Small/Small World 4:30PM-6PM   Family Style	<b>AUG 10TH</b>	2:30PM-4PM   Wayward Sons 4:30PM- 6PM   Queen Nation
<b>JULY 27TH</b>	2:30PM-4PM   Kelly Boyz 4:30PM- 6PM   Vegas McGraw	<b>AUG 17TH</b>	2:30PM-4PM   Sega Genacide 4:30PM- 6PM   Tijuana Dogs

### Post and Auxiliary Volunteer Schedule

1st Shift: Noon - 3:30 pm. Set up at Sea Terrace Park. Man booth, accept donations for snacks and beverages, hand out flags, distribute information on the VFW, recruit new members.

2nd Shift: 3:30 pm - 7:00 pm. Man booth, accept donations for snacks and beverages, hand out flags, distribute information on the VFW, recruit new members. Pack up and return to VFW office.

The Dana Point Trolley runs on Sundays from 11:00 am to 8:00 pm and stops in front of Sea Terrace Park on Pacific Coast Highway. See back page to download the app or go to: [danapoint.org](http://danapoint.org) and enter **SUMMER TROLLEY SERVICE** in the search bar.

## Medal of Honor: Army Cpl. Tibor Rubin



Few, if any, Medal of Honor recipients endured what Army Cpl. Tibor Rubin did.

As a young Jewish man in Europe during World War II, Rubin survived the Holocaust before moving to the U.S. in the hopes of joining the Army to pay back the country that gave him freedom. He served valiantly during the Korean War only to be taken prisoner again. In 30 months of captivity, Rubin's leadership, spirit and ac-

tions were credited with saving the lives of dozens of fellow prisoners, all of whom said they wouldn't have survived without him. Rubin is the only Holocaust survivor to receive the nation's highest medal for valor.

### A Shattered Childhood

Rubin was born June 18, 1929, in Paszto, Hungary. His father, Ferenc, served with distinction in the Hungarian army during World War I, including as a Russian prisoner of war for six years, before working as a shoemaker. Rubin's mother died of cancer when he was young, so he was raised by his stepmother, Rosa, alongside his two brothers and three sisters.

When the Nazis rose to power in Germany, the family fell victim to the horrors that all European Jews experienced during World War II. Rubin's stepmother and sister, Elonja, died in the gas chambers at Auschwitz. His father was also sent to the infamous concentration camp and died in captivity. Rubin's second sister, Edith, survived the camps, while a third sister, Irene, survived in Budapest, Hungary. Rubin's eldest brother, Miklos, was forced into hard labor. Another brother, Emory, tried to flee before the same could happen to him, but he was caught and sent to the Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria. He didn't survive.

Rubin was sent by his parents with a group of Jews to try to escape via Switzerland, but they were caught. Rubin was forced into Mauthausen when he was just a teen. Later in life, he said he was lucky to find his brother there, who helped him survive. Otherwise, it was a bleak life.

"There was nothing to look forward [to]," he said in a Library of Congress Veterans History Project interview after receiving the Medal of Honor. "Just [thinking], 'When [am I] going to be next?'"

Rubin spent 14 months in Mauthausen before the camp was liberated May 5, 1945, by the Army's 11th Armored Division. He credited Army medics with saving many survivors, including himself.

"They picked us up and brought us back to life," Rubin said in a 2005 interview.

### A Promise Kept

After the war, Rubin made a vow to pay the United States back for its compassion by serving in its Army. After spending nearly three years in a displaced persons camp in Germany, the young man moved to New York in 1948. Known as Teddy in the U.S., Rubin initially worked as a butcher and a clerk. His surviving siblings — Edith, Irene and Miklos — eventually joined him.

Rubin's first two attempts at passing the Army entrance exam failed because of his poor English. However, after getting some help, he finally passed on the third try.

Rubin first served as a rifleman with the 29th Infantry Regiment in Okinawa, Japan. As tensions in Korea began to rise, the unit was transferred there in preparation for war. However, Rubin was told he couldn't go because he wasn't a U.S. citizen. Rubin protested, and eventually leadership gave in. On Feb. 13, 1950, he deployed to the conflict zone with the 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. A few months later, full-fledged war broke out between the north and south.

### A Solo Defender

While many Medal of Honor recipients receive the award for one particular action, Rubin was one of the few who earned it for his entire war experience.

In late July 1950, Rubin was with Company I when North Korean troops surged south, forcing his unit to retreat toward the Pusan Perimeter in the southeastern tip of the country. Rubin was ordered to stay behind to keep enemy troops at bay while the rest of his unit withdrew along a vital route. In the early-morning hours of the ensuing battle, Rubin was the only soldier defending a hill from assaults by an overwhelming number of enemy troops.

"I figured I was a goner," Rubin said in an Army interview. "But I ran from one foxhole to the next, throwing hand grenades so the North Koreans would think they were fighting more than one person." During a 24-hour stand, the corporal inflicted a staggering number of casualties on the attacking enemy and single-handedly slowed their advance, allowing his regiment to successfully withdraw from the danger zone.

### Prisoner Again

On Oct. 30, 1950, during a massive nighttime assault, Chinese forces attacked Rubin's unit in Unsan, North Korea. For more than a day, the corporal found himself manning his unit's only remaining .30-caliber machine gun after the three previous gunners fell.

*[Rubin - Continued from Page 6]*

He eventually ran out of ammunition, but his determination slowed the pace of the enemy's advance, which allowed remnants of his unit to retreat.

Unfortunately, Rubin was severely wounded during the fight. By the battle's end, he and hundreds of other soldiers were taken prisoner and forced to march to a camp known as "Death Valley." Winter had begun, and the prisoners weren't dressed to handle the freezing temperatures. They barely got enough food to stay alive, and most suffered from exhaustion, hunger, dysentery, pneumonia and hepatitis. Many died quickly.

When the Chinese learned that Rubin was technically still a citizen of Hungary, which was communist, they offered to send him back. Rubin refused, however, opting to stay in the camp with his fellow soldiers. During their hardships, the survival skills Rubin had acquired during the Holocaust kicked in. He often sneaked out of the camp in the middle of the night to search for food for his comrades. He would pillage his captors' gardens and storehouses, despite the risk of torture or death if he got caught.

Rubin also did his best to improve morale by giving pep talks and reminding soldiers that their families were waiting for them. He nursed many of the sick and wounded in the camp. An Army account of his actions stated that he knew what weeds had medicinal qualities, and he knew hope was what the men needed to keep fighting for their lives.

"He saved my life when I could have laid in a ditch and died — I was nothing but flesh and bones," Army Sgt. Leo Cormier, a fellow POW, later said. "He saved a lot of GIs' lives. He gave them the courage to go on living when a lot of guys didn't make it." According to Rubin's MOH citation, his selfless efforts were directly attributed to saving the lives of up to 40 of his fellow prisoners.

### **Returning Home, Moving On**

In the spring of 1953, after 30 months in POW camps, Rubin was sent back to the U.S. in a prisoner exchange. Despite being nominated four times for the Medal of Honor by fellow comrades, he only received the Prisoner of War Medal and two Purple Hearts.

According to the National World War II Museum, several men in Rubin's unit claimed that one of their superiors was antisemitic. Those men said that on several occasions, that superior denied their Medal of Honor recommendations for Rubin. Rubin himself said the man would use racial slurs toward him and often sent him on dangerous missions.

Life moved on, however, and so did Rubin. He finally became a U.S. citizen on Nov. 27, 1953, and moved to

California to manage his brother's liquor store in Los Angeles. "When I became a citizen, it was one of the happiest days in my life," he said.

In 1963, Rubin married a woman named Yvonne. They had two children; a daughter named Rosie and a son named Frank, who followed in his father's footsteps by serving in the Air Force. In the 1980s, for the first time since the war, Rubin met up with some of his fellow POWs from Korea. That meeting seemed to jog the memories of his comrades, who soon after began to petition the Army to recognize Rubin for his immense bravery during the war.

In the early 2000s, after many efforts, a Congressional review was ordered of Jewish and Hispanic personnel records spanning World War II-Vietnam to see if any service members had been passed up for higher honors because of prejudices. One of those records that was reviewed and approved was Rubin's.

### **Long-Deserved Recognition**

On Sept. 23, 2005, a 76-year-old Rubin received the Medal of Honor from President George W. Bush during a White House ceremony. Bush called it a debt "that time has not diminished," despite the 55 years that passed since Rubin's days in battle.



Rubin, however, was quick to brush off the praise.

"The real heroes are those who never came home. I was just lucky," he said. "This Medal of Honor belongs to all prisoners of war, to all the heroes who died fighting in those wars."

Rubin died Dec. 5, 2015, in Garden Grove, California. He is buried at Mount Sinai Memorial Park in Los Angeles. In June 2022, Rubin's family donated his Medal of Honor to the 1st Cavalry Division during a special transfer ceremony. The medal is now on display at the division's headquarters in Fort Hood, Texas.

**July 21, 2025 by Katie Lange, DOD News**  
<https://www.defense.gov/News>



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - AUGUST 2025

- ◇ Sunday, August 3rd - Concerts in the Park - See details on Page 5
- ◇ Wednesday, August 6th, 2:00 to 4:00 pm - Disability Clinic. Dana Point Community Center, 34052 Del Obispo
- ◇ Sunday, August 10th - Concerts in the Park - See details on Page 5
- ◇ Tuesday, August 12th, 6:00 pm - VFW Post 9934 Meeting, South Shores Church, 32712 Crown Valley Pkwy.
- ◇ Tuesday, August 12th, 6:00 pm - Dana Point City Council Meeting
- ◇ Sunday, August 17th - Concerts in the Park - See details on Page 5
- ◇ Wednesday, August 20th, 2:00 to 4:00 pm - Disability Clinic. Dana Point Community Center, 34052 Del Obispo
- ◇ Sunday, August 24th - Dana Point Classic Car Show - See details on Page 3



## AUGUST 2025 MONTHLY MEETINGS

The next monthly meetings of the Post and Auxiliary 9934 will be on Tuesday, August 12th.

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.

## CONTACT VFW POST 9934

Address: 33282 Golden Lantern, # 103  
Dana Point, CA 92629  
Phone: (949) 248-1419  
Email: [dpvfwpost9934@gmail.com](mailto:dpvfwpost9934@gmail.com)  
Website: [vfwpost9934.org](http://vfwpost9934.org)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/vfwpost9934](https://facebook.com/vfwpost9934)

CONTACT U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
1-800-698-2411