

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Post 9934 & Auxiliary 9934
Dana Point, California



Mail Call 📢

September 2025



On Sunday, August 24th, the Dana Point Chamber of Commerce held their annual Classic Car Show. The event was held all along Del Prado Avenue from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. The event started with VFW Post 9934's Color Guard Presenting the Colors and Annika Green, Dana Hills High Alumna singing Our National Anthem. The Car Show attracted thousands of spectators to enjoy hundreds of custom and classic cars, awards, food trucks, spirits on the street and more. VFW Post 9934 had a booth offering grilled hot dogs, chips and other snacks, and beverages for a donation.



Sr. Vice Commander's Message

Comrades,

We wound down the summer with six Concerts in the Park and the Dana Point Classic Car Show. Our Post raised an average of \$1,725 per concert and received \$1,150 at the car show.

To those who volunteered at these events, THANK YOU. I know some were unable to be there, but I must say to my other Comrades that we need your help also. That's enough of that and I will cover more at our next meeting. All this effort is so WE can help others.

Please let me have your undivided attention: Our Commander is currently undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments. He and Sandy, along with their family, could use your prayers. He is doing great. Just keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Also, we have Wayne and Debbie Yost, and their family to keep in your thoughts and prayers. Wayne underwent surgery for his back. He will be recovering for about 6 weeks. I know this is brief information, and I will have more for you at our next meeting.

We are here to support our Comrades, and I'm sure I've missed some. So, please reach out to those you have not seen recently in our meetings. We are a GREAT Post because we care for each other.

God Bless You All,

Ricardo F. Alonzo, Sr. Vice Commander
Post 9934, Dana Point

View From Sickbay

Ok my brothers and sistersgoing into my third week of treatment...I am tolerating all the "Drugs" AKA poison they keep giving me.

There has been some good progress in the shrinking of the cancer mass in my throat....I'm still in the fight!

Please take care of each other.

Rick Jauregui, Commander.
Post 9934, Dana Point

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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



As the summer concert season in Dana Point comes to a close, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the members, as well as our dedicated auxiliary members, who made this event possible. Your commitment and hard work ensured its success, and it would not have been achievable without each of you.

A special thanks also goes out to everyone who contributed to the success of the Car Show event. Your efforts and support were instrumental, and I'm pleased to report that all donations raised will go directly to helping our veterans in the community meet their needs.

Upcoming Commemorations

On September 2, we observe **V-J Day**, marking the end of World War II in 1945. Let us take a moment to honor the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives for our freedom.

Additionally, **Recognition Day** will be held on the third Friday of September, in observance of **National POW/MIA Recognition Day**. This is a solemn occasion to remember those who were prisoners of war and those still missing in action.

As we approach the anniversary of the tragic events of **September 11**, we also take time to remember and honor all those who lost their lives that day, and the heroic efforts of those who gave their lives to help others.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Please keep our Commander, Rick Jauregui, and our Assistant Quartermaster, Wayne Yost, in your thoughts and prayers. We are hopeful for their speedy recovery and look forward to the day when they can once again join us at our Post meetings and events.

Call to Action: Volunteers Needed

As we know from our military training, preparation is key to success. With several important events on the horizon, it is essential that we come together and continue to grow as a Post. We encourage all members to step up and volunteer their time and efforts for these upcoming events. Your participation ensures that we remain strong and united in our mission to serve both our veterans and the community.

Remember, as members of this Post, it is our responsibility to lead by example, contribute when needed, and always take pride in the work we do together. Let's continue to make a difference and show the strength of our collective commitment.

Thank you for your continued dedication.

Phil Jimenez, Quartermaster
Dana Point VFW Post 9934

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South Orange County Vet Centers 9/11 Remembrance Potluck

09/11/2025 • 5pm-730pm

Feel free to bring your favorite entrée or
dessert.

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Auxiliary Corner

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

It's a summer wrap!

We've had a great summer filled with lots of laughter volunteering with the Post. Our summer started with attending every concert at the park series and ended with the Dana Point Classic Car Show.

As we welcomed families coming up to the tables to enjoy cold beverages and snacks, we passed out American flags for the kids to show their patriotism. Seeing those big smiles was an extra treat.

Thank you to the new friends we made, shared stories, and the support.

We not only volunteer with the Post, we are our own entity with great plans ahead. It's never too late to be a part of this small but mighty group!

To become a member, please contact Cindy Somerville at 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 attend our meetings 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 for more information and join us !

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



VFW AUXILIARY
UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®



Disney Donates \$100,000 to Veteran Cemetery Effort

[Reprint from Veterans Alliance of Orange County, August 19, 2025]

It is a profound honor to announce that The Disney Company (Disneyland Resorts) has generously contributed \$100,000 to help make the dreams of thousands of veterans a reality.

For decades, Disney has been a cornerstone of the Orange County community. As a veteran himself, Walt Disney instilled a legacy of support for those who have served, and the Company has one of the most robust Veterans Programs in the nation.

Nearly every veteran in Orange County has fond memories of visiting Disneyland, where they have enjoyed attractions and programs that celebrate our nation's values and honor the sacrifices made by the veteran community.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to:

Thomas Mazloun - President, of Disneyland Resort,
Carrie Nocella - Director, External Affairs Disneyland Resorts

Mike Garozzo - VP Commercial Business Transformation

Thank you for your unwavering support. We salute you!

Sincerely,

VALOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS Nick Berardino, Bill Cook, Bobby McDonald, Steve Spriggs, Michelle De La Cruz

Chaplain's Corner



As I write this, I've been comfort and/or encouragement as the Post 9934 Chaplain for nearly two months. I guess needed. To give spiritual guidance as needed. Feel free to contact me at any time at the email address listed below. Leave a phone number if you want me to contact and talk with you personally. If there are any comrades or veterans in distress or need, please let me know, so I can connect with them and keep the Post informed. I look forward to serving the Post as Chaplain and, thereby, serving my Lord and Savior.

I am originally from Western New York and have relocated to Dana Point for work. I am very humbled, proud and pleased to be appointed as your Chaplain. As a man of God, I take this position very seriously. I am committed to being the spiritual anchor for the Post. My intention is to interface with the members of the Post in a capacity that will bring

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



FREE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

Fall 2025 CERT Basic Training

The CERT Program is designed to prepare citizens with the knowledge and skills necessary to help their families, neighborhoods and communities in emergency situations.

CERT trainings are offered to those who live and/or work in the cities of Dana Point, San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano.

Sept. 15, 18, 22, 25, 29
and Oct. 2
Monday & Thursday
6:30pm - 9pm

Oct. 4
Saturday
7:30am - 1pm

- Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Safety and Extinguisher Training
- Medical Operations I
- Medical Operations II
- Light Search & Rescue
- Disaster Psychology, Radio, Terrorism
- Course Review, Disaster Simulation, Final Exercise & Graduation

DANA POINT CITY HALL

33282 Golden Lantern
General Services Dept.
First Floor, Suite 108
Dana Point, CA 92629

For additional information and to register for the next scheduled training, contact Larry Meyerhofer, Emergency Services Coordinator, City of Dana Point at (949) 234-2800 or lmeyerhofer@danapoint.org.

Concerts in the Park, Sea Terrace Park, Dana Point - August 3rd, 10th, and 17th



Visit our Website
vfwpost9934.org



VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

First Woman Veteran Elected to Lead VFW:

Career Army veteran Carol Whitmore was elected as the new national commander of the VFW at the 126th VFW National Convention held this year in Columbus, Ohio. "I may be the first veteran to have been elected VFW commander-in-chief while wearing a dress ... but I will NOT be the last! ... I am your comrade by mud, by blood, by dust, by dirt, by sand, by land, by sea, by air ... I am a veteran first!" said Whitmore. Initially enlisting in the Women's Army Corps in 1977, she earned her VFW eligibility by serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Throughout her 36-year military career, she received the Legion of Merit Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal (six), Iraq Campaign Medal and the Combat Action Badge, among many others. She joined the VFW in 2012 at Post 9127 in Des Moines, Iowa, where she maintains her Gold Legacy Life membership.

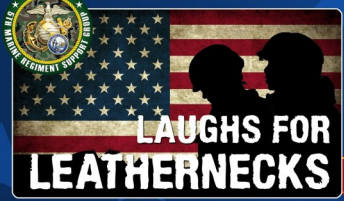
[VFW Action Corps Weekly, August 18, 2025]



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



*A night of laughs to support our
Wounded Heroes, Marines,
Sailors and Families*

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6th
Doors open 5:30 PM
Show time 7:00 PM

NOW IN OUR 10TH YEAR!

				
RON RUHMAN	GEOFF GROOMS	LAURA HAYDEN	SAM FEDELE	JAMES P. CONNOLLY

In July, District 2 Quartermaster Marcia Kuehl presented a donation check from Post 9934 to President Deb Hadley of the Surfside Quilters Guild. This was the third year Post 9934 supported the Post Quilt Program that Marcia chairs.

The Guild makes quilts, pillowcases, and other sewn items, and donates them to organizations to distribute to people in need of comfort: children at Orangewood Foster Care, Camp Pendleton baby showers, veterans, Meals on Wheels, CHOC Mission Viejo and others.



Irvine Improv
527 Spectrum Center Dr. Irvine
\$55 includes Dinner & Show

Scan for Tickets or Contact:
(949) 373-5375
info@DanaPoint5thMarines.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - SEPTEMBER 2025

◇ Monday, September 1st - **LABOR DAY**

◇ Wednesday, September 3rd, 2:00 to 4:00 pm - Disability Clinic. Dana Point Community Center, 34052 Del Obispo

◇ Friday, September 5th, 6:00 pm - Honor the Valor, Dana Hills High, 33333 Golden Lantern, Dana Point.

◇ Tuesday, September 9th, 6:00 pm - VFW Post 9934 Meeting, South Shores Church, 32712 Crown Valley Pkwy.

◇ Thursday, September 11th, 5:00 to 7:30 pm - South OC Vet Center Pot Luck, 26431 Crown Valley Pkwy Ste 100
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

◇ Tuesday, September 16th, 6:00 pm - Dana Point City Council Meeting

◇ Wednesday, September 17th, 2:00 to 4:00 pm - Disability Clinic. Dana Point Community Center, 34052 Del Obispo

AMERICAN
LEGION
POST 291

Veterans Coffee Talk

Saturday, Sept 6th
9:30 - 11:00



Guest Speaker

Nelson Coburn

Marine Corps League,
Senior Vice Commandant California
& West Coast DI President



Guest Speaker:

Juan Garcia

Retired Army OIF/OEF
Warriors Wellness Alliance Founder

Hope to see you there. We need each other!
Attendees are limited to Veterans Only

NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291 OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
215 15th Street, Newport Beach, California, 92663
(949) 673-5070 | www.al291.com



CONTACT VFW POST 9934

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

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



SEPTEMBER 2025 MONTHLY MEETINGS

The next monthly meetings of the Post and Auxiliary 9934 will be on Tuesday, September 9th.

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.