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MARCH

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

The Vietnam Memorial consists of three parts. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, also known as *The Wall That Heals*, The Three Soldiers statue and the Vietnam Women's Memorial.

The Memorial Wall contains the names of the more than 58,000 who were killed in action or are still listed as missing. As of Memorial Day, 2017, there were 58,318 names, including eight women, each name is also accompanied by a symbol. A diamond means the person was declared dead. A name whose status is unknown is noted by a cross. When a missing person is officially declared dead, a diamond is superimposed over the cross. If a missing person returned alive, the cross would be circumscribed with a circle. **The latter has never happened.**



The sculpture of the **"Three Servicemen"** depicts three soldiers, purposefully identifiable as European American, African American and Hispanic American showing the diversity of the US military. Together, they face the Wall looking on in a solemn tribute at the names of their fallen comrades.



The **Vietnam Women's Memorial** depicts three uniformed women caring for a wounded soldier. The memorial is dedicated to the women who served in Vietnam, most of them as nurses. It serves as a reminder of the importance of women in conflict.



The flagstaff, donated by The American Legion, features an inscription and the seals of the five branches of the military around the base. The inscription at the base reads:

"This flag represents the service rendered to our country by the veterans of the Vietnam War. The flag affirms the principles of freedom for which they fought and their pride in having served under difficult circumstances."

1st Round of Nominations

March 18, 2020



Have you thought about running for office?
Nominations for Executive Board Positions Start
March 18, 2020

CLUB NEWS !!

IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT!!

The Post is asking that each member when visiting our Post present their current membership card to your friendly volunteers at the bar. You will not receive your discount on beverages unless you do so. Everyone should have renewed for the current 2020 year. It is the members responsibility to show your card, the volunteers will not ask to see them. Once again to receive your discount you must show your current membership card to the volunteers. Also please make sure you have signed them.

Thank you

Second Vice: Greetings! The Battle of the Branches are under way Upcoming is the Army on March 8th followed by the Marines on March 22nd.

Oyster Feed sponsored by The Sons on the 21st of March from 1-5. Oysters (6 of your choice BBQ, Pan Fried or Oyster Shooters) or Smoked Chicken Fettuccini with Salad Bar, \$12.00 per plate. March 29th we will acknowledge Vietnam Veterans, time will be announced as soon as it is decided.

Please join us at the activities meeting at 5:30 the third Wednesday of the month.

Good Job Air Force and Navy.
Terry Ward.

BATTLE OF THE BRANCHES

Army – March 8th

Marines – March 22nd





March 29th
**NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR
 VETERANS DAY**



In Memory of the 58,272 Brothers and Sisters Who Never Returned

VIETNAM WAR 1959-1975

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is an opportunity to recognize and give thanks for all who served during the Vietnam War, including those who were wounded, gave their lives, who are still missing. Even in the face of controversy and opposition at home, millions of Americans honorably answered the call to serve our country during this tumultuous time in history. And when those who were fortunate enough to come home finally returned, they were met by ugly protests, scorn and neglect. National Vietnam War Veterans Day is the hero's welcome they never received. It underscores the need to heal their painful wounds and allows us the occasion each year to pause and give respect, admiration and thanks to the patriotic men and women who sacrificed so much in service of their nation.

Legion Riders: With the teasing of some decent weather there have been a few daring men and women riding their machines. Please beware that as the weather gets nicer, we that ride 2 wheelers will be out in greater numbers.

Nominations for Post 21 American Legion Riders Officers begin next month so we don't conflict with State Convention.

Band of Brothers next meeting is March 5th @ the Evergreen Theater. Guest speaker is our own Larry Brown. Begins at 11:30am.

March 29th is National Vietnam Veterans Day. Post 21 will be having an activity. Please attend if you can.

On April 25th the Warm Spring American Legion will be having their **5TH ANNUAL WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS PARADE & Expo**. All veterans are encouraged to attend. Registration is required. For more information go to <https://www.wsala48.org/>

Hometown Day (formerly known as Sheridan Days) is scheduled for 20 June.

This is just a sample of upcoming events that the Riders and Post will be attending and helping with. Remember. As a Post we are Family, together we can accomplish great things.

Be safe and enjoy the journey.

Jerry George, Post 21 ALR Director



**Still Serving...
 And Riding!**

American Legion Riders



Go Air Force!



The Air Force Battle of the Branches Breakfast was a huge success, but it couldn't have happened without all the help of ALL of the awesome volunteers from ALL the families and the Sea Cadets. Thank You All. *Dan Brown, PIC*



Auxiliary: We held a Valentine party for our Veterans at Brookdale assisted living. Our Juniors made cards, and we took lap quilts to each veteran. It was a success, with a beautiful written article hitting the front page of our local newspaper. Another proud moment for our Unit!!!

Once again, we will be holding our annual St. Patty's day dinner on March 17th, planning meeting on March 9th. Our monthly meeting is moved to March 10th.

We will be starting nominations for Auxiliary Officers March 1st. If you have someone in mind that you know will do an amazing job for any position, and work as a team, with integrity, honor, devotion, and respect, please let Sim Sears know.

Membership, please if you haven't renewed get it sent in. Auxiliary is 19 members away from hitting 100%. That is easy to get done. Members talk to your friends, and gently remind them to renew. I cannot express just how proud I am of our Post 21 families!!! What an honor to be a part of our home!

Debra Godwin, President

The American Legion Auxiliary Annual St. Patrick's Dinner

126 Atlantic St. Mac

American Legion Post #21



Corned Beef & Cabbage

**Red Potatoes
 Soda Bread
 Dessert**

Thursday, March 17th – 5:00 pm

Support The American Legion Auxiliary and Local Veterans

Senators seek Secretary of Defense support to add names of 'Lost 74' to Vietnam Memorial

Navy Times 2/24/2020



In the early morning hours of June 3, 1969, the Australian aircraft carrier *Melbourne* collided with the American destroyer *Frank E. Evans* (DD-754) during a

training exercise in the South China Sea, splitting the ship in half and causing the drowning deaths of 74 American sailors.

Last week, twelve Senators sent the letter to the secretary detailing how the sailors died in service to the country but have been denied their rightful place on the memorial. A dispute over the ability to add the names due to limited space has pitted supporters against the federal government for years.

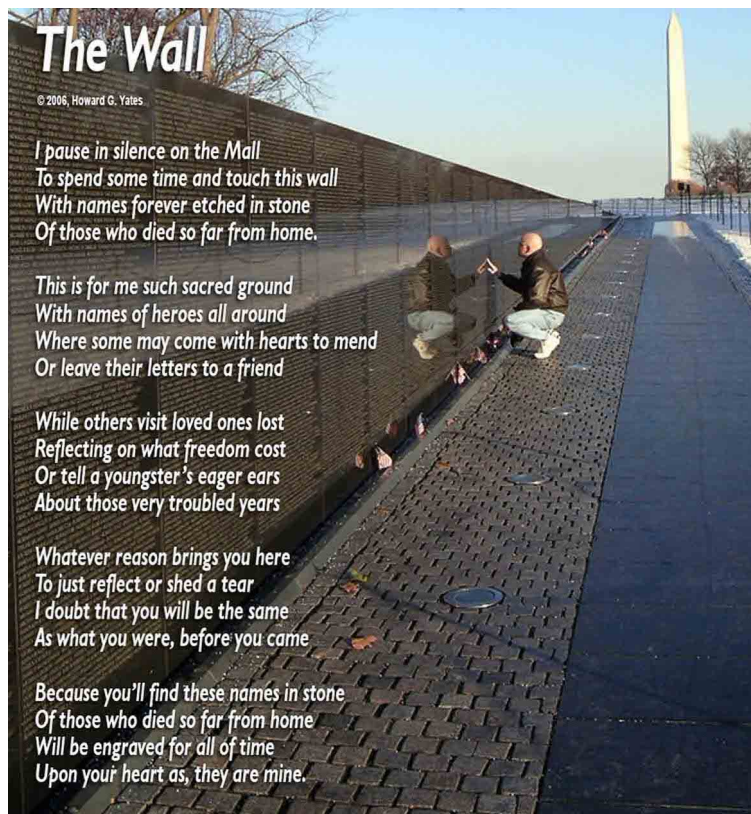
"While the incident occurred approximately 100 miles outside of the official combat zone, the ship and a majority of the deceased sailors had previously provided naval gunfire off the coast of Vietnam, including during the Tet Offensive," the letter states.

One of the Senators stated "74 U.S. Navy Sailors who conducted and supported operations during the Vietnam War gave their lives in service to our nation, but their valor goes unrecognized on the Vietnam Memorial because of an invisible line on a map – that's unacceptable."

Steve Kraus, a former second class signalman, who was on the bridge of the *Evans* at the time of the collision said the families have made numerous concessions over the years, such as understanding the sailors will not be grouped together and even allowing only their first initials and last names. He said the Pentagon's concerns over chronological order and insufficient blank spaces are unfounded or inaccurate.

"We are probably more adamant now then we have ever been that this is what needs to be done. These sailors died in defense of their country, died in the Vietnam War," Kraus added. "The more they push back, the more we keep pushing because that's where the guys deserve to be."

"For all the parents who are gone now, like Eunice Sage, the mother of the three Sage brothers killed on the *Evans*. The only thing that really mattered for all those years was getting recognition for her boys on the wall," Kraus said. "That was her hope and her glimmer for her life, and that didn't happen." "We only have a handful of mothers and fathers who are left now. When you find an injustice like this, someone has to pick up the torch and carry it," Kraus concluded.



VA releases updated DOD list identifying Agent Orange sites outside of Vietnam

The Department of Veterans Affairs in January released an updated list of locations outside of Vietnam where tactical herbicides were used, tested or stored by the United States military.

Agent Orange and other herbicides used in Vietnam were tested or stored elsewhere, including some military bases in the United States. The Department of Defense has provided the VA a list of dates and locations of herbicide tests and storage.

To view the list of dates and storage locations go to <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/locations/tests-storage/index.asp>

The updated list includes locations in Cambodia, Canada, India, Johnston Atoll, Korea, Laos and Thailand, and many locations in the United States. The list includes Agents Orange, Pink, Green, Purple, Blue and White and other chemicals and will be updated as verifiable information becomes available."

Veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange or other herbicides during service may be eligible for a variety of VA benefits, including an Agent Orange Registry health exam, health care and disability compensation for diseases associated with exposure. and some Their dependents and survivors also may be eligible for benefits.

Learn more about benefits related to Agent Orange exposure at: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/benefits/index.asp>



Following is a summary of News Stories of the most recent identified POW/MIA members from World War II, Korean War and Vietnam.

World War II

Mate Lada Smisek, 42 – Navy Chief Machinist Mate. – Lost April 9, 1942 – May 6, 1942 after being taken Prisoner after the surrender of Corregidor and held at Cabanatuan POW camp where he subsequently perished. Accounted for August 19, 2019 – Announced February 4, 2020.

Oscar E Koskela, 22 – Marine Cpl. – Lost June 18, 1944 at the battle of Saipan. Accounted for June 8, 2017 – Announced February 4, 2020.

Royal L. Waltz, 20 – Marine Cpl. —Lost November 21, 1943 during the second day of battle on Betio Island, Tarawa, during an intense confrontation with enemy forces. Accounted for May 15, 2019 – Announced February 4, 2020.

Rex E. Wise, 21 – Navy Fireman 1st Class. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for October 17, 2019. Announced February 4, 2020.

Hadley I. Heavin, 23 – Navy Fireman 1st Class. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 17, 2019. Announced February 4, 2020.

Thomas H. Cooper, 22 – Marine Cpl. – Lost November 21, 1943 during the second day of battle on Betio Island, Tarawa, during an intense confrontation with enemy forces. Accounted for August 9, 2019 – Announced February 6, 2020.

Raymond Warren, 21 – Marine Cpl. —Lost November 21, 1943 during the second day of battle on Betio Island, Tarawa, during an intense confrontation with enemy forces. Accounted for June 10, 2019 – Announced February 7, 2020.

Daniel Harris, 40 – Navy Fireman 1st Class. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for June 24, 2019. Announced February 11, 2020.

James, J. Cansler, 21 – Army Pvt. Lost December 19, 1944 while engaged in a fierce battle with German Forces in the Hurtgen Forest near Vossenack, Germany. Accounted for January 29, 2020. Announced February 11, 2020.

James W. White – 21 – Army Pvt. Lost July 2, 1944 after taking the airfield from the Japanese at Myitkin, Burma. Accounted for January 29, 2020. Announced February 11, 2020.

Edward Wasielewski – 21 – Navy Seaman 1st Class. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for May 15, 2019. Announced February 13, 2020.

Robert L. Corn – 24 – Navy Fire Controlman 1st Class. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 17, 2019. Announced February 13, 2020.

Lyal J. Savage – 19 – Navy Seaman 1st Class. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for May 15, 2019. Announced February 18, 2020.

Ernest L. Roth – 20 – Army Air Force 1st Lt. Lost May 19, 1944 piloting a B17G bomber on a run over Berlin when his plane was hit by flak and crashed. Accounted for February 4, 2020. Announced February 19, 2020.

Jesus F. Garcia – 21 – Navy Stewards Mate 2nd Class. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 17, 2019. Announced February 13, 2020.

Everett G. Windle – 20 – Navy Seaman 2nd Class. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 17, 2019. Announced February 24, 2020.

James C. Webb – 23 – Navy Fireman 1st Class. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 17, 2019. Announced February 24, 2020.

Paul H. Gebser – 39 – Navy Machinist's Mate 1st Class - Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 30, 2019. Announced February 25, 2020.

Leo T. Keninger – 20 – Navy Fireman 1st Class - Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 30, 2019. Announced February 27, 2020.

Andrew J. Schmitz – 26 – Navy Fireman 1st Class - Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 18, 2019. Announced February 27, 2020.

Korean War

Harold F. Drews, 21 – Army Master Sgt. Lost December 12, 1950 when enemy forces attacked his unit near the Chosin reservoir, North Korea. Accounted for November 5, 2019. Announced February 6, 2020.

David C. Sewell, 30 – Army Sgt. Lost November 28, 1950 when enemy forces attacked his unit near the Chosin reservoir, North Korea. Accounted for September 9, 2019. Announced February 25, 2020.



World War 2 Victory Ribbon

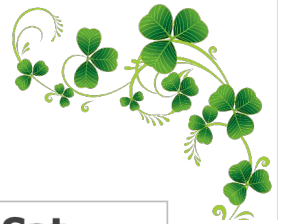


Vietnam Service Ribbon



March 2020

Happy St. Patty's Day



Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
1 Bingo 1:00 PM	2	3	4 SON's 6:30 PM	5	6 Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	7 Cancer Bingo 1:00 PM
8 Army Breakfast 8:00 AM Bingo 1:00 PM	9 St. Patty's Day planning meet 11:00 AM	10 Auxiliary 6:00 PM AMVETS 6:30 PM	11	12	13 Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	14
15 Bingo Potluck 1:00 PM	16 Finance Committee 5:00 PM Executive Committee 6:30 PM	17 St. Patty's Day Dinner 5:00 PM	18 Activities Committee 5:00 PM General Membership 6:30 PM	19	20 Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	21 Son's Oyster Feed 1:00 PM
22 Marine Breakfast 8:00 AM Bingo 1:00 PM	23	24	25 Legion Rider Meeting 7:00 PM	26	27 Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	28
29 Vietnam Veterans recongnition Day Bingo 1:00 PM	30	31				

May the wind at your
back not be the result of
the corn beef and
cabbage you had for
dinner



Patrick's Day!

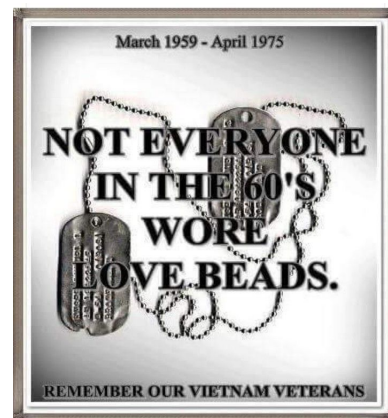
March Birthdays

Timothy Ashley, Joseph Bloodgood, Carrie Bonney, Leroy Brown, Warren Collins, Thomas Connell, Jim Connelly, David Constans, Carol Doege, Nikki Dorrell, Robert Duncalf, Tim Fuller, Patsy Gannaway, Terri Eggers, Mark Gensman, Charles Gillespie, Tony Irving, Gordon James, Arthur Johnson, Gretchen Jones, Jerry Kennedy, Gregg Kramer, Lorne Lauder, David Lucas, Michael Niehus, Michael Page, Robert Painter, David Pittock, Jim Plumeau, Michael Standridge, Ted Steber, Simon Steely, Roberta VanScoyk, Terry Vejr, Linda Ward, Connie Whitehorn, Randy Whitehorn, Wayne Willis

AMERICAN LEGION – POST 21
126 ATLANTIC STREET
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The World's First Vietnam Veterans Memorial
and the Men who erected it. Cha Rang Valley,
II Corps area 27OCT1968.



UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- 1 – Bingo
- 4 – Sons meeting
- 7 – Cancer Bingo
- 8 – Army Breakfast
- 9 – St. Patrick's Day Planning
- 10 – Auxiliary Meeting
- 15 – Bingo Potluck
- 17 – St Patrick's Day Dinner
- 18 – Activities Meeting all are welcome
- 18 – General Membership
First Round of Nominations
- 21 – Sons Oyster Feed
- 22 – Marine Breakfast
- 22 – Bingo
- 25 – Riders meeting
- 29 – National Vietnam War Veterans
Recognition day

April

- 25 – 5th Annual Welcome Home
Vietnam Veterans Parade & Expo.

Sons of The American Legion

Post 21

Oyster Feed

March 21, 2020 – 1:00 to 5:00 pm

\$12.00 per plate

Includes:

6 Oysters of your choice & Salad Bar



*BBQ Oysters in the shell,
BBQ out of the shell,
Pan Fried Oysters or
Oyster Shooter*



or

Smoked Chicken Fettuccini and Salad Bar

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

Vetsclub21.org