



JUNE 2024

McMinnville Post 21

126 NE Atlantic Street

McMinnville, Oregon 97128

503-435-2218

www.vetsclub.org

vetsclub21@gmail.com

post21newsletter@gmail.com

Commander:

Hello again. I want to thank the Lord for keeping us all out of harm's way.

We're finally back on track with our newsletter. I'd like to welcome all our newly elected officers for 2024-2025. Welcome aboard.

With the 3rd Street bridge nearly completed we are now able to continue with our flag detail. For Memorial Day observation we will be displaying brand new flags.

All the Post 21 families are working hard on upcoming events. I would like to say "Thank you" for continuing to make us bigger and better in our community.

Vietnam War Veterans Remembrance Day was March 29th. With the generosity of many of our members we were able to bring The Vietnam Veterans Traveling Memorial Wall to McMinnville. This memorial wall represents 957 names, all Oregon Veterans who died, 708 in the Vietnam War and the rest in later military actions. This was displayed at the Evergreen Air and Space Museum March 29th, 30th and 31st.

On April 10th we had the honor of helping celebrate Peggy Lutz's 102nd Birthday. She was a WWII WAVE Petty Officer 3rd Class Specialist ATC who was a true pioneer for women. We heard many stories from various people in her life and from her as well. She is a true inspiration in many ways.

I'll end here with Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me".

May God bless you and keep you safe.

Semper Fi

Juan Palacios, your Commander

Adjutant:

Our post annual election was held on April 17th with a number of new officers.

We need to look back and thank our outgoing officers for their dedication and hard work over the past years. We are losing:

Adjutant Shirley Brown

Second Vice Jim Connelly

Sgt. At Arms Armand Pilotte

At Large Officer Bruce Peterson

At Large Officer Gale Sears.

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to our Legion Post. Good work guys.

New officers are:

Second Vice Terry Ward

Sgt. At Arms Robert Andrade

Adjutant Lenny Pardue

At Large Officer Rebecca Hardin

At Large Officer Russ Ludwig.

Mike Billings moved from At Large to Service Officer changing places with Chris Dauterman.

All of our officers work hard to keep the Post running smoothly. Come to the meetings and put your two cents in.

Lenny Pardue, Adjutant

Father's Day Breakfast

Brought to you by Post 21 Auxiliary

Sunday, June 16, 2024

8:00am - 11:00am

Dads eat free!



1st Vice Commander Report:

Membership:

Membership currently is 103.12% of target with 430 paid members. This includes 337 renewals, and 39 new members with a total of 430 members on a target of 417. That makes us the largest post in Oregon District 2. Well done Post 21.

Tunnels to Towers

We continue to support the No. 1 rated charity that helps the families of Veterans and First Responders. Thru May, we have contributed \$2390 to Tunnels to Towers. This organization provides mortgage free homes to disabled veterans and first responders and widowed spouses.

Thank you Post members for your generosity. We are continuing to collect \$1 at a time to support this great organization. If you see the donation container in the club (most days from 2 pm to 6 PM), pitch in a buck to help out. Thank you members.

Paul Krutsch



The American Legion hosts Bingo every Sunday starting at 1:00 pm. This program started over 20 years ago with just a handful of attendees, and has now grown to an average of over 30 in attendance each week. The proceeds brought in from Bingo help support Legion programs throughout the year. Chairpersons for the Legion Bingo Program are Darla Gregory, Chris Trudo, and Randi Douglas.

Bingo is open to all and if you would like to join us on Sunday, lucky packs start being sold at 12:30 and cost just \$15. Each pack includes 3 warm up games, 10 regular games, and 2 blackouts (with the progressive blackout paying a minimum of \$100 if won in 59 numbers or less). A double action game (not included in the packet) is sold on the floor for just \$1 a sheet. Bingo payouts depend on sales but average \$20-30 a bingo.

The American Legion also hosts Cancer Bingo the first Saturday of every month, also at 1:00. This is a benefit for The Willamette Valley Cancer Foundation and 100 percent of the proceeds go to this Foundation which provides beneficial services for those dealing with cancer and the families supporting those individuals. Those packs (also 10 games) sell for just \$10. Two blackout games are sold on the floor for \$1 a sheet. Cancer Bingo is popular due not only to it's charitable cause, but if you bingo on B9 on any game, you win the progressive B9 pot, which currently is over \$350!

We would like to invite any who would like to try out Bingo, to join us each Sunday and/or first Saturday of the month. Come have some fun and a good time with good people!

Randi Douglas





Riders:

Our ALR Chaplain Mr. Jerry George's Mother passed away last month and our thoughts remain with Jerry and the family.

Lots of activities heading our way. The group continues to plan our scholarship Poker run scheduled for 7 September. Our road captain Tony Amodeo needs help with a Poker Committees; Poker run route, Food prep, auction items and organization. We are a team working together for success. Speaking of the scholarship poker run, we have a large number of local High school senior applicates this year and a very nice donation from a post member, our goal is to support as many students as we can.

Its riding season so don't forget to report your miles ridden to Tony via text, as you enjoy your rides with other legion rider members.

Membership: we currently have 59 members 3 of which are honorary. We will be adding 3 more from Newburg this month.

On May 27th we held our Memorial Day Cemetery honor event AUX and Sons were also involved.

KSU at the post 8:45 Am. Honoring veterans at the Amity, Dayton, Carlton cemeteries, and Mac Christian Academy flags, Post Rose Garden and Memorial walls remembrance. This has been an annual event involving the Riders as the leaders for a number of years. We hope that all were able to make it and help us in honoring these local vets. POC Tony and Thomas Clayton.

Upcoming ALR events:

June 1st Mac Parks and Rec, has reached out and would like the Legion and riders to participate June 1st the opening day of baseball season. kickstands up from post 21 at 08:30 to be in place by 08:45 at Dancer Park. All Legionnaires and Families are welcome. POC Bob Berweger

15 June Sheridan days Poker Run: will need to support Ivan and Cheryl with the event.

June 14-16 Oregon Brews and BBQ: Yamhill County fairgrounds. Bike show the 16th

June 21-23 Oregon ROMP LaPine Vendors, live music food and fun (On your own)

July 12-14 Confederated Tribes Veterans Pow Wow Veterans Lead the opening ceremony. Date and Time to follow

Gale Sears, Director



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Randi Douglas

High School Camps/Programs

This month I had one of my students at McMinnville High School put on a presentation for my Criminology Classes regarding his experience at the Jim Willis Law Enforcement Career Camp last summer.

I have one completed application for this year's camp and several other students have expressed interest in the camp. It should be noted that the camp this year will be the week after the July 4th Holiday and I have had numerous students say that was a bad week for them as they will be on vacation.

I will be trying to obtain Brochure's for Boy's State and Girl's State in order to give them to our History/Social Studies Chair to distribute to any students who may be interested in participating in those competitions as well.

Russ Ludwig, At Large
MHS Criminal Justice Teacher



Chaplains Corner:

Here we are in another month at Post 21 I hope that all is well with all of you. The new officers are up and running as we work for the post. I have some information for all of you to read about what is going on this month. Please take the time and enjoy all of it

“Memorial Day [Ride of Remembrance] happened on May 27, 2024. This is a time of going to many places to remember the men and women that have served our country to help give us the freedom that we hold dear. We will be leaving the Post at 0845 headed to our first stop at the Amity, Or. Cemetery.

The American Legion Riders took the lead, as always, as we go on this ride. This ride is for all that want to come. Just get in your car and come with us. Or you can ride with someone.

First stop - Amity, Or. Cemetery.

Second stop - Dayton, Or. City Hall Honor Wall.

Third stop - Carlton, Or. Cemetery.

Fourth stop - McMinnville Christian Academy “Flags of Honor” @ Baker Creek Church, McMinnville, Or.

Last stop - American Legion Post 21, McMinnville, Or. Rose Garden and Walls of Remembrance.

We hope that everyone was able to come on this ride.

We give thanks to the following units for their support in the “Ride of Remembrance”:

American Legion Post 21 Members
American Legion Post 21 Auxiliary Members
Sons of the American Legion Members
American Legion Riders members
Sea Cadets - Ironside Division McMinnville

As always may God keep his hands on you.

Remember I’m always here for you.

May God Bless.

PIC = Chaplain Thomas Clayton

503-550-8044

armynavy6782@gmail.com

RIP 4/22/2024

James (Jim) Marshall

Coast Guard Vet

1964 to 1968



Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency— April Announcements

World War II

Navy Fire Controlman 3rd Class William F. Gusie (19)

Announced: April 18, 2024 - On Dec. 7, 1941, Gusie was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Gusie. Accounted for on Sept. 23, 2021. Gusie will be laid to rest on June 12, 2024 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. John E. McLauchlen Jr (25)

Announced: April 22, 2024 - In December 1943, McLauchlen was a member of the 436th Bombardment Squadron, 7th Bombardment Group during World War II. On Dec. 1, he was serving as the pilot of a B-24J Liberator bomber. The remains of the crew were not recovered or identified after the war, and they were all later declared Missing In Action. Accounted for on Jan. 25, 2024. McLauchlen will be laid to rest Summer of 2024 in Ft Leavenworth, Kansas.

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Harold A. Schafer (28)

Announced: April 18, 2024 - In December 1944, Schafer was assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 357th Infantry Regiment, 90th Infantry Division in Dillingen, Germany. Schafer was killed in action on Dec. 10 by enemy machinegun fire. His body was not recovered due to intense fighting against heavily reinforced German forces. When American forces were ordered to withdraw from the area on December 21, many casualties could not be recovered due to the intensity of the enemy fire. Accounted for on Sept 23, 2023.

U.S. Army Air Force Tech. Sgt. Kenneth J. McKeeman (23)

Announced; April 16, 2024 - In early 1944, McKeeman was assigned to the 724th Bombardment Squadron, 451st Bombardment Group, 15th Air Force. McKeeman, a bombardier onboard a B-24D "Liberator", was killed in action when his plane was hit by heavy anti-aircraft fire over Toulon, France. All 11 crewmembers were killed in the incident. Accounted for Sept. 18, 2023. McKeeman will be laid to rest on June 7, 2024 in Middletown, Connecticut.

Navy Seaman 2nd Class George T. George (26)

Announced: April 5, 2024 - On Dec. 7, 1941, George was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including S2c George. Accounted for on Jan. 26, 2017.

Navy Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Charles D. Brown (22)

Announced: April 4, 2024 - On Dec. 7, 1941, Brown was assigned to the battleship USS West Virginia, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 106 crewmen, including Brown. Accounted for on March 22, 2021.

U.S. Army Private 1st Class Harry Jerele (26)

Announced: April 17, 2024 - In summer 1942, Jerele was a member of the 192nd Tank Battalion, U.S. Army, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December. Jerele was among those reported captured when U.S. forces in Bataan surrendered to the Japanese. They were subjected to the 65-mile Bataan Death March and then held at the Cabanatuan POW camp. Accounted for December 20, 2023. Jerele will be laid to rest October 6, 2024 in Elwood, Illinois.

Navy Seaman First Class James W. Holzhauer (23)

Announced: April 16, 2024 - On Dec. 7, 1941, Holzhauer was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Holzhauer. Accounted for on May 18, 2018.

U.S. Army Air Forces Sgt. Frank J. Seiferheld (25)

Announced: April 3, 2024 - In January of 1945, Seiferheld was assigned to the 348th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 99th Bombardment Group (Heavy), 15th Air Force in the Mediterranean and European Theater of Operations. On Jan 20, Seiferheld was the radio operator onboard a B-17 "Flying Fortress," when it experienced engine trouble after departing Italy. The last sighting of Seiferheld's aircraft was West of Udine, Italy, roughly 45 miles North of the Gulf of Trieste. Accounted for on February 12, 2024.

Vietnam

U.S. Air Force Major John C.G. Kerr (35) -

Announced: April 29, 2024 - On Aug. 22, 1967, Kerr was piloting an A-26A Invader attack aircraft on a solo nighttime armed reconnaissance mission over the Plain of Jars, Lao People's Democratic Republic. After Kerr failed to check in via radio and didn't return from the mission, U.S. forces undertook an extensive electronic and visual search of the estimated area, in which extensive enemy defenses were present, but could not find Kerr or the aircraft. Likely related to this incident, a New China News Agency broadcast reported the Aug. 22 shootdown of an American aircraft near Ban Ban and the deaths of its crewmembers. Kerr was declared Killed in Action on June 4, 1971. Accounted for on April 24, 2024.

Korean War

U.S. Army Capt. Erik F. Yde, 32

Announced April 3, 2024—In June 1950, Yde was a member of Headquarters, Headquarters Battery, 503rd Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. Yde was captured as a prisoner of war (POW) after his unit was forced to retreat from Wonju in the vicinity of Hoengsong, South Korea. Accounted for on June 22, 2023.

U.S. Army Private 1st Class Lawrence H. Williams, 22

Announced April 18, 2024—In August 1951, Williams was a member of Able Company, 728th Military Police Battalion, 8th U.S. Army during the Korean War. After working with two or three other soldiers from his unit washing vehicles, Williams went for a swim in the nearby Han River, outside of Chongyang, South Korea. The other soldiers witnessed PFC Williams struggle against the fast-flowing currents of the river and eventually submerge. Rescue attempts were unsuccessful, and no search parties were able to locate Williams. The Army issued a finding of death due to “drowning” with his remains being non-recoverable on Nov. 9, 1951. Accounted for on November 7, 2023.

U.S. Army Private 1st Class Harold D. Wilder, 19

Announced April 17, 2024—In the winter of 1950, PFC Wilder was a member of L Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on July 11 after his unit took part in defensive actions while engaged with enemy forces north of Chochiwon. Unofficial enemy broadcasts stated PFC Wilder was killed in action while fighting 20 miles north of Taejon, South Korea, but his remains were never recovered or identified during or directly after the war. Accounted for on February 17, 2023.

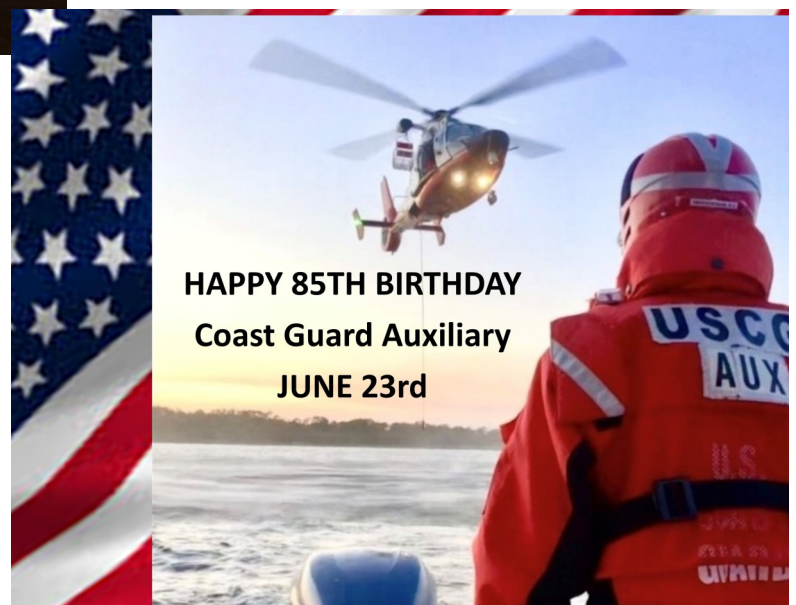
U.S. Army Pvt. 1st Class Anthony J. Lopa, 17

Announced April 5, 2024—In July 1950, Lopa was a member of Delta Battery, 82nd Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons (Self Propelled) Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. He was killed in action fighting the North Korean People's Army along the Naktong River, in the vicinity of Yongsan-Myeon, South Korea, on August 31, 1950. Due to the intense fighting in the region, his body could not be recovered at that time. Accounted for on July 21, 2023



The U.S. Army's birthday is on June 14, 2024, marking the date in 1775 when the Second Continental Congress established the Continental Army and subsequently appointed George Washington as general and commander in chief of the new force. Thank you to all who have served in our Army and who have served our nation over the past 249 years.

June 23rd is the official Coast Guard Auxiliary birthday. Most are familiar with the Coast Guard, and while the Coast Guard Reserve isn't quite as well known, it's the Coast Guard Auxiliary which remains one of the more obscure (but important) groups that has traditionally been associated with the United States Military.



FLAG DAY

June 14th

The origins of Flag Day can be traced back to the late 19th century. The idea of establishing a day to honor the flag gained prominence through the efforts of several individuals and organizations. Despite the adoption of the flag in 1777, it took a considerable amount of time before official observances of Flag Day began.

One of the earliest advocates for a national flag day was a schoolteacher named Bernard J. Cigrand. In 1885, Cigrand held the first recognized observance of Flag Day in his classroom in Waubeka, Wisconsin, where he assigned essays to his students about the flag's significance. As time went on, Cigrand's efforts garnered support, and he traveled around the country delivering speeches to promote the idea of a national Flag Day. His dedication has earned him the distinction of being the "Father of Flag Day" by many.

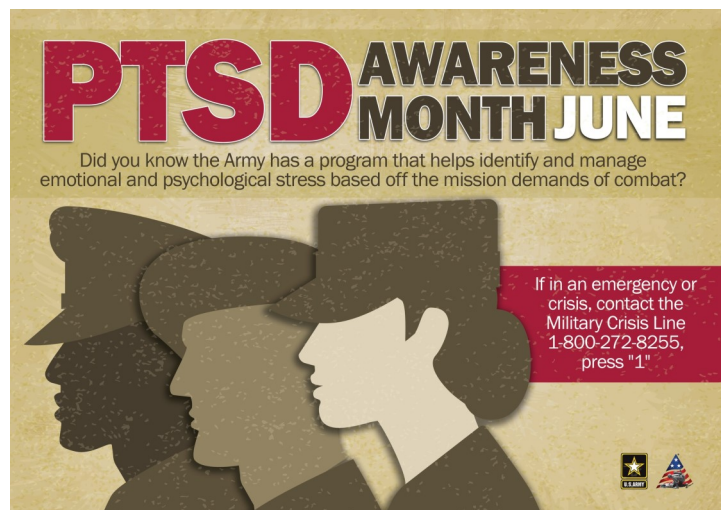
While several claims exist regarding the first recognized celebration, the most notable claim originates from New York. On June 14, 1889, Professor George Bolch, the principal of a free kindergarten for underprivileged children in New York City, arranged patriotic ceremonies to commemorate the anniversary of the Flag Day resolution. This initiative caught the attention of the State Department of Education, which subsequently ensured that Flag Day was observed in all public schools.

Philadelphia also presents another claim in the history of Flag Day. In 1893, the Society of Colonial Dames achieved the passage of a resolution mandating the display of the flag on all public buildings in the city. Elizabeth Duane Gillespie, who was both a direct descendant of Benjamin Franklin and the president of the Colonial Dames of Pennsylvania, made an attempt that same year to designate June 14 as Flag Day in Philadelphia. Unfortunately, this was not given much attention at the time but contributed to the movement.

In the following years, various local and state celebrations of Flag Day took place across the country. However, it wasn't until May 30, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation establishing June 14 as National Flag Day. The proclamation encouraged all Americans to display the flag on that day and called for patriotic observances.

Finally, on August 3, 1949, National Flag Day was officially recognized by an Act of Congress signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. This legislation established Flag Day as a nationwide observance, encouraging all citizens to display the flag and organizing appropriate ceremonies.

Today, Flag Day is observed throughout the United States. It serves as an occasion to honor the history, significance, and symbolism of the American flag as a symbol of freedom, unity, and national pride. Many communities organize parades, flag-raising ceremonies, and patriotic events to commemorate the day.



OFFICERS:

The American Legion:

Commander - Juan Palacios
1st Vice - Paul Krutsch
2nd Vice - Terry Ward
JAG - Steve Sagmiller
Finance Officer - Cheryl Saviller-Miller
Adjutant - Leonard Pardue
Sgt-At-Arms - Robert Andrade
Historian - Leroy Brown
Chaplain - Thomas Clayton
Service Officer - Mike Billings
At Large - Chris Dauterman
At Large - Russ Ludwig
At Large - Rebecca Hardin

Auxiliary:

President - Debra Godwin
Vice President - Goy Hernandez
Treasurer - Becky Berweger
Secretary - Becky Berweger
Membership - Jenni Burkhead
Historian - Glenna Smith
Service Officer - Carol Doege
Chaplain - Shirley Burkett
Sgt at Arms - Susan Hailey

Sons of the American Legion:

Commander - Del White
1st Vice - Bill Lindemann
2nd Vice - Steve Kindel
Finance - Terry Naig
Adjutant - Terry Naig
Chaplain - Pete Jensen
Sgt at Arms - Brandon Lepkowski

The American Legion Riders:

Director - Gale Sears
Asst. Director - Bill Lindemann
Secretary - Bob Wilson
Treasurer - Sim Sears
Sgt at Arms - Wayne Jarshaw
Road Captain - Tony Amodeo
Historian - Jim Connelly

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BATTLE OF THE BRANCHES

1st Place - US ARMY

\$3,432.00

2nd Place - US AIR FORCE

\$1765.00

3rd Place - US NAVY

\$1725.00

4th Place - US MARINES

\$1410.00



To submit an article or flyer for the newsletter, please include author of submission by the 21st of each month.

If you would like a digital copy of the monthly newsletter please send an email to :

post21newsletter@gmail.com

Volunteering is the cornerstone to our great organization as stated in the preamble to the American Legion Constitution...."to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual Helpfulness."

We encourage everyone to reach out and volunteer what ever small amount of time you have, it makes a big difference.

JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Cancer Bingo 1:00pm
2 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	3	4	5 Sons Mtg 6:30pm	6	7 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Legion KP 5:00pm	8
9 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	10	11	12	13	14 FLAG DAY Brews & BBQ	15 Brews & BBQ Sheridan Hometown Day Take a Soldier Fishing
16 Father's Day Breakfast Legion Bingo 1:00pm Brews & BBQ & Motorcycle show	17	18 Auxiliary Mtg 6:00pm	19 General Member- ship Mtg 6:00pm	20	21	22
23 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	24	25	26 Legion Rider Mtg 7:00pm	27	28	29
30 Legion Bingo 1:00pm						

Shirley Burkett, Glen Doty, Karen Fisk, Adam Finnicum, Jan Fourier, Pat Hermens, Jeremy Koch, Willy Koch, Gerald Kopczynski, Christopher Kopf, Stan Koscmiki, Steven Kossman, Gregg Kramer, Dean Krieger, Jerry Kruger, Paul Krutsch, Ted Kulick, Kyle Richard, Earl Ladassor, Morganne Larmouth, Bobby Laron, James Lash, Lorne Louder, Francis Laughlin, Richard Leipfert, Jim Letourneux, Skylar Levitt, Timothy Lewers, Dustin Lewis, James Lewis, Donald Libby, Del Linke, David Lipscomb, Ed Lisle, George Loving, David Lucas, Jennie Ludwig, Russ Ludwig, Craig Luis, Richard Lund, Robert Martin, Marie Morris

