MERICAN **JANUARY 2025**

Greetings everyone,

Commander:

I'm pleased to see that the good Lord has blessed us once again. Thank you, Lord.

This will be our last newsletter for 2024. Our post has accomplished a lot of things and helped many veterans this past year. Thank you to one and all for what you've done in making these things possible.

We are seeing a growth in the number of families coming to the Post. It's a true joy to hear all the laughter and see kids just being kids. I guess parents feel we are a kid friendly place and have a fun atmosphere. Thank you, Lord.

Our Post was having a problem with people not knowing where to put their dues. We solved the problem by installing four new mailboxes near the adjutant's office. Each mailbox will be labeled for The Legion, the Sons, the Riders and the Auxiliary. If you volunteer for anything with other organizations, please let us know. Keeping a record of our volunteer hours shows we are involved in our community. Anything you do for anybody without compensation can be counted as Community hours for our Post. This also shows that you are involved with our Post as an active member.

All you need to do is write down your name, the date, what you did, and the number of hours you volunteered for. Then submit it to the Post any way that's convenient for you.

I will end here with reminding you that "Jesus is the reason for the season". May God richly bless you and your family as you celebrate Christmas this year.

Juan Palacios **Your Commander**

McMinnville Post 21

126 NE Atlantic Street McMinnville, Oregon 97128 503-435-2218 www.vetsclub.org vetsclub21@gmail.com post21newsletter@gmail.com

A note from the Sergeant at Arms

I wish you all a happy Christmas. When we meet again (2025) I would like to reiterate common courtesy, don't interrupt, raise a hand and wait to be acknowledged by the commander, stand up, salute is up to you. State your view. Give the courtesy you expect others to give you, PLEASE. (true fun fact) Mr Potato Head was the first toy to be advertised on TV.

Veni Vedi Veci

Robert Andrade Sergeant at Arms

Chaplain's Corner:

As we close out 2024 I wish to the Post 21 members a very happy Christmas time. Take the time to remember how the good Lord has been there to bless you this year. As your Post Chaplain it has been a great blessing to pray for all the ones that have needed pray. I have been happy to pray for all of you.

Our post has done many great things this past year and we will still be doing great things in the new year of 2025. Take the time to read the Christmas story in "Matthew 1; 18 to 25". May the good Lord be with you on that day. Please stop and remember all the members that we have lost this past year. Keep in prayer the many ones that are having a hard time with the sickness that has them down. Remember that it can be hard when we grow old. I pray for all the ones that are dealing with sickness at this time. And my prayer it that the good Lord will be with them.

Take the time to ask yourself if there is something that I can do to better the Post and help in any way to make it a better place. We have a great post because of all the things that you have done. Remember that we still have opening on the E-Board that needs filled. Maybe you can be the one that can fill that spot. "THINK ABOUT IT".

May God Bless

Chaplain Thomas Clayton armynavy6782@gmail.com 503-550-8044 Many God Bless.



Wishing you all a safe and happy New Year. See you in 2025!!

REMINDER: It's time to carry your 2025 Membership cards for meetings and drink discounts.

"All the News Thef's Fit to Point."	he New L	ļork Ti	mes. 🛚	TE CITY EDITION
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How Much Do You Know? The Date That Will Live in Infamy



Answers on page 13

Quiz from: https://www.defense.gov/Multimedia/Quizzes/Quiz/Article/1702402/the-date-which-will-live-in-infamy-how-much-do-you-know/

- 1. Which Navy ship was hit multiple times in the first few minutes of the attack, still lies at the bottom of Pearl Harbor and has a Memorial in Hawaii?
- A.) USS California
- **B.) USS Arizona**
- C.) USS Nevada
- D.) USS Pennsylvania
- 4. Which of the following bases also received heavy casualties in the attack on Pearl Harbor?
- A.) Bradshaw Army Airfield
- B.) Hickam Field
- C.) Marine Corps Camp H.M. Smith
- D.) Lualualei Transmitter Site

- 2. Which U.S. ship damaged at Pearl Harbor was the first to return to duty?
- A.) USS Pennsylvania
- **B.) USS Arizona**
- C.) USS Maryland
- D.) USS California
- 3. Which Navy ship wasn't on battleship row during the Pearl Harbor attack?
- A.) USS Utah
- **B.) USS Arizona**
- C.) USS Maryland
- D.) USS Oklahoma



4 Major Military Events That Happened on Christmas



1776: Washington Crosses the Deleware

On the night of December 25–26, 1776,
General George Washington led the
Continental Army across the icy Delaware
River during the American Revolutionary
War. This daring and strategic maneuver
enabled the troops to launch a surprise
attack on Hessian forces in Trenton, New
Jersey, achieving a pivotal victory that
boosted American morale and
reinvigorated the fight for independence.
Washington's crossing remains an
enduring symbol of determination and
leadership.



1972: Operation Linebacker 2 North Vietnam

Operation Linebacker II (December 18 –29, 1972), often called the "Christmas Bombing," was a massive U.S. air campaign against North Vietnam. Using heavy B-52 bombing raids, the operation targeted key infrastructure in Hanoi and Haiphong to pressure North Vietnam into resuming peace talks. It played a significant role in bringing about the Paris Peace Accords, leading to the end of U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War.



1864: First Battle of Fort Fisher

The First Battle of Fort Fisher (December 23–27, 1864) was an unsuccessful Union attempt to capture the Confederate stronghold near Wilmington, North Carolina. Despite a massive naval bombardment and a land assault, Union forces under General Benjamin Butler failed to breach the fort's defenses, leaving it in Confederate hands. The fort's survival allowed vital supplies to continue flowing to the Confederate Army.



1896: "Stars and Stripes Forever" Is Written

"The Stars and Stripes Forever" was written by John Philip Sousa on Christmas Day, 1896. Inspired during a trip back to the United States, Sousa composed the patriotic march, which later became the official National March of the United States in 1987. The piece remains an iconic symbol of American pride and patriotism.

AMERICAN 5 REGIONS RIDERS

Legion Riders:

Received donation from our participation in the Blue Bunny show at the Yamill county

fairgrounds. Riders continue to support the Auxiliary with the Christmas basket program and Veterans Lunch January 9 th 11 am- 1 pm. Come visit with veterans from our local retirement communities. Asst Dir Sagmiller opened a discussion concerning our involvement in Honor flight escorts which we have done in the past. Website for future information. https://www.swvhonorflight.org/applications Steve Randles Membership: 63 members 30 Paid 3,000-mile criteria change: After considerable discussion it was agreed and vote approve to remain at 3,000 miles but include the ridden miles with other ALR chapter members within the USA.

Bob Berweger and Steve Sagmiller will be communicating with Macy's funeral home considering our involvement in veterans escorts.

2024 Poker Run after action and future planning document has been developed for 2025 Scholarship poker Run planning

Gale Sears Director, Legion Riders



Post 21 and Lapine were the beginning of the Rider chapters in Oregon, unknown date of the photo but the post member are: Mike Morris, Monte Gensman, Tony Amodeo, Bob Berweger, Randy Whitehorn, Jim Smith, Dennis Parr, Stan? Gale Sears. As Legion members we today continue to support our veterans and our local High school grands.



We American Legion Riders of Post 21, McMinnville, Or, want to thank all of you who participated in the raffle for the Pendelton Blanket donated by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Proceeds of the raffle will go toward this year's Scholarship fund. Pictured left to right: Terry Naig, Carol Reed, Mack Reed, Bob (Doc) Wilson.

Mack was the winner. An impromptu breakfast was held at Post 21 to award the blanket to Mack and Carol by Terry Doc, and the camera person Bob Berweger.



Message from Paul Krutsch

"Thank you" to everyone who helped in our annual Christmas Tree Sale. It was a total group effort as all families in the Post participated. From loading to unloading of trees and then selling them to serving Hot Cocoa to the kids, there was plenty of help. Thanks to the Post #21 members, Riders, Auxiliary, and Sons for your efforts to assure our success. We went thru 200 trees in approximately 3 weeks. Over a dozen trees were donated to deserving families. Members donated over \$400 to cover the cost of the donated trees and we ended up with a \$2,940 profit. We are currently in touch with the North Carolina American Legion to see if we can use those funds to help out veterans impacted by the latest hurricane to hit their state. Thanks again and Merry Christmas.

With the increase in new customers we want to take this chance to remind us all that it is policy for members to carry their membership card, as well as, show the card when expecting discount prices on drinks. We appreciate your cooperation with this policy.

THE ARMED FORCES BOWL: HONORING SERVICE THROUGH SPORT

The Armed Forces Bowl is more than just another college football game; it is a celebration of the courage and sacrifice of the men and women who serve in the United States Armed Forces. Held annually in Fort Worth, Texas, this bowl game combines the excitement of college football with heartfelt tributes to the military, making it a unique and significant event in the sports calendar.

First played in 2003, the Armed Forces Bowl was initially sponsored by PlainsCapital Bank and later by Bell Helicopter, before Lockheed Martin became the title sponsor in 2014. The bowl has consistently aimed to honor and support the military community. Its partnerships with organizations such as the USO and various veterans' groups underscore its commitment to recognizing the contributions of service members and their families.



The game typically features teams from the Mountain West Conference, American Athletic Conference, or other invited programs, offering a competitive and thrilling matchup each year. However, what sets the Armed Forces Bowl apart isn't just the on-field action but the off-field tributes.

The Armed Forces Bowl integrates military recognition into nearly every aspect of the event. Halftime shows often include moving tributes to veterans, active-duty service members, and their families. Military flyovers, patriotic performances, and recognition ceremonies add a deeply emotional layer to the game-day experience.

One notable tradition is the awarding of the Armed Forces Merit Award, which recognizes an individual or group within college football who demonstrates exemplary service and support for the military. This award further cements the bowl's dedication to bridging the gap between athletics and service.

Beyond honoring the military, the Armed Forces Bowl plays an integral role in the Fort Worth community. The influx of visitors boosts the local economy, while related events, such as military enlistment ceremonies and job fairs for veterans, provide lasting benefits. Additionally, proceeds from the game often support military-related charities, ensuring that the impact of the bowl extends well beyond the gridiron.

Over the years, the Armed Forces Bowl has produced several unforgettable games. For instance, the 2015 matchup between Cal and Air Force showcased a high-scoring affair led by Jared Goff, who would later become the first overall pick in the NFL Draft. Another standout was the 2008 game, where Houston rallied to defeat Air Force in a thrilling comeback.

As the Armed Forces Bowl continues to grow, its mission remains clear: to honor the sacrifices of service members while delivering high-quality college football entertainment. Fans can expect the tradition of excellence to continue, with future games bringing together the best of

sportsmanship and patriotism.

Whether you're a football enthusiast, a member of the military community, or simply someone who appreciates the values of dedication and service, the Armed Forces Bowl offers a meaningful and memorable experience. It stands as a testament tothe enduring connection between sports and those who serve to protect our freedoms.

On December 27, 2024 the Navy Midshipmen faced off and were victorious against the Oklahoma Sooners



AI Generated Article



The Battle of the Bulge: A Turning Point in World War II

The Battle of the Bulge, fought from December 16, 1944, to January 25, 1945, was the last major German offensive on the Western Front during World War II. This desperate attempt by Adolf Hitler's forces to split the Allied lines and halt their advance into Germany marked one of the largest and bloodiest battles involving American troops.

By late 1944, the Allies had successfully landed in Normandy, liberated Paris, and were advancing toward Germany. The German forces, though retreating, were far from defeated. Hitler devised a bold plan to



exploit the Ardennes Forest—a region deemed unlikely for a major offensive due to its dense woods and rugged terrain—to launch a surprise attack.

The objective was twofold: to capture the vital port of Antwerp, thereby crippling Allied supply lines, and to divide British and American forces, hoping to force a negotiated peace on the Western Front. To achieve this, Germany amassed 200,000 soldiers, 1,000 tanks, and 1,900 pieces of artillery, all while maintaining strict secrecy.

In the early hours of December 16, under the cover of dense fog, German forces launched a coordinated assault along an 80-mile front. The initial phase caught the Allies completely off guard. Poor weather conditions grounded Allied air support, allowing German troops to make significant advances. Within days, they created a salient, or "bulge," in the Allied front line, giving the battle its name.

Key towns, such as Bastogne in Belgium, became focal points of the conflict. Bastogne, held by the 101st Airborne Division, was surrounded and besieged. Despite being outnumbered and facing severe shortages of food, ammunition, and medical supplies, the American defenders held their ground. When the Germans demanded their surrender, General Anthony McAuliffe famously replied, "Nuts!"

The tide began to turn as reinforcements, including General George S. Patton's Third Army, arrived to relieve the besieged troops in Bastogne. Improved weather conditions in late December allowed Allied air forces to resume operations, devastating German supply lines and advancing troops.

By January, the Allies had successfully contained the German offensive and began pushing the enemy back. The battle ended on January 25, 1945, with the front lines restored to their pre-offensive positions.

The Battle of the Bulge was a costly engagement for both sides. The Germans suffered approximately 100,000 casualties, losing much of their remaining armored strength and experienced troops. For the Allies, the battle resulted in over 89,000 casualties, including more than 19,000 killed—making it the deadliest battle for American forces in World War II.



Strategically, the battle marked the beginning of the end for Nazi Germany. The failed offensive depleted Germany's resources and morale, leaving it incapable of mounting any significant resistance to the subsequent Allied advance into the heart of Germany. Within months, Adolf Hitler's regime would collapse, and the war in Europe would come to an end.

The Battle of the Bulge remains a testament to the resilience and determination of Allied forces. It exemplifies the high stakes and human cost of World War II, while underscoring the importance of strategic leadership and perseverance in the face of overwhelming odds.



What an incredible time we had at the Post 21 White Elephant Gift Exchange and Potluck! With 22 participants, we enjoyed amazing food, hilarious and creative gift exchanges, and the best company imaginable. Great food, fun gifts, and good friends made it a night to remember. Here's to an even bigger turnout next year—can't wait to see even more friendly faces join the festivities!



























In true White Elephant style there was lots of stealing going on!







The Award for the MOST gifts opened goes to..... Juan Palacios









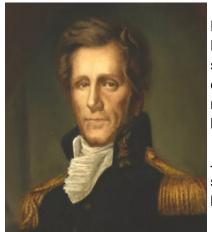


Battle of New Orleans: A Pivotal Victory for both the War Of 1812 and United States History

The Battle of New Orleans, fought on January 8, 1815, was a pivotal and iconic engagement in the War of 1812. It marked the final major battle of the conflict and secured a decisive American victory against British forces, shaping the course of American history and solidifying the reputation of General Andrew Jackson as a national hero.

The War of 1812 was fought between the United States and Great Britain over a range of issues, including trade restrictions, impressment of American sailors, and territorial expansion. By late 1814, peace negotiations were underway in Ghent, Belgium. However, news traveled slowly, and neither side was aware that a treaty had been signed when the Battle of New Orleans occurred.

New Orleans, a vital port city on the Mississippi River, was a strategic target for the British. Capturing it would have allowed them to control access to the Mississippi River and disrupt American commerce and settlement in the region.



In December 1814, British forces, commanded by Major General Sir Edward Pakenham, launched an assault on New Orleans. General Andrew Jackson, a seasoned military leader known for his decisive actions, was tasked with defending the city. Jackson quickly organized a diverse and makeshift force that included U.S. Army regulars, state militias, free African Americans, Native Americans, and even pirates led by Jean Lafitte.

Jackson's forces prepared fortifications along the Rodriguez Canal, a defensive line just south of New Orleans. The Americans used the terrain to their advantage, creating barriers and positioning artillery to dominate the battlefield.

On the morning of January 8, 1815, the British launched a frontal assault on Jackson's well-prepared defenses. Despite their numerical advantage and disciplined ranks, the British faced devastating artillery and musket fire. The dense swamps and canals further hampered their movements, leaving them vulnerable.

The American forces, entrenched behind their fortifications, inflicted heavy casualties on the British. General Pakenham was mortally wounded during the assault, and the British suffered over 2,000 casualties, including dead, wounded, and captured. In contrast, American losses were remarkably light, with fewer than 100 casualties.

The Battle of New Orleans was a resounding victory for the United States and a humiliating defeat for the British.

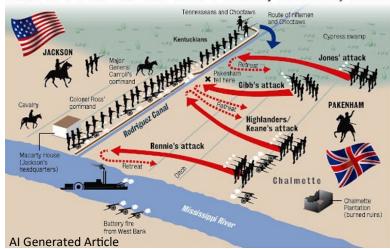
Although the Treaty of Ghent had been signed on December 24, 1814, effectively ending the war, news of the treaty did

not reach the combatants until weeks later. The battle had no bearing on the war's outcome but significantly boosted American morale and nationalism.

Andrew Jackson emerged as a celebrated national figure, eventually riding the wave of his popularity to the presidency in 1829. The battle also highlighted the importance of New Orleans and the Mississippi River to the young nation's economic and strategic interests.

The Battle of New Orleans remains a symbol of American resilience and ingenuity. It is commemorated annually in Louisiana and continues to hold a prominent place in U.S. military history.

BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS, JAN. 8, 1815





Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency— July Announcements

World War II

Announced on December 5, 2024 that U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class John C. Auld, 23, of Newcastle, England, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Oct. 15, 2018.

Announced on December 5, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Forces Sgt. Edward S. Kovaleski, 25, of Southbridge, Massachusetts, killed during World War II, was accounted for June 4, 2024.

Announced on December 6, 2024 that U.S. Army Pvt. 1st Class Arthur W. Crossland Jr, 19, of Columbia, South Carolina, killed during World War II, was accounted for Aug. 21, 2024. Crossland will be buried March 14, 2025, in his hometown.

Announced on December 10, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Force Sgt. Homer C. Nyberg, 23, of Clay Center, Kansas, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 30, 2024.

Announced on December 13, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. John H. Danneker, 19, killed during World War II, was accounted for Dec. 10, 2024.

Announced on December 17, 2024 that U.S. Army Pvt. Leonard R. J. Jackson, 22, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Dec. 16, 2024.

Announced on December 17, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Force Staff Sgt. Hubert Yeary, 20, of Richmond, Virginia, killed during World War II, was accounted for June 20, 2024.

Announced on December 18, 2024 that Navy Mess Attendant 3rd Class (Matt3c) Neil D. Frye, 20, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Sept. 27, 2024.

Announced on December 18, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Force Tech4 Lloyd R. Bruntmyer, 22, of Des Moines, Iowa, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Aug. 23, 2024. Bruntmyer will be buried in San Diego, California, in Nov. 2025.

Announced on December 19,. 2024 that U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Robert T. McCollum, 22, killed during World War II, was accounted for Dec. 10, 2024.

Announced on December 19, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Forces Pvt. Herbert E. McLaughlin, 31, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Dec. 17, 2024.

Announced on December 20, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Forces 1st Lt. George F. Bradbury, 22, killed during World War II, was accounted for Dec. 19, 2024.

World War II

Announced on December 20, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. John H. Mann, 22, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Dec. 19, 2024.

Announced on December 20, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Force Pvt. 1st Class David C. Hansen, 25, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for August 23, 2024.

Announced on December 26, 2024 that U.S. Army Tech. Sgt. Joseph R. Moore, 28, killed during World War II, was accounted for Dec. 20, 2024.

Vietnam

Announced on December 4, 2024 that U.S. Army Warrant Officer Albert R. Trudeau, 22, of Teaneck, New Jersey, killed during the Vietnam War, was accounted for September 11, 2024.

Korean

Announced on December 18k, 2024 that U.S. Army Pfc. James C. Bowman, 20, of Jordan, West Virginia, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 25, 2024.

Announced on December 19, 2024 that Army Master Sgt. Luther Grace, 34, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Dec. 18, 2024.



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The American Legion:

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2nd Vice - Terry Ward

JAG - Russ Ludwig

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Adjutant - Leonard Pardue

Sgt-At-Arms - Robert Andrade

Historian - Leroy Brown

Chaplain - Thomas Clayton

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At Large - Chris Dauterman

At Large - Rebecca Hardin

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Treasurer - Becky Berweger

Secretary - Tracy Wittrock

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Newsletter Editor:

Jennie Ludwig

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Legion Volunteers Needed and Classifieds

We are looking for newsletter sponsors. If you know of a business that would like to help sponsor please get them in touch with Jennie Ludwig for more information. Email at: post21newsletter@gmail.com Business card spot is \$50.00 for one year.

How to place a classified:

Does your event need volunteers? Just send an email to the newsletter at:

Post21newsletter@gmail.com

Please include: Event, date, time, and PIC and we will post it in the next months newsletter.

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.







How Much Do You Know Answers:

- 1. B USS Arizona The USS Arizona was a Pennsylvania-class battleship built in the mid-1910s. A bomb penetrated the armored deck near the bow of the ship, killing 1,177 of the sailors and Marines on board.
- 2. C USS Maryland The USS Maryland was slightly damaged by bombs during the Pearl Harbor attack and lost four crewmembers. In June 1942, the Maryland was the first ship damaged at Pearl Harbor to return to duty.
- 3. A USS Utah The USS Utah served in World War I and was moored on the other side of Ford Island. It was hit by torpedoes at the start of the attack, quickly rolled over and sank. It was never salvaged. It remains where it sank in Pearl Harbor.
- 4. B Hickam Field Hickam Field suffered extensive damage and aircraft losses, with 189 people killed and 303 wounded.

	RY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Legion KP 5:00pm	4 Cancer Bingo 1:00pm
5 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	6 Housing Committee Mtg 5:00pm	7	8 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm	9 Veteran's Lunch 11:00am - 1:00pm	10 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Auxiliary KP 5:00pm	11 After Dark 9p-1a Karaoke
12 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	13 Activity Committee Mtg 5:00pm Executive Mtg 6:00pm	14 Auxiliary Mtg 6:00pm	15 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm General Member- ship Mtg 6:00pm	16	17 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Sons KP 5:00pm	18 SAL Fettucine Dinner 5p-7p
19 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	20	21	22 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm	23	24 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Riders KP 5:00pm	25
26 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	27	28	29 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm Legion Riders Mtg 7:00pm	30	31 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Legion KP 5:00pm	

Jeanne Ayala, Milton Bates, Marcia Beaaudry, Karen Belt, Becky Berweger, Patrick Bevan, Daniel Burns, Rufus "Butch" Clason, Jeanne Clayton, Curtis Crossley, Robert DeKar, James



Densmore, William Ellis, Gerald Evers, Lawrence Evers, Steve Farley, Don Frasier, Larry Gannaway, Paul Gelinas, Rick Goodman, Darla "Mike" Gregory, Gene Hamilton, Clair Hutton, Bill Hurliman, Rob Jackson, Wayne Jarshaw, Peter Jensen, Dan Jones, Keith Kirkman, Stan Kosmiki, Steve Kossman, Ed Kulkis, Richard Lund, Don McInnis, Thomas Miller, John Mohamed, Mary Morris, Michael Morris, Terry Naig, Ray Nash, Leonard Pardue, Dennis Parr, Paula Port, Craig

Pubols, Denise Ricketts, Brian Sauer, Kenneth Schmidt, Jimmy Smith, Steve Smith, Robert Scyoc, Rich Pimm, Richard Skeffington, Andrea Smothers, Laurel Spenser, John Stensland, Dennis Strutz, Ben Unger, Keith Urban, James Vansoyk, Roland Vorath, James Wagner