

AMERICAN LEGION

McMINNVILLE POST 21 - 126 NE ATLANTIC STREET – McMINNVILLE, OREGON 97128 – 503 435-2218

Commander Hello again, I see that the good Lord has kept us out of harm's way. Thank you, Lord.

The other day I was at the Post helping with KP duty (kitchen duty) and it was busy with customers having a good time and eating. After some of them finished eating and were ready to leave, they brought their plates to the counter. I told them they did not have to do that because I was not going to tip them. Boy they laughed and said that was the reason they came to The American Legion, to have a good time and enjoy good food. That made me feel very special about our Post. It goes to show we have a fantastic Post.

The Post was busy with the Legion Riders Scholarship Poker Run on Saturday, August 26th. There were many motorcycles and one tricked out jeep (no not mine) they came for breakfast before the poker run. The run included 4 other Posts beside ours. The run ended at Post 21 with raffles and a BBQ by Berts Chuckwagon. Many people and businesses donated great things for the raffle. It was so much fun that we did not close until 10:00 PM. Needless to say, the event was very successful in many ways. Everyone had a fantastic time. Our volunteers all worked endlessly which added to the success of everything.

A very special thanks goes to the Legion Riders, the Auxiliary, and the Sons of The American Legion.

THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 21 ROCKS!!!!!!

Our Friday night Prime rib dinners, which start at 5:00PM, have become so popular we have people arriving early and phoning in orders to go. Because of this we have sold out several times. We've had so many customers we had to seat people in the Honor room. Each Friday night consists of different volunteers from all the families, Legion members, Auxiliary members, and members from The Sons of The American Legion working in the kitchen This is only one way your American Legion family works together in making our Post outstanding.

I would like to end here with, if I may, asking the Lord to continue watching over us all as we each travel on our different paths in life. God Bless us all and Semper Fi.
Juan M Palacios, your Commander.

Juan M. Palacios, Post 21 Command



It's "Chili Cook-Off" time again and it's scheduled for Saturday, September 16, 2023 at Post 21 starting at 11:00 am till 2:00 pm or whenever the Chili is all eaten (whichever comes first) I'm hoping to see a few more cooks this year.....maybe 12 to 15. To enter your favorite Chili contact me (Rich Pimm 971-241-7904) or sign the "Sign-Up" sheet that's posted on the cork board in the Bar/Lounge. The cost to enter your Chili: \$5.00 at the door (which will help to off-set the cost to the Post for supplying all the extras: Cheddar Cheese, sour cream, crackers, bowls and spoons, corn bread etc...you will also get one vote with your entry fee.

All you will need is a crock pot of " Just Chili " and a ladle to serve it. If you like you can decorate your table but be ready to serve at 11 am sharp, and judging will be only on your chili not presentation.

The public is always welcome and everyone who eats gets a vote. There will be a \$5.00 fee to taste, eat and vote. Majority wins by popular vote. Prizes will be awarded at 2 pm-----1st place: Bragging Rights & Dinner for 2 any Friday Night Prime Rib Dinner certificates and a T-shirt "American Legion Post #21...2023 "JUST-CHILI" Cook-off Champion " (your choice size and color). 2nd place: Lunch for 2 certificates good any day. 3rd place: 3 beer or soda tokens. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards Post #21 Veterans programs. Bring the whole family...let's have some fun.....Thanks, Rich Pimm.





Sons: Hello team 21, The Sons had great turnout for the Korean War Remembrance Breakfast. We served 75 paid customers, 1 WWII Veteran and 4 Korean War Veterans. This breakfast is not to dwell on the war, but rather to remember and thank our military men and women for the sacrifices they made during this time of war. Thank you to everyone who helped put this breakfast together.

I want to point out the fact that we received many compliments not only on the breakfast, but also our appearance. We looked sharp in our blue shirts and caps. Everyone came together to make this event a great success.

Now is the time to renew your dues for 2024. Our goal is 53. We currently have 14 paid members which puts us at 26.42%. Please renew now so we can finish this year at 100% membership goal. We missed our goal for 2023 by just 2 members.

At our next meeting we will be discussing the possibility of increasing our dues to keep up with inflation and the fact that National and Detachment of Oregon keep raising their dues while ours have remained stagnant.

I would like to thank our newest members for coming to the meetings and participating in our events. We need your input and help as we continue to make TEAM 21 the best team in the state/nation.

Del White SAL 21 Commander



A NOTE FROM THE POST

I am reminding everyone that the **Post will be CLOSED September 10th until the 12th. Possibly the 13th also.**

We will be laying the new floors. We need volunteers to help remove the old floor and remove all furniture. If interested in helping, please let me know or Gary Bert.

There will also be a price increase on menu items during that time.

We have been short staffed and very busy, but always seem to be able to make it through. We have the best team ever!!! I want to thank all those who just get up and bus tables, wash dishes, carry plates, or whatever they can to help the cooks and servers. That is what you call family.

Debra Godwin

Post #21, Club Manager

Adjutant: The new membership year has begun! Renewals are coming at a steady pace, Thank You! We are currently at 51%! Yeah, we have reached the September goal of 50% as set by Department. Thank you everyone who renewed their membership. The next goal is 55% by October 18th. To reach this goal we only need 14 more members to renew their membership. Let's see if we can reach 100% by the end of the year, please pay your dues now rather than waiting. Again, Thank You!



Auxiliary: The hot month of August yielded picnics and a poker run but September will be maintenance and planning time for Auxiliary members. The August meeting featured our scholarship recipient, Taylor Wilson, who shared her future education goals and a note from Emma Lane thanking us for her award. The Auxiliary accepts applications in the spring and supports youths in both college and trade school paths.

Sept. 9 is a District 2 potluck at noon with all members invited to the 1pm meeting. The post will be closed during that time. Come and learn what other posts are involved in doing and share ideas.

Members voted to increase annual dues to \$40 to cover future increases for the state. There is also a buddy fund for any who need help in this area. We will be discussing our membership drive to be held in the Oct. meeting and look for the membership packets to be distributed highlighting all the benefits offered outside of our number one goal of supporting our Veterans. We also instituted a call out for potluck desserts at our meetings which were received warmly!

A big thank you to Bert's Chuckwagon for serving 100 delicious meals at the Crawfish Boil held Aug. 12th. His philanthropy continues to support our efforts and we appreciate all his hard work.

Jenni Burkhead, Auxiliary Membership Chair



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



Post 21 American Legion Riders Scholarship Poker Run

Well, it's complete; the 2023 American Legion Rider Scholarship Poker Run. It could not have been done without the commitment of so many. Great amount of effort, hours and thanks to all the Committees. It's difficult to name all who contributed so much of their time and experience to its success. Run participants numbered more than 90 individuals contributing to the poker hands, silent auction, raffle and 50/50 drawing. With donations of many businesses, we awarded four cash prizes totaling more than \$2,500 dollars. Let's not forget the buffet breakfast prepared and served by our legion staff and the great afternoon meal of Bert's Chuck Wagon & BBQ, a local business and generous post supporter.

The American Legion Riders are comprised of Legion members, Auxiliary members and members of The Sons of The American Legion. Riders now proudly honor 60 plus members. Members committed to the distribution of scholarship funds to students within our community and the simple joy of friends and our love of riding.

The event was not without its challenges. Collectively the goal is to address them as we move forward to our next beneficial Scholarship Poker run.



Service Officer: If you are a 40% or more disabled Veteran or surviving spouse of a Veteran, you may be entitled to a Veteran's property tax exemption. If you're a disabled Veteran or the surviving spouse or registered domestic partner (partner) of a Veteran, you may be entitled to exempt \$21,386 or \$25,665 of your homestead property's assessed value from property taxes. The exemption amount increases by 3 percent each year. The exemption is first applied to your home and then to your taxable personal property. To qualify for the exemption, you must be a U.S. citizen who has been a member of the U.S. Armed Forces and you were discharged or released under honorable conditions. At least one of these requirements must also be met:

- Served at least 91 consecutive days beginning on or before January 31, 1955.
- Served at least 179 consecutive days beginning after January 31, 1955.
- Served for 178 days or less and was discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions because of a service-connected disability.
- Served for 178 days or less and has a disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Served for at least one day in a combat zone.
- Received a combat or campaign ribbon or an expeditionary medal for service in the U.S. Armed Forces.
- Be receiving a nonservice-connected pension from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

If you are an Oregon resident and a qualifying Veteran or a Veteran's surviving spouse/partner and live in your home, you may file a claim and receive the exemption. The filing period is between January 1 and April 1. If you are an actively serving Oregon National Guard member, you may be entitled to Veteran's property tax exemption. Filing dates are listed on the application. The application form and instructions are available on the Yamhill County Veterans Property Tax Exemption website online at <https://www.co.yamhill.or.us/content/Veterans-property-tax-exemption>. Surviving Spouse Exemption Claim forms are also available. Surviving Spouses must attach proof of marriage/registered domestic partnership (partnership) to the deceased Veteran, the Veteran's death certificate, and the Veteran's military discharge or release papers (DD-214 or other equivalent documentation). You also can't have entered into a new marriage or partnership.

Cheers to being big, slow and dumb. HAPPY PURPLE HEART DAY.

100 Days in The Ghan is a captivating story of one ordinary kid who felt called to serve following 9/11 and was ultimately severely wounded in action.

Wiggins story begins on 9/11 and walks readers through a series of events that lead him and his friends to join the military. Upon completing training Wiggins finds himself in the Nation's oldest and most prestigious Special Operations Unit, the Airborne Rangers.

During his time in the Rangers, Wiggins deploys in support of the Global War on Terrorism five different times. An ambush on May 13, 2004, left Wiggins now 25 deaf and with other serious injuries. Wiggins dies on a battlefield in Afghanistan (The Gan) several times only to prove all of the doctors wrong and makes a near full recovery.



More than three years later, Wiggins was living in Oregon, serving as president of Evergreen Defense and Security Services and working on obtaining his bachelor's degree at Linfield College.

In addition to 100 Days in the Ghan, Dr. Wiggins has also written: Disabled Leadership, A hope for Hawthorne, A Happening in Hawthorne and co-author of The Sprit in the North.





The most recent identified POW/MIA.

World War II

Army Air Forces Tech Sgt. Elton Gomillion – 22. Lost August 1, 1943 when the B-24 Liberator he was an engineer on was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire and crashed during Operation TIDAL WAVE. His remains could not be recovered. Announced July 31, 2023.

Army Air Force Staff Sgt. Wesley Jones – 22. Lost when the B-24 Liberator he was a gunner on was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire and crashed during Operation Tidal Wave. His remains were not recovered. Announced August 1, 2023.

Army Air Force 2nd Lt. Walter Miklosh – 21. Lost June 26, 1944 when the B-29 Superfortress he was serving as a navigator on crashed into a rice paddy in the village of Sapekhati, India after a bombing raid on Imperial iron and steel works at Yawata Island, Japan. All 11 crew members were killed instantly in the crash. Announced August 4, 2023.

Army Sgt. Bernard Sweeney – 22. Lost December 16, 1944 when his unit was engaged in battle with German Forces near Strass Germany in the Hürtgen Forest. Due to the heavy fighting his remains were not recovered. Announced August 7, 2023.

Army Air Force 1st Lt. Alfred Pezella – 27. Lost when the B-24 Liberator he was serving on as a bombardier was hit by anti-aircraft fire and crashed during Operation Tidal Wave. His remains were not recovered. Announced August 8, 2023.

Army Air Force Sgt. Willard Kendall – 23. Lost February 25, 1944 when the B-17G Flying Fortress that he was the tail gunner on was struck by anti-aircraft fire after a bombing raid on aircraft factory in Regensburg, Germany. Announced August 10, 2023.

Army Pfc. Lex Lillard – 20. Lost April 9, 1942 when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands. Lillard was subjected to the 65-mile Bataan Death March and was held as a prisoner of war at Cabanatuan POW camp where he died in captivity. Announced August 14, 2023.

Korea

Army Sgt. 1st Class James Wilkinson – 19. Lost September 8, 1950 when Company during fighting along the Nakong River, South Korea. Due to the intense fighting his body could not be recovered and there was never any evidence that he was a prisoner of war. Announced July 26, 2023.

Army Cpl. Gordon McCarthy – 20. Lost December 2, 1950 when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle his remains could not be recovered and there is no evidence that he was a prisoner of war. Announced July 26, 2023.

Army Pfc. Albert Gosnell – 18. Lost when his unit was forced to retreat in the vicinity of Taejon, South Korea. Due to the intense fighting his body could not be recovered and there was never any evidence he was a prisoner of war. Announced July 27, 2023.

Army Cpl. Francis Jury – 23. Lost December 2, 1950 when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle his remains could not be recovered and there is no evidence that he was a prisoner of war. Announced August 9, 2023.

Army Sgt. Richard Sharrow – 22. Lost July 25, 1950 when his unit was engaged in battle with the North Korean Army near Yongdong, South Korea. Due to the heavy fighting his remains were unrecoverable. Announced August 14, 2023.

Army Pvt. Alvin Thurman – 21. Lost November 6, 1951 when his unit was attempting to withdrawal from Hill 200 now known as the Korea Demilitarized Zone. Due to the intense fighting his body was unrecoverable. Announced August 15, 2023.

Army Pfc. James Miller – 21. Lost July 30, 1950 when his unit took part in the unsuccessful defense of the town of Sangui. Following the battle, his remain could not be recovered and there is no evidence that he was ever a prisoner of war. Announced July 28, 2023.

Vietnam

Marine Capt. Ralph Chipman - 29. Lost December 27, 1972 when the A-6 Intruder he was serving on as a pilot during a nighttime combat mission his radio communications ceased, and he never returned to base. His remains were never recovered. Announced August 9, 2023.



What is Gold Star Mother's Day?

Gold Star Mother's Day is observed on the last Sunday in September which will be Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023. Gold Star Mother's Day is intended to recognize and honor those mothers who have lost a son or daughter in the service of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Organizations around the country honor Gold Star families through ceremonies, luncheons and teas. They give back to their community by remembering fallen service members. Service organizations provide opportunities to remember the fallen and their families.

Each year there are events and meetings to publicly express love, sorrow and reverence towards Gold Star Mothers and their families. Flags are also mandated to be displayed at half-staff on government buildings on this day.

The Gold Star is a symbol of a loved one lost in combat. "During World War I, a practice developed across the country where Families displayed flags featuring a blue star, a sign that a family member was fighting in the war. Some flags would display more than one star."

The history of National Gold Star Mother's Day begins with a young country thrown in the midst of a great war. Army Captain Robert Queissner, whose two sons were serving on the front line during World War I, created what is now called the Service Flag. Families displayed the flag with a blue star to represent a child serving in the military during times of war or hostilities. When a service member died, the families stitched a gold star over the blue star.

The exact origins of this tradition are not fully known, but at some point, gold star flags would go up to signify the family member had died on duty. The term "Gold Star

Family" went into the national vocabulary thanks to the sacrifices of man and women serving in uniform.

Gold Star Mother's Day isn't observed in quite the same manner as federal holidays such as **Labor Day**, **Memorial Day**, or **President's Day**, but that does not mean it hasn't been given official recognition.

In 1936, the 74th Congress declared, "the last Sunday in September shall hereafter be designated and known as 'Gold Star Mother's Day,' and it shall be the duty of the President to request its observance as provided for in this resolution."



What is Patriot Day?

Patriot Day is a United States national observance that honors the memory of those who were killed in the September 11 attacks. It was first observed in 2002, after the proclamation by President George W. Bush.

On September 11, 2001, al-Qaeda launched a series of coordinated terrorist attacks upon the United States, killing almost 3,000 people. In the immediate aftermath of the tragic events, President Bush proclaimed September 14, 2001 as a National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for the Victims of the Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2001. A year later, September 11 was made a national day of mourning referred to as Patriot Day. This observance has been proclaimed annually since 2002.

In 2009, it was renamed "***Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance.***" On Patriot Day, the national flag is flown at half-mast on all United States government buildings and establishments. Individuals are also encouraged to display flags on their homes.

A moment of silence is traditionally observed at 8:46 AM. Many organizations and establishments hold memorial ceremonies to honor the victims of 9/11.



September

| Su | M | T | W | Th | F | Sat |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 Prime Rib Dinner Special - Legion KP 5:00 PM | 2 Cancer Bingo 1:00 PM |
| 3 | 4 Labor Day | 5 | 6 SON's 6:30 PM | 7 Band of Brothers | 8 Prime Rib Dinner Special - Auxiliary KP 5:00 PM | 9 |
| 10 POST CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE | 11 Patriot Day POST CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE 8:00 AM | 12 POST CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE House Committee 5:00 PM | 13 POST CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE | 14 | 15 POW/MIA Recognition Day Prime Rib Dinner Special - Sons KP 5:00 PM | 16 Chili Cook-Off |
| 17 | 18 AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY Activities Committee 5:30 PM Executive Committee 6:30 PM | 19 Auxiliary 6:00 PM | 20 General Membership 6:30 PM | 21 | 22 Prime Rib Dinner Special - Riders KP 5:00 PM | 23 |
| 24 Gold Star Mother's Day | 25 | 26 | 27 Legion Rider Meeting 7:00 PM | 28 | 29 AIR SHOW Prime Rib Dinner Special - Legion KP 5:00 PM | 30 AIR SHOW 9:00 AM |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Eric Abrams, Jacqueline Bellwood, Bruce Billett, James Black, Aaron Brooks, Dan Brown, Leroy Brown, Robin Burnett, Theresa Butler, Garth Confer, Chris Dauterman, Rodney Evers, Kevin Foss, Jerry George, Scott Gonzales, Lynne Harrell, Charles Helvie, Arnie Hollander, Shannon Jacks, Dwayne Jackson, Francis Laughlin, Richard Leipfert, Ken Marlow, Debbie McKee, Terry Olson, Liri Paddock-Read, Larry Pedersbeck, Gerald Perica, Paul Pristavec, Patrick Reed, David Reyes, Jose Romero, Riley Sanders, Robert Schenk, Leanne Schnell, Misty Scott, Glenna Smith, Torry Smith, Sonia Uscanga, Richard Vandyke, Cliff Watts, Darwin Wilde, Tracy Wittrock, Larry Wood

AMERICAN LEGION – POST 21
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OFFICERS

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander – Juan Palacios
1st Vice – Paul Krutsch
2nd Vice – Jim Connelly
JAG – Steve Randles
Finance – Cheryl Saville-Miller
Adjutant – Shirley Brown
Sgt. at Arms – Armond Pilotte
Historian – Leroy Brown
Chaplain – Thomas Clayton
Service Officer – Chris Dauterman
At Large – Mike Billings
At Large – Bruce Peterson
At Large – Gale Sears

AUXILIARY

President – Debra Godwin
Vice President – Goya Hernandez
Treasurer – Becky Berweger
Secretary – Becky Berweger
Membership – Jenni Burkhead
Historian – Glenna Smith
Service Officer – Carol Doege
Chaplain – Susan Haley
Sgt. at Arms – Gail Wilson

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 Lindeman
Secretary – Leanne Schnell
Treasurer – Sim Sears
Sgt at Arms – Robert De Kar
Road Capt. – Tony Amodeo
Historian – Jim Connelly

WE ARE ON THE WEB!
VISIT US AT: VETSCLUB.ORG.



THE AMERICAN LEGION ANNUAL



SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

(Ends at 2:00 p.m. or when the chili is all gone)

\$5.00 ENTRY FEE & TASTING FEE

**1st Place "Bragging Rights" Prime Dinner for two,
and a T-shirt.**

2nd Place Lunch for Two.

3rd Place Drink Token.

All proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards Post #21 Veterans programs.

**Bring the whole family...let's have some fun.....
Come to the Post taste the Chili and vote for your
favorite!**



**The Post will be CLOSED for Maintenance September 10
at 4:00 pm and will remain closed until September 12th,
possibly the 13th as well.**