

AMERICAN LEGION

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

Commander: Hello everybody, I see that the Good Lord has kept us safe and given us another great day. Thank you, Lord.

The Post sent out a call for help and we got a great response. Several people answered the call and came to help with the Post remodeling project.

The Post was closed for one week so the remodeling could be completed. It consisted of the walls being painted and the old floor removed so the new floor could be installed. All the furniture was moved into the Honor Room. The kitchen and bathrooms got a deep cleaning too.

We had a lot of volunteers that showed up and got the project completed. The Post looks great and clean.

Our Christmas trees came in and are for sale, so drop in and get your tree before they are gone. The trees are \$35.00. What a great price.

Our Veterans Day parade was a great success with several groups and Veterans in the parade. After the parade Bert BBQ Chuck Wagon provided free meals to any Veterans. The food was great as always. Thank you, Bert.

Our electronic reader board is now up and running. This will help with advertising the Post activities. It looks great. One thing I'd like to say about our volunteers is that they are often the same ones, but there is always a new person that comes in to help. Our volunteers are very dedicated and loyal to our Post. They care about the Post and what it stands for. We have three families in the American Legion BUT we are AMERICAN LEGION first. WE WORK AS ONE AND NOT FOR OURSELVES!!! Be proud of your service to our great country because you cared.

I hope you had a good Thanksgiving with your family and friends. May God Bless you and your family. Until we meet again, Semper Fi (Always Faithful)

Juan M. Palacios, Post 21 Commander

1st Vice: MEMBERSHIP DRIVE ON TARGET! Don't forget to send in your dues renewal for 2024. We are on target with over 65% renewals but need to get to 100% as quickly as possible. The Post needs a strong membership, and you are the lifeblood of the Post. We are the largest Post in our District. Let's stay strong!

AMERICAN LEGION CHRISTMAS TREE SALES



Thanks to the volunteers who picked up and unloaded our first 50 trees on Friday, November 17. John Ambrose, Al Schmidt, Dewey Jackson, Terry Naig, Gary Bert, Steve Smith, Leroy Brown, and Paul Krutsch all pitched in. Another 100 trees will arrive the day after Thanksgiving and another 50 the following Friday. We will need help loading and unloading these, too.

Please let everyone know that we have the best trees at the lowest price in town. Only \$35 and a great selection. Sales are daily from 8 AM to 8 PM. Signs have been placed at various locations around town.

Volunteers are still needed to help sell the trees. Sign up and help the Post and the community.

Paul Krutsch, 1st Vice.





We continue to send \$110 to Tunnels to Towers charity each month. On September 11th we sent an additional \$150 to this great organization. To date we have provided them with \$1,580 in donations.

Tunnels to Towers is one of the highest rated charities where 95% of every dollar donated goes directly to help veterans and first responders. Mortgage free homes are provided to the widows and family of deceased veterans and first responders. If the veteran or first responder is handicapped, T to T provides specially equipped homes to help the injured function as normally as possible.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this cause. Just a small \$1 donation goes a long way when it is added to all the other small donations that we have collected.



JOIN US FOR A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE

Saturday, December 17th

At 6:00 PM

Bring a wrapped gift under \$20.00.

**The American Legion – Post 21
126 NE Atlantic Street
McMinnville, OR 97128**



Service Officer: The Yamhill County Clerk invites Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces to visit their office and file their DD-214. Upon approved application, the Veteran will receive the Yamhill County Veterans Recognition Program ID Card. Veterans may visit the Yamhill County Clerk's Office at 414 NE Evans St in downtown McMinnville to complete the application. All honorably discharged Veterans who record their DD-214 with the Yamhill County Clerk will be offered a photo identification card. There is no cost to record your discharge papers with the Yamhill County Clerk. There is also no cost to obtain certified copies in the future.

Yamhill County Veterans Recognition ID Card is accepted at merchants across the County for discounts or free upgrades. Issuance of the official ID Card began on April 7, 2015. The partnership with Yamhill County began with Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and American Legion. The goal for the program is to provide a simple way for merchants to recognize Veterans. It provides Veterans with a single piece of ID that will be accepted at a variety of places without needing to carry around their discharge papers.

To participate in this program, your DD-214 must indicate that you have been honorably discharged. There is no cost for the ID card. For more information visit <https://www.co.yamhill.or.us/content/veterans-recognition-program>.

Chris Dauterman, Service Officer



Merry Christmas!

A note from the post!

I need to thank all those that came to volunteer to tear the floors up and move the furniture into the honor room. It was great to see so many show up and help. I would like to thank my team for all the deep cleaning reorganizing that they've done behind the bar and in the kitchen. Many volunteer hours went in to get the post up and looking much better.

I would like to introduce our new morning cook, Laura! She has brought a different feel to our post. Extremely positive, amazing cook, and already shows her dedication. Tell her thank you and make her feel welcome.

Just a reminder that the membership discount is back in use. The servers, and bartenders will NOT ask for your membership card. It is all of our responsibility to show our current cards. If you do not show it or have it on you, you will not receive the discount.

We now have the new pricing in effect. Please understand the reason we had to increase food prices.

Happy Holidays to you and yours!

Debra



Sons: First off, I want to say how proud I am of our post family and how the different families come together to make things happen.

The SAL and the Auxiliary came together with Bert's BBQ to serve roughly 200 people a great meal on Veterans Day. Thank y'all for doing an amazing job. From what I heard, about half were vets which makes me smile.

Coming up next is the annual Pearl Harbor remembrance breakfast put on by the SAL on Dec 10th. See flyer in this newsletter. Please come partake in this event as we remember the sacrifices and hardships our WWII Veterans and their families made to keep us a free nation.

Our membership renewals are coming in slowly. I ask you to renew your SAL or Dual membership so we can keep the SAL squadron alive.

You may have noticed when the SAL host an event, we wear blue shirts and SAL caps. We do this so people will recognize the efforts of the Sons of the American Legion in our quest to serve our veterans and the community. This is what the sons have pledged to do along with upholding and defending the constitution of the United States of America.

I have to say, we have the best SAL squadron in Oregon. Thank y'all for doing good things for our veterans and our country.

Del White Sons Squadron 21 Commander



A Red, White & Blue Bunny Show

I had a great time at The Red White and Blue bunny show.

A man, John Nyberg and his wife Rosy invited as many Veterans from Post 21 as I could round up and be judges of this bunny contest. None of us knew what to expect.

Now I have never heard of a red or blue bunny. John assured me there were such. So, me thinking ok, they must dye a white rabbit blue or red. Nope, I learned much more about rabbits than I knew before.

Bob and Gail Wilson, Jim Connelly, Tony Amodeo, Mike Paull, LeRoy Currier, and me Bob Berweger ended up judging three groups of rabbits. Yes, the three groups were Red, White, and Blue. All the rabbits already had been judged professionally, then 3 rabbits from each group were selected by the professional judges, and we had the opportunity to choose the rabbit in the group of 3 we liked best.

Then each rabbit we chose were brought together for us to pick what we felt was the best of the best.



There were 400 entries in the show. I'm not sure how many families, owners of rabbits, and kids, there were but, It was fun learning and being involved with kids with a direction.

Did I mention John and his group donated \$225.00 for the Post and Legion Riders to share?

If our Post is lucky enough next year to participate, I'll try to be first in line.

Bob Berweger, Post 21 member



Food & Toy Drive

American Legion Auxiliary Post #21
Helping Veterans First

Please help us with non-perishable food items such as:

- Canned meat; ham, tuna, chicken, spam
- Meal kits that don't require extra ingredients
- Instant potatoes, rice, instant soups/ramen
- Pancake and muffin mix
- Cereal
- Pasta sauce, pasta
- Canned soups, chili and pasta meals
- Canned fruits and applesauce
- Pudding, Jell-o, fruit cups
- Peanut butter, jelly/jam
- Canned/boxed juices
- Flour, sugar, rice, dry bean
- Seasoning, oil



❁ **And** ❁

Toys for all ages (unwrapped), gift cards and Books

Please Help Us Help Veterans, their Families and the Community!

Contact Debra Godwin at the American Legion (503)435-2218 for more info!





Army Air Force Sgt. White Goings, Jr.— 22. Lost May 6, 1942 when he was captured by the Japanese after they invaded the Philippine Islands. Sgt. Goings was forced to endure the Bataan Death March then held as a prisoner of war. Sgt. White died as a prisoner of war at Cabanatuan Prison Camp. Accounted for November 7, 2023.

Army Air Force Pfc. Henry McConnell – 28. Lost May 6, 1942 when he was captured by the Japanese after they invaded the Philippine Islands. McConnell was forced to endure the Bataan Death March then held as a prisoner of war. Pfc. White died as a prisoner of war at Cabanatuan Prison Camp. Accounted for November 8, 2023.

Army Pfc. Clinton Smith, Jr. – 19. Lost January 14, 1945 when he was hit by an artillery strike during a battle with German forces during the Battle of Reipertswiller in France. Accounted for November 9, 2023.

Army Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert J. Ferris, Jr. – 20. Lost when the B-17F “flying Fortress” he was a crewmember on was his by anti-aircraft fire after a bombing raid on a German aircraft factory. Accounted for November 16, 2023.

Army Air Force 2nd Lt. Kenyon Brindley – 23. Lost February 24, 1944 when the B-24J “Liberator” he was the bombardier on was hit by anti-aircraft fire over Gotha, Germany. Accounted for November 20, 2023.

Navy Mess Attendant 1st Class Ralph Boudreaux, 20. Lost December 7, 1941 during the attack on Pearl Harbor – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for November 21, 2023.

Army 2nd Lt. Gene Walker – 27. Lost November 1944 when the M4 Sherman tank he was driving was hit by an 88-mm anti-tank round. Accounted for November 22, 2023.

Army Cpl. R.V. Leo Short – 19. Lost March 1951 when his unit was forced to retreat from Kunu-ri, North Korea. Cpl. Short was captured and held as a Prisoner of War at Camp #5, where he died. Accounted for November 7, 2023.

Army Cpl. Daniel De Anda – 22. Lost March 1951 after his unit attempted to withdraw from Kuni-ri, North Korea. Cpl. De Anda was captured and held as a Prisoner of War at Camp #5, where he died. Accounted for November 7, 2023.

Chaplain: Well, here we are at that time of year that people are looking to the new year coming. I hope that all of you are getting blessed in a big way. At this writing it is Thanksgiving day and as I look back there are so many things that we can be thankful for. God has been great in the way that He has been there to answer many prayers. But do we stop there - no way because I need to keep praying for all of our members and the family that we may all be blessed.

There are many people that we need to keep in prayer as they deal with the things that are coming their way. We had a great day for the Veterans Day Parade in McMinnville. If you didn't come out, you missed a lot of good times for all. Post 21 is growing in many way and if you are not there, please take the time and think about getting more involved with the post.

As we look towards the new year, we need your help in so many ways. All the Vets and the family need to stand up. Remember that I'm always there to pray for you if you need my prayers. Just call or text me. If you are in the Hospital, please let me know so that I can come and visit. Yes, I will come to the VA Hospital too. As I think back, I remember one veteran that had heart surgery in Portland, and he was surprised that I came to see him in the VA Hospital in Portland. That is just what I do.

As we will not have a legion meeting in December, I pray that you all will be safe and have a great Christmas and come out at the new year for our meetings. My prayers are going up for you.

May God Bless You and keep you safe.

Chaplain Thomas Clayton, Chaplain
503-550-8044

On Celebrating A Half

I'm currently focused on the question I'm asked most often, 'What's it like being a hundred and a half years old?' Also, "Why is the ½ obviously important to you?"

Let me explain that ½ is special because in 6 months at my age, anything may happen to change the landscape, like a million dollar lottery win; but probably more like a debilitating stroke, heart attack – or even death – or the Second Coming 😊 .

I am celebrating tomorrow, November 10th, as the official halfway mark in my year on my way to the next April 10th birthday. When I get there, I'll enjoy the play out of mucho candles, big chunks of cake eaten with a clear conscience (I'm told by heart specialist Dr. Spear that the major portion of his practice is spent on obese patients since that is nowadays a national affliction). Wolfing down Birthday cake is actually his orders for me, as he tells me that my 94lb weight needs to be brought up by snacking OFTEN, day and night! He says his clinic is observing that men and women over age 60 do not manufacture fat any longer – not scientific, just observation, he says...but orders I can willingly accommodate. After all, I am a tad bit over 60 years of age and bordering on skinny.

Another factor: remember when, as a little kid, we were asked how old we were, and at 4 ½ we responded by fanning out all five fingers of one hand then struggling to bend the thumb halfway on the other hand? Being halfway to another birthday back then was an exercise in anticipation . Now it's more like a quiet game of darts, 102 being the red circle in the center.

As for my longevity, I love believing that God is in control of everything in the Universe (including all the Space junk that is floating around above us), that He is Omnipotent and Omniscient. That He has plans for each of us, the little fly specks on the calendar of time that we are. And that His Plan for me is designed to keep me on my feet, no falls, no whammies, no chronic illnesses, just vision and hearing impairment to keep me humble and ever needful of Him and His timeless Love and Grace.

Margaret "Peggy" Lutz, WAVE



Auxiliary: November was a busy month as we honored our veterans by participating in the McMinnville Veterans parade in a gaily decorated wagon supplied by the Heritage Center. The vets were then treated to a delicious BBQ rib lunch donated by Bert's Chuckwagon. Terry Naig of the SAL thanked us for our support to serve 96 gratis meals to the vets and over 200 meals on Nov. 11. The Legion tables were decorated with very thoughtful cards and pictures done by local grade schools, and many brought tears to the attendees with the messages. A coloring contest of patriotic pictures were displayed on boards by grade and voted on to award the 3 classes with a box of art supplies. Dianne Heaton will deliver the awards and shout out to Dianne and Lynn Slater for conducting a very successful event that continues to involve our youth in recognizing our patriots.

In other service, a letter of thanks was read from the staff of the Portland VA for the 96 cozy knitted hats supplied by our Auxiliary crafters.

December will be busy with our preparations to provide food boxes and toys to the active service and retired vets in our county. Barrels have been placed in the post and also near the Christmas tree sales area outside. **Applications are located in the bar area and must be returned by 12/3.** Please donate your toy and food items by 12/8. Monetary donations are also accepted.

December activities are:

12/7 – Shopping for the 90 Christmas stockings for assisted Living vets.

12/11 – Sorting and arranging food and toys and stocking stuffing starting at noon.

12/11 – Wreath, swag, and table decor building for members who want to decorate their homes with beautiful fresh greens will be occurring during the afternoon and after 5 pm. Dress warmly for patio and bring gloves, clippers, ribbon and ornaments if you have.

12/12 – 10 a.m. shopping at Wal-Mart for toy and food needs.

12/16 – Applicants shop their food boxes at the Legion and receive the toys for their families.

Other Post activities include a breakfast on Pearl Harbor Day, 12/10, served by SAL from 8-11 a.m. - free for WWII and Korean vets, \$11 for the public. There is also a raffle for a Depoe Bay stay.

Jenni Burkhead, Auxiliary Membership Chair

DECEMBER

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
					1 Christmas Tree Sales Prime Rib Dinner Special - Legion KP 5:00 PM	2 Christmas Tree Sales Cancer Bingo 1:00 PM
3 Christmas Tree Sales	4 Christmas Tree Sales	5 Christmas Tree Sales	6 Christmas Tree Sales SON's 6:30 PM	7 Christmas Tree Sales	8 Christmas Tree Sales Prime Rib Dinner Special - Auxiliary KP 5:00 PM	9 Christmas Tree Sales
10 Christmas Food/Gift Box App. Deadline Pearl Harbor Breakfast	11 Auxiliary Christmas Sorting & Swag Building	12 Auxiliary Christmas Shopping Christmas Food Gift Box Pick-up 10:00 AM	13	14	15 Prime Rib Dinner Special - Sons KP 5:00 PM	16
17 White Elephant Christmas Party 6:00 PM	18 No Executive Board Meeting in December 6:30 PM	19	20 No General Membership	21	22 Prime Rib Dinner Special - Riders KP 5:00 PM	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Bud Ayala, Tammy Balcombe, Richard Barr, Andrew Benedict, Emory Billings, Larry Brown, Pamela Brown, Frank Butler, Charles Claypool, Alicia Crossley, Robert Dodge, Robin Dorrell, Steve Farley, Jack Frare, Joe Gallagher, John Graham, Dianne Hays-Hatch, Dianne Heaton, David Henderson, Gregoria "Goya" Hernandez, Luke Jacks, Pat Jackson, Jeremy Koch, Ted Kulick, Richard Kyle, Del Linke, Gregory Mader, William McCloskey, Kent Olsen, Ivan Pennington, Jeff Pierce, Ronald Ponto, Patrick Quinn, Debbie Randles, Wilbur Rice, Keven Sieler, Paul Sloan, Blane Smalley, Vernon Stevahn, Guadalupe Tavera, Les Toth, Brockman Vernon, Mark Vernon, Jacque Wagner, Robert Wilson, Wendy Wilson, Calvin Winbolt, Shaunna Young

AMERICAN LEGION – POST 21
126 NE ATLANTIC STREET
McMINNVILLE, OR 97128
503 435-2218
VETSCLUB21@GMAIL.COM

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 Linneman
Secretary – Bob Wilson
Treasurer – Sim Sears
Sgt at Arms – Wayne Jarshaw
Road Capt. – Tony Amodeo
Historian – Jim Connelly

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



American Legion & Auxiliary



Raffle **WorldMark Depoe Bay**

2 bedroom/2 bath Suite- Full Kitchen- Balcony-Pool

Amazing view. Fun week at the beach in beautiful Depoe Bay.

Tickets on sale till Dec 20.

Drawing Dec. 20th at Legion Meeting @ 6pm

Generously donated by The Berweger's

1 Week stay for 4 WorldMark

Depoe Bay

Feb 11th-18th

Raffle tickets are \$20 each

Limit of 200 being sold (~\$1800value)

Your chances of winning are great!!

**Proceeds go toward the Legion's ongoing
commitment to our Veterans & local community**

Contact: Legion 503-435-2218 Becky 503-434-1834 or Bob 503-583-0773