

126 Atlantic Street

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DECEMBER

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Commander: Hello, I want to thank the Lord for keeping us safe and sound. It was a busy time at the Post on November 10th for the Marine Corps Birthday. About 35 Marines invaded the Post. They had a great time, not a lot of drinking, yea right. We also had the pleasure of meeting a Marine that served during the Korean War, he was happy to see the Marines carry on the Marine Corps tradition. He said, "it reminded him of the good old days."

The incoming National Commander paid us a visit in November. A visit to Post 21 was not on his agenda, but he heard about our Post Hospitality. He was greeted by The American Legion Post 21 United Veterans Honor Guard, and they stayed with him the whole time. After breakfast he went to the Air Museum for a tour. I heard that he did not want to leave until he saw everything. I guess word is out about our Post.

The other day a Veteran was told to call me for help. He called and said he did not have a ride to the VA Hospital for a medical procedure scheduled at 10:00 am the next day. The procedure was only supposed to take one and a half hours, I tried to get someone to take care of this but had no luck. I thought I could do it and still make the 6:30 meeting at the Post. Unfortunately, his procedure didn't start until after 4 o'clock and I was worried about missing the meeting, so I started walking around the third floor. Soon, I found myself entering the Chapel. I walked in, sat down, and said "Hello Lord." A sense of peace came over me, I was not worrying about anything. The Lord took away my problems and I was at peace and feeling good.

We left the Hospital at 7:30 pm. The Veteran said he was very sorry several times. I told him not to worry about it, just get well. I told him I would check on him the next day, there was no one staying with him during the night. I knew the Lord would take care of him. After attending a funeral in Sheridan, I checked on him. He was glad to see me, and he cried.

I told him The American Legion will help any Veteran in need and will not leave a Veteran behind I returned to the Post still feeling good and at peace. By this time, The Post Honor Room was filling with people from the funeral and the Club was filling up as well. I was sitting when I heard a very distinctive voice say "Commander, get to work" so I stood up to attention, saluted her and got to work.

Let the Lord keep you and your family safe. God Bless you All!

Juan M. Palacios, Post 21 Commander, Semper Fi

Adjutant: First I must apologize for the lateness of Decembers Newsletter. We went to Omaha to see family and planned to do the newsletter on the train ride home, however Amtrak does not have internet, so my plans did not workout.

Membership is now at 80%, we only need 77 members to renew their membership and we will be at 100%. Please send in your renewal and let's see if we can make 100% before the new year starts.

Shirley Brown, Adjutant



Riders: The Riders wish a Merry Christmas to our families and friends at American Legion Post 21. We are thankful for another year under the Post 12 umbrella and for the leadership of the Post that allows us to serve our veterans and community.

Fall weather hasn't stopped our Riders from continuing to participate in events and escorts in the area. In particular, Jim "Coach" Connelly, Bob Berweiger and Bob Wilson have been out and about on their motorcycles supporting local Veterans. Thanks gents!

Riders Meeting Reminder: November and December Riders meetings are combined – as is normal for us – to one meeting on Wednesday, December 8, at 7 PM (6:30 for officers). Looking forward to seeing everyone there. Also, the ORALR Quarterly Meeting will be held at Sheridan Post 75, Saturday, December 11, at 1 PM.

Paul Schnell, Director



!!! Notice !!!

December 13th Executive Meeting and
December 15th General Membership
meetings are cancelled.





Chaplains Pulpit: As we come to the end of 2021, I would like to thank all our members at Post 21. Stop and think for a moment about all the things that you can be thankful for all the members of the Auxiliary, Sons of the Legion and The Legion Riders. And we can't forget the members of the Honor Guard as they have stepped up and given a last send off for the Veterans that have passed on to their reward.

If you stop and take the time to think about what our Post has done this past year you will see that we have done so much for Veterans and McMinnville and the towns around us. And yes, remember the ones that we have lost this past year. All of them will be missed as they have been a big part of us all. Look around and see if there is any way that you can help. Remember that the Auxiliary can use your help as they get ready for Christmas as they reach out to Veteran Families in need.

As we take the time to pray for all the ones we have lost, and their families may God be there with his blessings. Please Keep Kathy and Mick Gillespie in your prayers. Please remember that I'm always there to pray for you. I will pray that God will be there in hard times for healing if needed. Or if you just need a prayer. On another note, we are getting ready to add another monument and I know Rich Pimm would enjoy having any help that you can give. Remember this is a great thing on the way that our post give honor to our Veterans who have passed. As I close let me say once again that I thank all of you that have given time to our Country and to The American Legion – Post 21.

Chaplain Thomas Clayton

December Events

- 1 – Sons Meeting
- 4 – NO CANCER BINGO
- 4 – Department Officers Christmas Party
- 5 – Pearl Harbor Breakfast
- 5 – Legion Bingo
- 8 – Legion Riders Meeting
- 12 – Second Winds Community Band Holiday Concert
- 12 – Legion Bingo
- 13 – Honor Guard
- 13 – E-Board (Cancelled)
- 15 – General Meeting (Cancelled)
- 18 – Christmas Baskets
- 18 – White Elephant Christmas Party, Father Christmas will be here!
- 19 – Crabbing Trip
- 24 – Christmas Eve (Closing at 5:00 pm)
- 25 – Christmas Closed!
- 31 – New Year's Eve Party

Judge Advocate: Encouragement. We have a small number of critics in our community. But for the most part, we have a Post 21 community of well-wishers and doers. Occasionally you hear about someone complaining about something the membership decided on at the regular Membership meeting each month. However, you usually won't see those "someone's" at those meetings. And by all means, those individuals are allowed an opinion, but it would go so much further if they were to attend the meetings and express those opinions during the discussion times for the motion on the floor.

Our by-laws state that the "General meetings are open to The American Legion Post 21 members, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 21, The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 21. Guests are permitted with approval of the Commander or presiding Officer. These three branches make up the Family of American Legion Post 21.

The American Legion; The American Legion Auxiliary and The Sons of The American Legion. Only members of The American Legion Post 21, (not the Auxiliary or SAL), in good standing may vote on issues and elections of The American Legion. But that doesn't mean they can't be part of the discussion or decision-making process. Their input is as important as anyone else's.

So, my two cents worth? Encouragement. Our Executive Committee has always encouraged our "Family" members to attend the General meetings so that they can have a voice on issues, bring ideas and suggestions, and by doing so, they would know why things are decided and know what is going on and have a say in it.

I hope you (by the time you read this, have had a great Thanksgiving and your Christmas is wonderful.

Steve Randles, Judge Advocate



BATTLE OF BRANCHES BREAKFAST Coming Spring 2022

Marines – March 5th
Air Force – March 19th
Navy – April 2nd
Army – April 16th

Auxiliary: Wow November was a busy month: Veterans Day, we were delighted to provide 25 Poppies to St. James teacher who planned a lesson for her class on why we observe Veterans Day and why Poppies are given out in memory of those who served. The Auxiliary also had the honor of serving dinner to many Veterans and their family members who attended the Legion's Veterans Day dinner. A wonderful turnout for a great meal provided by Bert's BBQ.

Crabbing Trip. LIMITED CRABBING TRIP TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE!!! Don't miss your chance for a crabbing adventure on the Newport Bay with Cpt. Crustacean. Trip is scheduled for December 19th. For a ticket contact Sim Sears 503-435-8544 or Becky Berweger 503-434-1834. The winning ticket will be drawn on December 15th.

Christmas Baskets. A huge "THANK YOU" to all who have generously donated to the Christmas Baskets and for those who may still wish to contribute . . . donations will be accepted until December 13th.

December 12th is the last day that Veterans and/or their families may turn in an application to receive a Christmas Basket. The applications are available at The Legion, YCAP and the Veteran's Service Officer.

HELP WANTED . . . December 13th there will be a work party at 9:00 AM to move all the canned foods and toys from the Auxiliary storage room to the Honor Room. December 18th is Christmas Basket Pick-up-Day – let Becky Berweger (503-434-1834) know if you would like to help that day.

It is with great sorrow that we announce the death of our fellow Auxiliary member and friend, Robert (Bobbie) Van Scoyk. Bobbie was a very active member of Unit 21, holding the positions of Secretary and Membership. She never hesitated to volunteer her time and always showed up with a smile. Her life was far too short, but it made a big impact on our Unit. We'll always remember her. She will be greatly missed. On November 16th, the Auxiliary honored our friends passing by draping the charter.



Coming January 2022!



Grandhaven Elementary School

Mrs. Johnson's 4th Grade Class

3200 NE McDonald Ln, McMinnville, OR 97128

An open letter to Mrs. Johnson and
her, 4th Grade Class, Grandhaven School.

Mrs. Johnson, I can't begin to express well, our gratitude to you and your students for the wonderful cards and letters that were shared during our Veterans Day dinner at The American Legion Post. There were several cards on tables brightly decorated for us, all to read.

Being a member of the Executive Committee for the Post, I was so taken with your students' efforts, I collected as many as I could and took them to the Board meeting and the general meeting so those Veterans that may have missed them might see them.

On behalf of the entire Post, Thank You so Very Much

Commander: Juan Palacios

1st Vice: Bruce Peterson

2nd Vice: Jim Connelly

Finance Officer: Gale Sears

Adjutant: Shirley Brown

Judge Advocate: Steve Randles

Service Officer: Tim Anderson

Chaplain: Thomas Clayton

Historian: Bob Zeeck

Sgt at Arms: Robert DeKar

At Large: Bob Berweger

At Large: Rich Pimm

At Large: Paul Schnell

American Legion Post 21

McMinnville, Oregon

126 Atlantic St. 97128-9005

503 435-2218

P.S. If our Post can be of assistance to you or your class,
please contact us.





The most recent identified POW/MIA.

World War II

Marine Pfc. Walter Collier – 20. Lost December 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS California. Accounted for October 19, 2021.

Army Air Forces 1st Lt. John Heffernan – 24. Lost February 22, 1944 while serving as the navigator of a B-25G Bomber during a bombing mission in Burma. Before reaching the target the B-25G burst into flames and crashed. Local villagers buried the bodies. Accounted for November 2, 2021.

Army Pvt. Edward Ryan – 33. Lost July 7, 1944, when the commanding general of the Japanese forces on the Mariana Islands ordered a mass suicide charge of his remaining soldiers. Ryan was killed during the attack. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star. Accounted for November 3, 2021.

Fire Controlman 2nd Class Lawrence Overley – 21. Lost December 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for July 16, 2021. Announced November 19, 2021.

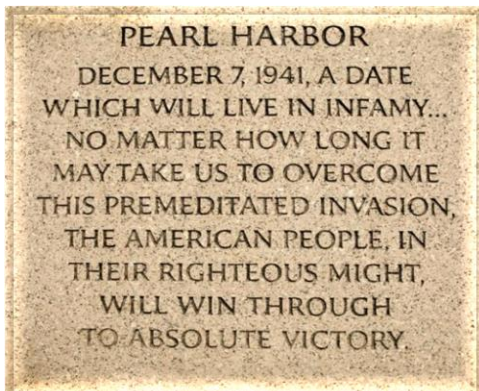
Army Tech Sgt. Ross Thompson – 50. Lost December 10, 1941, after enduring the 65-mile Bataan Death March and then having been held as a prisoner at the Cabanatuan POW camp where he died. Accounted for November 10, 2021.

Korea

Army Sgy. Pfc. Jack Lilley – 19. Lost July 20, 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the vicinity of Taejon, South Korea. He was never found nor were any remains recovered that could be identified as Lilley. Accounted for November 5, 2021.

Army Pfc. Jimmy Rowland – 19. Lost July 15, 1950, while fighting North Korean forces along the Kum River north of Taejon, South Korea. He was never found nor were any remains recovered that could be identified as Rowland. Accounted for November 5, 2021.

Army Sgt. Howard Belden – 19 Lost December 1, 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Accounted for October 14, 2021.



DOD Identifies most of the Remains of those killed on the USS Oklahoma.

The Nevada-class battleship USS Oklahoma was commissioned in 1916 and was the pride of the American fleet. The ship was notable for being the first American class of oil-burning dreadnaughts.

The vessel saw duty in World War I, protecting Allied convoys to Europe.

As fate would have it, the Oklahoma was moored at Ford Island Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941, the day the Japanese attacked.

During the attack, several torpedoes from Japanese airplanes hit the Oklahoma's hull, and the ship capsized. A total of 429 crew members died.

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has identified most of those killed on the USS Oklahoma when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii in 1941.

Between June and November 2015, personnel from DPAA exhumed the unidentified crew members from the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific for anthropological analysis. Of the 429 killed, 394 had been buried as unknown persons. As of Sept. 15, 2021, 346 had been identified.

Where is the USS Oklahoma?

The Oklahoma was righted in 1943. In 1944 she was decommissioned. It was determined that she would never return to service. In 1946 she was sold to a California company with plans to scrap her.

As she was being towed to California in 1947, the ship encountered a serious storm. The Oklahoma began sinking and dragging the two tugboats with her. They cut the lines and let her go. She remains at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean today.

Many of the *Oklahoma*'s survivors were pleased to learn of her sinking. They did not want their beloved ship to be used as scrap metal.

The early morning quiet of a routine December Sunday on Oahu was shattered when aircraft of the Imperial Japanese Navy came screaming over Pearl Harbor and launched one of the deadliest attacks on American soil in history. In the course of the devastating attack, the battleship USS *Oklahoma* (BB-37) took several hits and started to list. Before long, she was capsized in the harbor with 429 of her men lost onboard. *Oklahoma* was one of two biggest losses of life on that day, the other being the explosion and sinking of the battleship USS *Arizona* (BB-39) with 1,177 members of her crew.

Unlike *Arizona*, however, *Oklahoma*'s location is unknown to this day.

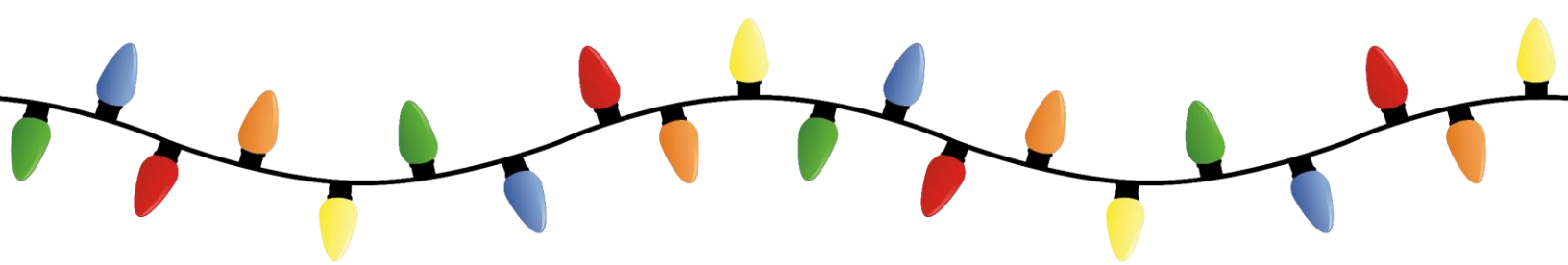
December 2021

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
			1 SON's 6:30 PM	2	3 Prime Rib Dinner Special - Legion KP 5:00 PM	4
5 Pearl HarborBreakfast	6	7	8 Legion Rider Meeting 7:00 PM	9	10 Prime Rib Dinner Special - Auxiliary KP 5:00 PM	11
12 2nd Winds Band Holiday Concert	13 United Veterans Honor Guard 5:30 PM	14	15	16	17 Prime Rib Dinner Special - Sons KP 5:00 PM	18 White Elephant Christmas Party Christmas Basket Handout
19	20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve (No Prime Rib) Closing 5:00 pm - Christmas Eve	25 CLOSED - Christmas Day
26	27 United Veterans Honor Guard 5:30 PM	28	29	30	31 No Prime Rib	



December Birthdays

Kenneth Ashby, Toni Bennett, Kathleen Blair, Jesse Brown, Steve Candela, Kenneth Chastain, Phil Crosman, Richard Davis, Madison Farley, Lawrence Floyd, George Francis, Ed Gormley, George Harding, Mark Heasley, Dianne Heaton, Debra Jushae, James Lash, Jeneise Lukins, Steve Macy, Richard McAllister, Nick McCleskey, Deena Myatt, William Parker, Rich Pimm, Robert Rollins, Steve Sandercock, Chere Sandusky, Sim Sears, Steve Smith, Robert Tucker, Rebecca Wallis, David White, Del White, Gene Zinda



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



OFFICERS

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander – Juan Palacios
1st Vice – Bruce Peterson
2nd Vice – Jim Connelly
JAG – Steve Randles
Finance – Gale Sears
Adjutant – Shirley Brown
Sgt at Arms – Robert De Kar
Historian – Bob Zeeck
Chaplain – Thomas Clayton
Service Officer – Tim Anderson
At Large – Bob Berweger
At Large – Rich Pimm
At Large – Paul Schnell

AUXILIARY

President – Glenna Smith
Vice – Goya Hernandez
Treasurer – Becky Berweger
Secretary –
Chaplain – Susan Haley
Sgt at Arms – Gretchen Jones

Sons of the American Legion

Commander/Finance – Terry Naig
1st Vice – Bill Lindeman
2nd Vice – Jim VanSoyck
Adjutant – Del White
Sgt at Arms – Brandon Lepkowski
Chaplain – Pete Jenson

The American Legion Riders

Director – Paul Schnell
Asst. Director – Gale Sears
Secretary – Leanne Schnell
Treasurer – Tammy De Kar
Sgt at Arms – Robert De Kar
Road Capt. – Tony Amodeo
Historian – Jim Connelly



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Vetsclub21.org

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