# THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 21

126 ATLANTIC STREET MCMINNVILLE, OR 97128 503-435-2218 VETSCLUB.ORG VETSCLUB21@GMAIL.COM

*First Vice Commander:* Which is it time flies while you're having fun, or time files when you're busy? That being said another very busy month for Post 21.

The very successful ALR Scholarship Poker Run and escorting the Iwo Jima carving to Chinook Winds Casino.

The most recent team effort was the Oregon International Airshow. I and we haven't worked that long, that hard in a long

while. The task actually began last month with a volunteer sign-up-sheet to determine if we would be able to get the man/woman power to help set-up the airshow. That squealed by and we thought we had enough. The presto/bango September 17th happened,



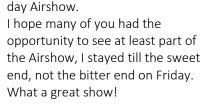
the first day Post 21 was to start. We not only had volunteers that had signed up (some were unable to attend) but we had additional Legionnaires, Auxiliary Members, American Legion Sons, and yes, American Legion Riders stepped up and wow, things started happening.

All families were represented during the work party. I, most likely had the most time with our team leader, Mr. Chris Callies. At about noon that first day, I was told our group accomplished about the same amount of work as the crew at Hillsboro did in two days. I believe I need to say the Hillsboro group is mainly Boy Scouts, so there is some credence to the old and wily.

The United Veterans Honor Guard and Several American Legion Riders had the honor of helping open the two days of the three-



Let me close by saying how proud I am to be a part of this American Legion Post 21 and the people in it. Bob Berweger, First Vice.





**Auxiliary:** The Holidays are fast approaching!!! That means a very busy time of the year for our amazing group of ladies!! We will be starting our Christmas Basket program November 1st. We will be revamping the applications and also the process. We will be hosting the Yamhill County Veterans Stand Down on October 12th.

OCTOBER 2019

Our Unit started a **"Backpack For A Veteran"** program last year, it was focused on our homeless veterans. We struggled to get the backpacks out to the community, so we voted and decided to change the program to **"Welcome Home"**!! We will be working very close with YCAP and when they place a homeless Veteran in an apartment, they notify us, and we go out and purchase household items. We spend approximately \$100 per Veteran.

We will be hosting a Membership Open House on November 19th. As most of you know there has been changes to membership qualifications for Auxiliary. Spouses of Female, Active Duty, or Veterans can now join the Auxiliary. If you have any questions about the new qualifications please contact Debra Godwin, or Sim Sear's. We are all still learning and adjusting to the new membership changes.

We will be holding our annual Christmas Bizarre 12/07/2019. If you are interested in renting a table, or need more info please contact Sim Sears.

Our Unit was contacted by Fir Crest, an assisted living facility here in McMinnville. They asked us to visit their Veteran's on 9/11. So off we went, with bags of goodies and lap quilts to hand out. We met several Veteran's, visited their rooms, sat and listened, made connections that will last a lifetime. When we handed a bag to a Vietnam Veteran his eyes filled with tears as we said we have a gift for you and most of all we want to Thank You for your service. He looked up and said, never in my life have I been given a gift for my service, and I never get thanked for my service, Thank you!!!

Honestly, that made the visit all worthwhile. What an honor for our community to be reaching out to our Unit!!

The Auxiliary supports our Veteran's, Community, Families, Youth, and Children! And we are making a difference!

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy.

You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."



**Second Vice:** Greetings Legion and Families, I would like to say just a bit about Post activities. The Club Manager, Gina along with the activities committee have been trying to provide activities for your enjoyment.

The success of these activities relies on members participation and attendance. Please consider attending some of these activities like Open Mic on Monday's and Band night on the last Saturday of the month.

All members are encouraged to attend the activities meeting held at 5:30 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month. New ideas are welcome. Please remember all activities or fundraising events must go through the Club Manager and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice.

Terry Ward, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice.



## McMinnville City Ordinance 5059

Kellie Menke, City Councilor and City Council President has been welcomed to provide information on Ordinance 5059. She will give a 10-15 minute presentation On October 16<sup>th</sup> during the next General Membership Meeting at 1830 hours (6:30 pm).

Ordinance 5059 is in response to the State Fire Marshall and the Department of Human Services requiring that the City Emergency Medical Services provide inspections for all licensed care facilities within the McMinnville City limits. It is also responding to the large number of nonemergency calls by Licensed Care facilities for services their licensure requires they provide to their clients.

Kellie Menke has been welcomed to provide information on this ordinance and will provide a 10-15minute presentation at the next General Meeting at 1830 hours (6:30 pm)



#### Chaplain:

This past few months have come and gone. I give thanks that more members are attending the meetings. We have been blessed with a great Post.

I want to take this time to ask that you all keep Glena Smith in your thoughts and prayers. She has done so much for our Post and she needs your prayers.

Thomas Clayton, Chaplain.

I have been tracking the volunteer hours at the post and last month we had over 1,000 of volunteer hours.

#### What are volunteer hours?

- All unpaid volunteer work.
- Working with youth groups, church groups, neighborhood groups, visiting nursing homes or hospitals. Sunday School teacher, Girl or Boy Scout Leader.
- Items donated to schools, youth groups, shelters, missions, Goodwill, St. Vincent's, homeless shelters, group homes or any other non-profit organizations.
- Working on Promoting beautification or recycling, adopt-ahighway.
- Driving friends/neighbors to church, doctors or to the store, writing or phoning your legislators.
- Working or donating blood to a blood drive.
- Planting trees, cleaning up community property, disaster cleanup.
- Distributing Poppies in May.
- Donating food/toys/gifts for food baskets for Thanksgiving, Christmas or all year long.
- Buying yarn/supplies for knitting or crocheting for VA hospitals, during homes or donations in the community.
- Cards or gift wrapping for Veterans in hospitals or nursing homes. Donating food, gifts for gift baskets for veterans.
- Volunteering with Police, Firemen, National Guard, etc.
- Decorating at all Post activities.
- Typing, folding, working on mothy newsletter at the Post. Front Door duty, kitchen duty, and serving at the Post.
- Yard work, shopping, housekeeping, transportation for senior citizens or veterans.

Remember the Holidays, especially Memorial Day, Armed Forces Day, Flag Day 4th of July, Veterans Day, POW/MIA day, track all work done in preparation, set up, take down/clean up and attendance at any ceremonies.

Volunteering for **ANY OTHER** organization can be counted in our reports.

*House Committee:* If you have some time to donate the House Committee is in need of members. The committee meets the first and third Monday of every month at 4:30 at the post.

As you may have noticed we are replacing the rented soap and towel dispensers and waste baskets in the rest rooms with purchased dispensers in an effort to save the Post money.

There has been some damage occurring at the post, hopefully this is being done by visitors and not our members, please keep an eye out for disruptive behavior.

If you see something that needs to be repaired or fixed, please drop a note in the suggestion box and sign it so we can let you know when it has been fixed.

WE DO NEED MEMBERS ON THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

*Legion Riders:* Just a shout out to all the Riders of Post 21;

Membership dues deadline for 2020 is coming up fast. December will be the deadline. Currently we have 57 members in our Rider organization,



and it is the largest chapter in the State of Oregon. No other post comes close. Where some chapters in the state are struggling, McMinnville Post 21 is thriving. It is all due to the fantastic members of all the families that pitch in together and make Post 21 successful through all the events, volunteers, and reaching out to the community where needed. You all should be very proud. An exceptional group of people.

Thank you all for supporting the Riders at Post 21 and look forward to more members joining due to the recent changes in The American Legion guideline for becoming a member to The American Legion. If you ride, join!

Steve Randles

Membership Coordinator



#### Preventing suicide: What VA wants you to know. (The American Legion Magazine – September 2019)

September was National Suicide Prevention Month and The American Legion interviewed Dr. Matthew Miller, VA's acting director for suicide prevention, about efforts to reduce the veteran suicide rate.

This year the VA will expand its **#BeThere** campaign, empowering communities to raise awareness about mental health and suicide prevention and to make sure veterans and their families know what resources are available. It can be difficult to talk about mental health, and people may not know what they can do to prevent suicide. Understanding how to support a veteran is the first step. We want to create champions who will answer the call to **#BeThere**. Simple actions such as asking how someone is feeling or inviting them to meet for coffee can help them feel less alone and a sense of belonging.

At its core, the public health approach is about ensuring suicide prevention is a part of every aspect of veterans' lives, not just their interactions with the VA. We know that VA care Is not the right choice for every veteran and want to be respectful and cognizant of those choices. To save lives, VA needs the support of supporters across all sectors. We need to ensure that multiple systems are working in a coordinated way to reach veterans where they live, work and thrive.

It is often heard that 20 veterans' lives are lost to suicide every day. Suicide is preventable and treatment works. Every day, people across the nation reach out for support and live healthy, productive lives. Data about how many veterans die by suicide does not capture the experiences of the vast majority of the 20 million US veterans, who are thriving members of our communities.

#### Twenty Two Pair of Boots

Twenty two pair of boots sit empty today Cause twenty two men couldn't stay. The memories they carried deep inside For years and years, they tried to hide They buried their buddies deep within Just hoping they could begin again Coming home from overseas They couldn't share what they had seen. Everyday life got tougher and tougher The world couldn't know what they suffered Some got sick while others depressed And it became too much for them to suppress And now twenty two pair of boots stand empty today. Because twenty-two Veterans have gone away.

Jean Meyer, Auxiliary Post 69, Whitehall MI



Following is a summary of News Stories of the most recent identified POW/MIA members from World War II, Korean War and Vietnam.

## World War II

Navy Quartermaster 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Dryle Artley – Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for July 29, 2019.

Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Willard Best – Lost Aug. 24, 1944 while a crew member of a B-17G Flying Fortress was struck by German Anti-aircraft fire on a bombing raid over Merseburg, Germany. he was a crew member of crashed fallowing a bombing run near Italy. Accounted for Sept. 3, 2019.

**U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Thomas J.E. Crotty** – Lost July 19, 1942 after being captured and taken as a prisoner. Died as a prisoner war at the Cabanatuan POW camp. Accounted for Sept. 10, 2019.

Navy Chief Water Tender Francis D. Day – Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for July 29, 2019.

Navy Seaman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class D.T. Kyser – Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for July 29, 2019.

Marine Corps Pfc. Michael Kocopy – Lost November 20, 1943 during a battle with the Japanese resistance in an attempt to secure the Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands. Accounted for Aug 27, 2019.

Army Air Forces 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. John McTigue – Lost Aug. 24, 1944 while a crew member of a B-17G Flying Fortress was struck by German Anti-aircraft fire on a bombing raid over Merseburg, Germany. he was a crew member of crashed fallowing a bombing run near Italy. Accounted for Sept. 3, 2019.

**Marine Corps 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Justin Mills** – Lost November 20, 1943 during a battle with the Japanese resistance in an attempt to secure the Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands. Accounted for Aug 9, 2019.

Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Steve Nagy – Lost Aug. 24, 1944 while a crew member of a B-17G Flying Fortress was struck by German Anti-aircraft fire on a bombing raid over Merseburg, Germany. he was a crew member of crashed fallowing a bombing run near Italy. Accounted for Sept. 3, 2019.

**Navy Boatswain's Mate 1<sup>st</sup> Class Arnold Nielsen** – Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for July 29, 2019.

Army Air Forces Sgt. R.L. Tyler – Lost July 18, 1942 when taken as a prisoner of war and interned at the Cabanatuan Prisoner of War Camp. Accounted for Sept. 10, 2019.

Navy Fireman 1<sup>st</sup> Class James Webb – Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for July 29, 2019. Navy Fireman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Lawrence Woods – Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for July 29, 2019.

## Korean War

Army Cpl. Joe Avant – Lost Nov. 30, 1950 when his convoy was attacked east of Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Accounted for Sept 3, 2019.

Army Cpl. Autrey Betar – Lost Dec. 2, 1950 when his convoy was attacked east of Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Accounted for Sept 3, 2019.

Army 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. George Crisp – Lost Dec. 12, 1950 while fighting enemy forces near Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Accounted for August 29, 2019.

**Army Pfc. Harold Knight** – Lost Dec. 2, 1950 when his convoy was attacked east of Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Accounted for Sept 3, 2019.

Army Cpl. William McCollum – Lost Dec. 2, 1950 when his convoy was attacked east of Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Accounted for Sept 11, 2019.

Army Sgt. Donald L. Murphy – Lost Dec. 2, 1950 when his convoy was attacked east of Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Accounted for Sept 3, 2019.

Army Cpl. Gerald Wilson – Lost July 25, 2950 while participating in the defense of Yongdong, South Korea. Accounted for Aug 29, 2019.

Army Pfc. William Winchester – Lost February 1950 after being captured by the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces, reported to have died while in enemy custody. Accounted for Sept. 10, 2019.

#### POW/MIA

For as long as we have Wars And we send our Young to fight We'll have Those who are Missing And the POW's plight. All People of this Nation Have this Duty to fulfill We must keep Them in our thoughts And, We must have the Will To bring every One home And do all we can to find All those POW/MIAs And leave No Souls behind.

## October 2019

Μ	Т	W	Th	F	Sat
	<b>1</b> SON's 6:30 PM	2	3	<b>4</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	5
<b>7</b> House Committee 4:30 PM	8 AMVETS 6:30 PM	9	10	<b>11</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	12 Veterans Stand Down 7:00 AM
14 Finance Committee 5:00 PM Executive Committee 6:30 PM	<b>15</b> Auxiliary 6:00 PM	16 Activities Committee 5:30 PM General Membership 6:30 PM	17	<b>18</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	19
<b>21</b> House Committee 4:30 PM	22	23 Legion Rider Meeting 7:00 PM	24	25 Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	26 Haloween Party w/Band 6:00 PM
28	29	30	31		
	7 House Committee 4:30 PM 14 Finance Committee 5:00 PM Executive Committee 6:30 PM 21 House Committee 4:30 PM	1 SON's 6:30 PM7 House Committee 4:30 PM8 AMVETS 6:30 PM14 Finance Committee 5:00 PM15 Auxiliary 6:00 PM14 Finance Committee 6:30 PM15 Auxiliary 6:00 PM21 House Committee 4:30 PM22 Auxiliary	1 SON's 6:30 PM27 House Committee 4:30 PM8 8 AMVETS 6:30 PM914 Finance Committee 5:00 PM15 Auxiliary 6:00 PM16 Activities Committee 5:30 PM14 Finance Committee 6:30 PM15 Auxiliary 6:00 PM16 Activities Committee 5:30 PM21 House Committee 4:30 PM2223 Legion Rider Meeting 7:00 PM	11231SON's 6:30 PM237 House Committee 4:30 PM8 AMVETS 6:30 PM91014 Finance Committee 5:00 PM15 Auxiliary 6:00 PM16 Activities Committee 5:30 PM General Membership 6:30 PM1721 House Committee 4:30 PM2223 Legion Rider Meeting 7:00 PM24	11234SON's 6:30 PM234Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM11House Committee 4:30 PM8 AMVETS 6:30 PM91011 Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM14 Finance Committee 5:00 PM15 Auxiliary 6:00 PM16 Activities Committee 5:30 PM General Membership 6:30 PM1718 Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM21 House Committee 4:30 PM2223 Legion Rider Meeting 7:00 PM2425 Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM



Daniel Abbe, Jose Aguiler, Mike Balcombe, Kirk Bales, Geri Boyce (Spencer), William Bracken, Russell Buchmann, Thomas Butler, Richard Carmine, Thomas Clayton, William Curtiss, Marty Dodds, Steven Draper, Wayne Franck, Michael Gunn, Eugene Henderson, Bradley Hodges, Nicholas Humphreys, Forrest Jacks, Stephen Kindel, Willy Koch, Paul Krutsch, Evan Malihack, Galen McBee, Michael Morris, Mike Paul, Russell Port, Richard Powell, John Richards, Dale Service, Paul Tilp, Saronalee Wilde.

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

#### **Historic Events** 10/1/1946 - Twelve Nazi leaders were sentenced to death by the International War Crimes Tribunal. 10/3/1863 – President Lincoln proclaimed that last Thursday of November as Thanksgiving Day. 10/6/1946 - "Tokyo Rose" was sentenced to 10 years for treason. 10/8/1871 – During WW1, in the Argonne Forest in France U.S. Sgt. Alvin York single-handily took out a machine gun battalion killing over a dozen and capturing 132. He was awarded the Medal of Honor.

10/10/1973 – Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned amid charges of income tax evasion. 10/13/1775 – The U.S. Navy was formed after Congress authorized the acquisition of a fleet of ships. 10/14/1947 – U.S.Air Force Cpt. Chuck Yeager became the first man to break the sound barrier. 10/15/1917 - WW1 spy Mata Hari was executed in France. 10/18/19745 - The Nuremberg War Crime Trial began.

10/19/1960 – The U.S. embargo of Cuba began.

10/23/1983 – Terrorists drove a truck loaded with TNT into the U.S. headquarters in Beirut, Lebanon, killing 241 U.S. Marines.

10/25/1983 - Grenada was invaded by the U.S. to restore "order and democracy."

10/28/1886 - The Statue of Liberty was dedicated .

10/31/1941 – Mount Rushmore was completed.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### October

- 1 Son's Meeting
- 12 Veterans Stand-Down
- 15 Auxiliary Meeting
- 16 General Membership Meeting
- 23 Legion Riders Meeting

#### November

- 5 Son's Meeting
- 9 Veterans Day Parade
- 10 Second Winds Band
- 11 Veterans Day Dinner
- 20 General Membership Meeting
- 28 Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner

We're on the Web! Visit us at: Vetsclub21.org





- Medical & Dental Services Housing Assistance
- -Peer Support Referrals -

Haircuts

Contact Information: Ed Howard howarde@co.yamhill.or.us



Support our Veterans





**AMERICAN LEGION** 

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