

126 Atlantic Street

McMinnville, OR 97128

503-435-2218 vetsclub.org

vetsclub21@gmail.com

**Commander:** I am happy to see that the Lord has kept you safe and healthy. It has been a busy month at the Post. The American Legion Riders have been hard at work with their runs, fundraisers and putting a lot of miles on their bikes. The Honor Guard has been providing honors at funerals and doing a lot of flag presentations. The Sons of the American Legion is also helping at the Post and will be having an Oyster Feed this month.

A BIG THANK YOU to all for making the American Legion Post 21 SHINE. Without your help and PRIDE our Post would not exist.

The Post is growing in membership with many new members and lots of renewals. We met our goal with over 50% renewals. We must be doing something great. Veterans are hearing good things about our Post. Families are coming in for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. So, let's not act like we are still in the military. Let's treat everyone the way we want to be treated and keep our Post friendly, safe, and a nice place to bring your family.

There is a new Commander's Box by the door where you can drop notes to me. There is also a tablet and pen next to the box. I have the only key. I want to hear from you about any concerns, complaints, and/or compliments. Please sign the note and include your phone number so I can follow up with you. Your name will be kept confidential unless you want me to share. If a complaint is lodged against a member, your name must be known to make the complaint valid. The accused has the right to confront the accuser. If you do have a complaint or concern, please offer me a suggestion for a solution. Yes, I am a Marine.

I would like to say something about the "good old rumor mill". Remember, rumors can hurt people's reputation, especially if they are not true. So, please do not spread rumors by not having any knowledge of what is being said. If there is truth to it, we need to correct it. Please let me know if this is the case because there can be consequences for your actions. RUMORS are identical to propaganda. Propaganda is defined as: "Rumors deliberately spread to harm a person or organization." So, let's be careful what we say and what we repeat.

On a brighter note, have you seen all the VOLUNTEERS at the Post working without pay? The payment comes when someone says, "THANK YOU." Those two simple words mean a lot. Some have volunteered for many years because they feel good about helping our Post.

There are a lot of problems in this world, so let's make our Post a safe haven for all to enjoy each other's company.

God Bless you and may he continue to keep you safe.

*Juan M. Palacios, Post 21 Commander, Semper Fi*



**Auxiliary:** We have been so busy. Thank you to all of you that have helped us in the past month.

Someone gave me a very pretty candle. I do not know your name, but Thank You, thank you very much.

We participated in a Birthday drive-by put on by the Riders. The Honor Guard and Jeep Club from Salem joined in as well along with many from the public. So many people participated in the Birthday drive by for a World War II Veteran. It was an honor.

We are looking for a Veteran Teacher that may need help with supplies for the classroom. We would like to assist with any supplies that might be needed.

We are gearing up for the Christmas basket food and toy drive more information to come in November Newsletter.



## Rose Garden Memorial Update

As of September 23, 2021, The Rose Garden fund has \$14,140.36 (that is just under half the estimated cost to purchase and erect the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monument). The funds so far include \$8,763 in direct donations, 22 pre-requested names for future engraving on the stone at \$100 each, and the remaining \$3,177 is funds raised from our ceiling tile project to include tile painting and name tags.

At the General Meeting in September Post 21 membership voted to donate \$1,500 from the post account towards the project. Thank You!

I am currently looking at options for lighting (12 volt, solar or fiber).

We are also thinking about a Poker (Texas Holdem) Tournament for fundraising. Probably a \$50 buy in, but we need prizes donated. Date and time to be announced later.

Rich Pimm, Chair Memorial Rose Garden Committee.





The most recent identified POW/MIA.

## World War II

**Army Air Force Sgt. Francis Wiemerslage – 20.** Lost March 2, 1945, when the B-17G Bomber he was a ball turret gunner came under attack by enemy fighters between Berlin and Leipzig on a bombing run over Dresden. Accounted for August 24, 2021. Announced August 31, 2021.

**Navy Seaman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class John G. Brock – 18** Lost December 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for May 19, 2021. Announced September 1, 2021.

**Navy Hospital Apprentice 1<sup>st</sup> Class Keefe Connolly – 19.** Lost December 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for February 11, 2021. Announced September 2, 2021.

**Marine Corps. Cpl. Andrew Pellerito – 22.** Lost November 1943 when his Battalion was attacked by Japanese resistance while attempting to secure the small island of Betio in the Gilbert Islands. Accounted for August 19, 2021. Announced September 2, 2021.

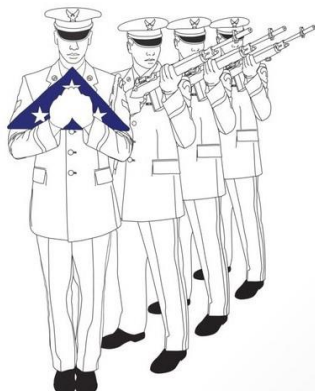
**Navy Seaman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Buford Dyer – 19.** Lost December 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for August 5, 2021. Announced September 20, 2021.

**Navy Fireman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Benjimin Terhune - 19.** Lost December 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for August 5, 2021. Announced September 20, 2021.

## Gone But Not Forgotten!

**News from the Honor Guard:** The Honor Guard is pleased to welcome Dan Jones and Bobb Flemming as new members of McMinnville American Legion Post 21 United Veterans Honor Guard.

*Angel Mendoza, Commander.*



## WORLD WAR II SUBMARINE FOUND OFF THE COAST OF JAPAN, ENDING 75-YEAR MYSTERY.

Stories of sunken ships have fascinated the world for centuries, including the story of the USS Grayback. It was one of 52 U.S. submarines reported missing during the great conflict. Six have been found in the decades since, and now the Grayback can be added to the list of subs whose demise is no longer a mystery. The Lost 52 Project is an organization dedicating its time and resources to finding these lost subs. This month, the Navy History and Heritage Command verified the discovery of the Grayback, which the Lost 52 Project found 1,427 feet below sea level on June 5 off Okinawa's coast. It's the first U.S. submarine to be found in waters off Japan.

The Lost 52 team discovered that historical documents erred in the translation of the longitude of where the Grayback sank. With the new data and newly discovered Japanese mission logs, the searchers were able to refocus their efforts and found the dilapidated sub 100 miles from the area recorded in the original historical records.

The Grayback was one of the most successful submarines of World War II, but it never returned from its last mission in late February 1944.

The USS Grayback was commissioned on June 30, 1941 and set sail for Pearl Harbor about six months later, quickly becoming a major part of the war's submarine offensive. In two years, it went on 10 successful patrols, during which it sank a total of 63,835 tons and 14 ships. The Grayback left Pearl Harbor for the last time on Jan. 28, 1944, on its way to the East China Sea for its 10th patrol. About a month later, the sub radioed that it had sunk two Japanese army cargo ships. The Grayback had only two torpedoes remaining, so it was ordered back home. Soon after, though, it was reported that the sub was damaged by enemy aircraft, but it still managed to sink an enemy naval transport on Feb. 27. The Grayback was expected at Midway on March 7, 1944, but it never arrived and was never heard from again.

This is how the Naval History and Heritage Command documented its demise: "That same day [Feb. 27], a Japanese carrier-based plane spotted a submarine on the surface in the East China Sea and attacked. According to Japanese reports, the submarine exploded and sank immediately, but antisubmarine craft were called in to depth-charge the area, clearly marked by a trail of air bubbles, until at last a heavy oil slick swelled to the surface.

The rest, as they say, is history, except that now a new chapter can be opened – one that can bring closure to the families of the long-lost sailors who gave their lives for the greater good



**Riders:** Our hearts are heavy with the recent losses of two members of our group, Jack Bailey and Jim Smith. Both were longtime Riders and fun-loving guys that were a blast to be around. They were important contributors to the success and growth of the Post 21 Riders, and we will forever miss their huge presence throughout the Post. We pray for the families of Jack and Jim and want them to know that all of us are here to serve them in any way we can.

Your Riders would like to thank all the wonderful people who helped out with our Scholarship Poker Run and Raffle on September 18. While it would have been nice for Mother Nature to deliver better riding weather for a bigger turnout, we did okay, and the day would have been a complete failure if not for the volunteerism from the Post 21 families. We are grateful for all that contributed time, prizes, money, and effort to make this event successful.

*Paul Schnell, Director*

## Happy Halloween



We are very thankful for the area businesses that gave us great prizes for the raffle and shared their spaces for our poker run. Please keep these companies in mind when shopping and dining in the valley:

Two Dogs Taphouse, McMinnville  
 Davisons Auto Parts/NAPA, McMinnville  
 TNT Motorsports, McMinnville  
 Golden Valley Brewery, McMinnville  
 Gerald's Restaurant, McMinnville  
 Cycle Country, Salem  
 Dan's Motorsports Outlet, Salem  
 Paradise Harley, Tigard  
 Carlton Corners Restaurant, Carlton  
 H Bomb Fitness, Carlton  
 Ken Wright Cellars, Carlton  
 Pike Road Wines, Carlton  
 Ace Tavern, Gaston  
 Petrich's General Store, Hillsboro  
 Chehalem Valley Brewing, Newberg  
 The Human Bean, Newberg  
 Branch Point Distillery, Dayton



**Sons:** Yes, it is really going to happen! The Sons are finally going to have that long awaited Oyster Feed fund raiser on October 16 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

This was planned before covid and some of you bought tickets, if you bring your tickets they will be accepted.

We hope to see a lot of people come and enjoy this event!

*Tony Naig, SAL Post 21 Commander*



**Chaplain:** As we come to another month of news as your Chaplain. It is my sad duty to report that two of our Comrades have been called from our midst. comrade "Joe Chapel" and "Jim Smith" have gone to the Commander of us all in the Post Everlasting. Please take a moment to remember them and their families in prayer. They will be missed.

On another note, we have picked up two new members at this month's meeting. We are getting more members at the meetings. It is so nice to know that the Riders and other Legion members took time out of their day to wish a 95-year-old WW2 vet Happy Birthday. We have a post that reaches out in many ways. I pray that you will take the time to reach out to any and all vets that you meet in your walk in life.

To all the members that don't attend our monthly meeting, please take the time just once a month and show your face at the legion meeting. Help anyway you can. There is so much that we can all do to help around the post and state, yes, I mean state as our Honor Guard is doing many honors around the state. See what you are missing.

Well, I guess I will stop with all that. My prayers are going out for all our members and families. We have family members that need your prayers. Remember that God is there to bless us all. I believe that he wants to bless you in many ways. Please give me a call if you need prayer for anything. I will pray. My email and phone number are listed below. In closing God Bless and may you be safe out there.

*Chaplain Thomas Clayton*

[armynavy6782@gmail.com](mailto:armynavy6782@gmail.com)

503-550-8044

PS. In case you are wondering about my email address I served in both the Army & Navy.





## Around the Post

Seems often when Legionnaires, Sons, Auxiliary, or Riders do wonderful things, the things they do are often taken for granted. Also, some members may not be aware of things happening that they would like to help or be involved with.

There are multiple solutions. The first and best is to become involved. Monthly meetings are one way. Reading the Newsletter, which Shirley Brown tries so hard for all of us to give input. When I say us, I mean all of us not just E-board members. Our website: <http://vetsclub.org/> has a wealth of information including current and past newsletters.

At the last General Meeting we had two special guests, Mr. Michael Warrens, First Vice President ground operations of the Oregon International Air Show and his right-hand man Mr. Chris Callie's. They came to say thank you for our efforts. Though initially we were told due to covid, the Air Show was financially strapped, and there could be no donation to the Post for our efforts.

I am very pleased to say Mr. Warrens and Mr. Callie's provided the Post with a check for \$1000.00. Hats off to all those that helped and get ready for next year, I hope.

Also, at our last meeting Gale Sears won the 50/50 drawing and donated it to the Memorial Fund. Our next meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, you too could win the drawing, but you must be present to win.

I understand some members were unaware of the Birthday ride by for Mr. Black. It was a great day. Here is a link so you can watch the video of **Jim Black Sr. 95th Birthday Parade**. <https://www.facebook.com/eagleeyedroneographyoregon/videos/1264765313995028>. Happy 95th Birthday Jim Black Sr.

Thank you to [McMinnville American Legion - Post 21](#) for organizing a parade in his honor.

The Post had the pleasure of having Jake Volz of **Eagle Eye Droneography** produced the above video @eagleeyedroneographyoregon. Photography Videography.

A special thank you to [American Legion-McMinnville](#), [American Legion Post #21 McMinnville Oregon](#), [American Legion Riders Post 58](#), [American Legion Riders Post 57 Newberg/Dundee Oregon](#), [American Legion Post 10, Albany Oregon](#), [Auxiliary Unit 21 American Legion McMinnville](#), [United Veterans Honor Guard](#), [Bikers For Christ](#), [Salem Jeepers](#) and VTM Jeep and 4x4 for participating in the parade. #purpleheart #army #armyveteran #okinawa #eagleeyedroneography #dji #drone #parade #mcminnvilleoregon #AmericanLegion



**A Note from the Post:** We are in desperate need of 2 part-time cooks. If you know someone interested, please send them to talk to Debra. We are looking at increasing some Alcohol prices due to cost increases. Beer prices will remain the same, just the alcohol prices will be going up.

Thank you to everyone showing up on Friday nights to help with dinner. You are all appreciated so much. It takes a team, and what a great team we make!!

We all enjoy the rose garden, so when you see Bob Berweger thank him for his hard work and dedication! He takes great pride in the rose garden.

It seems we may never get through this COVID stuff. The post is requiring everyone to wear masks unless you are sitting and eating or drinking. Remember we are all in this together. Keep yourself and the ones around you safe!

Stay safe and healthy my Legion Family!

*Debra Godwin, Club Manager.*



**Notes from the Judge Advocate:** Part of section #2 from the "Nature" Portion of our Post Constitution states:

"This organization shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles or for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment."

This section is quite profound to me in retrospect regarding our Post's character and success. Since joining Post 21 seven years ago, I personally have not experienced much in the way of political bantering or anyone taking political advantage of an office amongst our membership. Of course, you hear the occasional reference or scuttlebutt here and there, but what makes me proud of our organization is that we haven't had any "serious scandals", or divisions related to politics.

Now I think that says something to me about our character as an organization as we live in a very heated political time. It shouldn't be lost on anyone that we have many members with political differences with one another. However, we, as a group, should be proud of the way "we associate ourselves together for the following purposes", as it states in our Preamble and put aside these differences for the good of the whole. Proud to be a part of it.

*Steve Randles, Judge Advocate*

# October

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
					<b>1</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special - Legion KP 5:00 PM	<b>2</b> Cancer Bingo 1:00 PM
<b>3</b> Legion Bingo 1:00 PM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> AMVETS 6:30 PM	<b>6</b> SON's 6:30 PM	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special - Auxiliary KP 5:00 PM	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Legion Bingo 1:00 PM	<b>11</b> United Veterans Honor Guard 5:30 PM	<b>12</b> House Committee 5:00 PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special - Sons KP 5:00 PM	<b>16</b> Sons Oyster Feed (Noon - 4:00) 12:00 PM
<b>17</b> Legion Bingo 1:00 PM	<b>18</b> Finance Committee 5:00 PM Executive Committee 6:30 PM	<b>19</b> Auxiliary 6:00 PM	<b>20</b> General Membership 6:30 PM	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special - Riders KP 5:00 PM	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Legion Bingo 1:00 PM	<b>25</b> United Veterans Honor Guard 5:30 PM	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Legion Rider Meeting 7:00 PM	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special - Legion KP 5:00 PM	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> Legion Bingo 1:00 PM						



Daniel Abbe, Jose Aguiler, Mike Balcombe, Barbara Bowar, William Bracken, Stephanie Bush,  
 Thomas Butler, Chad Cape, Thomas Clayton, William Curtis, Scott Doyle, Steven Draper,  
 Wayne Frank, Michael Gunn, Peter Harris, Travis Hayes, Eugene Henderson, Forrest Jacks,  
 Ed Kaleta, Chris Kemper, Steve Kindel, Willy Koch, Paul Krutsch, Evan Maihack, Glen McBee,  
 Paul Moore, Mike Morris, Mike Paul, Russell Port, Richard Powell, John Richards, Dale Service,  
 Derick Sherburne, Jacob Stacy, Paul Tilp, Robert West, Roy Whitman, Rhonda "Joyce" Yeaman



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



#### THE AMERICAN LEGION

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

#### AUXILIARY

President – Glenna Smith  
Vice – Goya Hernandez  
Treasurer – Becky Berweger  
Secretary – Bobby VanSoyck  
Chaplain – Jeanne Clayton  
Sgt at Arms – Gretchen Jones

#### Sons of the American Legion

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

#### 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



## *Sons of The American Legion*

# *Oyster Feed*

**October 16, 2021**  
**Noon – 4:00**  
**\$12.00 per plate**

**6 Oysters of your choice**  
*BBQ Oyster in the shell, BBQ out of the shell,  
Pan Fried Oyster, or Oyster Shooter*  
Additional Oysters available at \$2.00 Each



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





***We are on the Web!***  
***Visit us at:***  
**Vetsclub21.org**

Please help us by leaving a great review for our restaurant and lounge. Visit <https://g.page/Legion21/review?rc> or just search for American Legion Post 21 on Google Maps and click "write a review."