

American Legion Post # 21
126 Atlantic Street NE
McMinnville, OR, 97128-9005
(503) 435-2218
[HTTP://Vetsclub.org](http://Vetsclub.org)
Vetsclub21@gmail.com

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
McMinnville, Oregon
Permit No.27



Vietnam Veteran's Day
Wednesday, March 29, 2006





MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Son's Mtg – 6:30	2 Equestrians 6:00 pm	3 Prime Rib Dinner Specials 6:30 pm	4 Cancer Bingo 1-4 pm
5 BINGO 1-4	6 House Comitt 4:00 p.m. Honor Guard 6:30 p.m.	7 Bylaws 5:00 Rambling Rejects 6:00	8 Legal Committee 5:00	9 Hunters Club 6:00	10 Prime Rib Dinner Specials 6:30 pm	11
12 Navy Coast Guard Breakfast 8:00-Noon BINGO 1-4	13 House Cmt 4:00 pm Finance 5:00 Exec Committee – 6:30	14	15 Activities 5:30 General Membership Mtg. – 6:30	16 Cruisers 6:00	17 St Patrick's Day Dinner.	18 Movie Night
19 BINGO 1-4	20 House Comitt 4:00 p.m. Honor Guard 6:30	21 Auxiliary Mtg. 6:00 p.m.	22 Riders 7:00 pm	23	24 Prime Rib Dinner Specials 6:30 pm	25 Movie Night 6:00 p.m. "Cadence"
26 Army Breakfast 8:00-Noon BINGO 1-4	27 House Comitt 4:00	28 AMVETS 6:30 pm	29 	30	31 Prime Rib Dinner Specials 6:30 pm	

MARCH BIRTHDAY'S

Timothy Ashley, Leroy Brown, David Carl, Claude Chappell, Warner Collins, Thomas Connell, James Connelly, Charles Gillespie, Neil Gorton, Jerry Kennedy, Gregg Kramer, Perry Krieger, Walter Kulnis, Robert Mapes, James Mischel, Michael Niehus, Michael Page, Robert Painter, Jerry Perry, Jim Plumeau, Donald Powell, George Richards, William Skophammer, Simon Steely, Jerome Wagner, Randall Whitehorn, Wayne Willis



MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER

COMMANDER'S CORNER: Welcome to the month of March, daylight is increasing, and the daffodils are coming up. Spring weather requires a great deal of effort to maintain our Post. I am reminded of a quote by Albert Einstein; "Only a life lived for others is worth living." I personally thank each and every volunteer who keeps our Post growing. To recognize their commitment, I have proposed among the service branches an "Hours of Service Competition".

As you know we have a volunteer log below the sign-in book as you enter the Post. During 2016 we recorded over nineteen hundred **individual** volunteer hours. We've added a branch column to record your efforts reflecting your branch of service. Son's and Auxiliary use the branch of your relative. As we calculate volunteer hours, we will recognize the branch who contributes the most to our collective success. Ask yourself as you enjoy our Post, do I have the time and ability to help out for a couple of hours and bring recognition to my branch and comrades?

Have a great March and thank you for your service and commitment to our Post and Veterans in need.

CHAPLAINS CORNER: I ask that all of our members take the time to pray for the Post. We have a lot of members that don't come out anymore. If you know of a member that you haven't seen for some time, please check up on them. The Legion is for all brothers and sisters that have been there at the time of war. Remember that the Legion stands up for all of us. The Lord is there to help us when we need it. Join us at the General Meeting.

One of our members who has gone on to his reward. Please pray for his family. Robert "Bob" N. Abrahamson served his time and gone home to his reward. Remember I'm always there for you. Thomas Clayton, Chaplain.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH- 2017

3/12/16 – **NAVY/COAST GUARD—BREAKFAST.** 8:00-Noon - \$7:00 plate, children under 5 free.

3/17/17 –**ST. PATRICKS' DAY DINNER** – 5:00-8:00 - \$10.00 plate. Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary -

3/26/16 – **ARMY – BREAKFAST.** 8:00-Noon - \$7:00 plate, children under 5 free.

APRIL-2017

4/1/17 – Chili Cook-Off. Judging begins at 9:30 am. Be ready to eat at 12:00 - \$5.00 pp.

4/9/17 –**MARINE –BREAKFAST.** 8:00-Noon - \$7:00 plate, children under 5 free.

4/23/17 – **AIR FORCE –BREAKFAST.** 8:00-Noon - \$7:00 plate, children under 5 free.

LEGION RIDER'S: The weather is changing... at times for the good, at times for the bad. We've had a couple of opportunities to get out and do some riding as a group already this year and have other group rides planned as well. I will be praying to the motorcycle gods for nice riding weather as well as safe travels for all motorcyclists. Please keep an eye out for all of us motorcycle enthusiasts because we do not stand a chance against a "cage".

We brought in two new members into our organization in January. Please help us welcome Bob Wittrock and William Castleberry. Bob and his wife Tracy frequent the legion often. They are very



proud of their son that is currently serving in the Marine Corp. William is new to us from New York. When "Will" moved to the area he started looking for a legion rider chapter to join. After doing his homework he decided to join our Legion Riders organization here at Post 21. It makes our group proud that we have members riding from out of the area to be a part of our group. It says a lot for our post and our rider's chapter.

Without our volunteers doing the work they do around the post we wouldn't have a lot of the amenities that we've become accustomed to. Could you imagine our post without the rose garden, the club area not being clean or not being served when you go into the club for a meal or a drink? Those are just a few things our volunteers do on a regular basis. Volunteerism is by far the contributing factor why projects around the post get completed. I ask that we recognize our volunteers when we see them hard at work around the post and at the same time ask yourself do I have the time to help out for a couple of hours when needed. Volunteering helps our post not only when it comes to fixing things, but it keeps our expenses down as well.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS!!!

Jerry R. Perry Jr.

SON'S CORNER: The S.A.L. will be meeting on March 1 at 6:30 p.m. and will be glad to see all that can make it.

We are selling name plates for the S.A.L. Plaque that honors our fathers and their service. To be eligible you need to be a current member of the S.A.L., provide the correct spelling of your father's name and pay the \$15.00 for the cost of the name plate. The plaque is in the Honor Hall and already has a few name plates, let's see if we can fill it up. I would like to invite all Legion members to attend the Son's meeting. Terry Naig

SERVICE OFFICER: Hello everyone! American Legion has finally made it a bit easier for your life insurance policy. One and Done enrollment, as long as your membership is kept current/in good standing you only have to sign up once. www.TheLIT.com/LegionCare1 or call 1-800-235-6943. Polk County now has its own VSO, and Portland has a new one as well Ed VanDike [503-412-8408](tel:503-412-8408). The American Legion is in the process of starting two new programs aimed at school aged children Angles & Doves is targeting bullying and Sun-Days are Fun-Days geared to skin cancer awareness. More information will be given out as I receive the details.

MIA Update Coming Home.

⚔ Army Cpl. Melvin R. Hill, 19, of Pomona, California. In November 1950, Cpl. Hill's unit was assembled with South Korean soldiers in the 31st Regimental Combat Team on the east side of the Chosin River, North Korea. After several days of intense fighting, approximately 1,300 members of the RCT were killed or captured in enemy territory. Hill was declared MIA on Dec. 6, 1950. He was buried on Feb. 4, 2017 in Alex, Oklahoma.

⚔ Army Master Sgt. Ira V. Miss, Jr. 23, of Frederick, Maryland. He was a member of Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He was operating in the Central Corridor in South Korea. Miss was reported missing in action on Feb. 13, 1951, after Chinese forces overran the roadblock he was manning. He was buried on Feb. 8th in Arlington National Cemetery.

PINEWOOD DERBY CAR QUIZ!

What is the weight of a fully fueled pinewood derby car?

We are gearing up for the First Annual Post 21 Derby Car Race to be held in July. We need to know how many derby cars to order so contact Jeanne Clayton [503-550-2095](tel:503-550-2095) if you would like to be in the race. (We ask that you Please **do not** buy your own kit, we want to make sure everyone is using the same car kit for our first Derby Race.)

All the Legion Families from post 21 are invited, we have also extended the invitation to the Sea Cadets and Honor Guard members. It's going to be a full day of fun laughs victories. Look for the sign-up sheet in the coming weeks. May the fastest car win!

See ya all at the races! Jeanne Clayton.

ORATORICAL CONTEST UPDATE

Although our candidate did not make it to this contest, the beat goes on and the contest continues.

DEPARTMENT ORATORICAL CONTEST

TIME: 10 am SHARP

March 4, 2017

ODVA – 700 Summer St. NE - Salem

Finals will be in Indianapolis, Indiana. Winner to receive an \$18,000 scholarship. The 2017 National Finals will be April 22-23 in Indianapolis at the Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN, 46241, (317) 248-2481. Quarterfinal and semifinal contests are scheduled for Saturday, April 22, with the finals scheduled for Sunday, April 23. Thank you, Jim Connelly

NAVY BREAKFAST: - March 12th: The 2016 Winners present the United States Navy and The United States Coast Guard Breakfast with the most scrumptious NAVY, COAST GUARD style breakfast ever..... Eggs, meat fruit coffee, juices, pancakes and some to be announced.

March 12, 8 AM-Noon, \$7.00 per person children under 5 are free. You just can't believe what good food and fun will be there.



ARMY BREAKFAST – March 26th: Army Breakfast will be on March 26th from 8-Noon \$7.00 per person children under 5 are free. We will have Army Breakfast meeting on different days and at different times to accommodate all Army Veterans. We need all Army Veterans volunteers to show their Army pride and have some fun along the way. The other branches don't stand a chance if you help. We need to be all that we can be.

My contact information is 503/435/8227. Email is ammendoza80@gmail.com. Texting is available. Hoorah. Angel Mendoza.



MARINE BREAKFAST – April 9th:

From the halls of the American Legion across the region come one come all it is time once again for the Annual Battle of the Branches. Your United States Marines will be hosting the Marine Breakfast on April 9, 2017 from 8-Noon, \$7:00 per plate, children under 5 eat free. Contact Terry Ward 971-241-5454 or 503-472-9668 for more information and to volunteer.



AIR FORCE BREAKFAST – APRIL 23RD: AIM HIGH IN THE U.S. AIR FORCE. The Air Force Breakfast is the last one to battle, which means we can improve on where the may have failed. Last year the Air Force did not have a breakfast this year's goal is to win!

To volunteer either show up or contact - Dan Brown, 971-241-3895, Commander of Am Vets McMinnville. Please show up, volunteer and show your support for the United States Air Force!



HOUSE COMMITTEE: Silent Auction for two neon beer signs that are presently displayed in the Post. Please send your bids to ammendoza80@gmail.com.

Email your bid amount and choice of sign, please don't forget your full name and phone number. The deadline for bid entries will be 12 noon, March 13th. If you don't have email you may give your bid information to any member of the House Committee. All proceeds go to Post 21 General Fund. Good luck and happy bidding.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE: With the first round of nominations taking place at our March general meeting Terry Ward and I have been working on a procedure that will help nominees for officer positions. We believe with Terry's vast knowledge of officer positions as well as the by-laws the nomination committee will make the transition much easier for incoming officers. If a member is seeking an officer nomination, we ask that the member meet with Terry and myself. The meeting would include the responsibilities of the position according to the by-laws as well as the "ins and outs" of the position. As many of you know officers have responsibilities to the post and it's more than just a "title".

We also ask if you seek nomination you be present at the general meeting you're nominated. If you are unable to attend, we ask that you hand deliver an "acceptance" letter for the nomination to Terry or myself prior to the meeting. If you are not present and the nomination committee does not have an acceptance letter for your nomination the nomination will not be accepted.

Jerry Perry. Sgt. at Arms
Nomination Committee Chairman

Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin

"A Lasting Memento of the Nation's Thanks!"



Vietnam Veteran Memorial Pins were presented to eight qualifying service members at the February 15th General Membership meeting. If you served on active duty during the *Vietnam Era* (November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975)

regardless of location you are eligible, you do not need to be a member of the American Legion to receive a Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin.

The Post will be handing out pins to all eligible members at upcoming meetings and during the service breakfast events. If you are eligible, please contact either Commander Gale Sears or 1st Vice Larry Brown.

The McMinnville Area Habitat for Humanity along with Aspire Community Development is in the development stages for MacHabitat's first ever Home for a Veteran.

Veteran families will be selected based upon three criteria: need for housing, ability to pay, and willingness to partner (250 hours sweat equity). The committee is co-chaired by our very own Consuelo Christianson and Commissioner Stan Primozych.



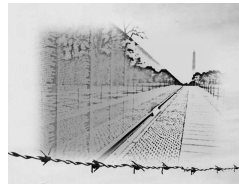
If you would like to get involved either with fundraising or sweat equity, please contact Consuelo Christianson or Larry Brown.



The Vietnam Veterans Memorial pays tribute to the brave members of the U.S. Armed Forces who fought in the Vietnam War and were killed or missing in action.

The memorial consists of three separate parts: The Three Soldiers statue, the Vietnam Women's Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, which is the most popular feature.

There are 58,282 names now listed on that polished black wall, approximately 1,200 of these are listed as missing.



The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 36 years since the last casualties. There were 997 soldiers that were killed on their first day in Vietnam and 1,448 soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam.

Since Vietnam, Americans who served their country in Southeast Asia in this nation's longest war continue to suffer premature deaths related to their service. There is no comprehensive record of these "hidden casualties" of Vietnam. Their names will never be inscribed on the Wall.

There is a void at the Wall. To help bridge the void there was a plaque on the Memorial grounds, bearing no names, but designed and worded to acknowledge and commemorate these ever-growing postwar casualties.



Most Americans will only see the numbers that the Vietnam War created. To those of us who survived the war, and to the families of those who did not, we see the faces, we feel the pain that these numbers created. We are, until we too pass away, haunted with these numbers, because they were our friends, fathers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters.

**There are no noble wars,
just noble warriors.**