

# AMERICAN LEGION

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

**Commander:** Hello, am glad that the Good Lord has kept us safe. Thank you, Lord.

At the last meeting we had election of Post Officers for 2023-2024. There were several members that stepped up to the officer's positions. All positions were filled. The Honor Room was filled with a lot members that wanted to vote. It was a great sight.

Welcome all Post Officers, now we can get to work so we can continue to be the BEST Post.

I want to thank all of you that came to the meeting and voted. Thank you very much. It showed that you care about the Post.

I also want to thank you for electing me as your Post Commander. Thank you. I will always work hard for the good of the American Legion Post 21 and YOU.

The MOST IMPORTANT thing we need to do is work together as a team and NOT against each other. We are here to make Post 21 a GREAT Post because we are. NO drama and NO negativity about members or the Post, leave that at home.

**THE MAIN OBJECTIVE TO SUCCESS IS COMMUNICATION AND TEAM WORK. WITHOUT COMMUNICATION YOU WILL FAIL.**

Great job ARMY on being number ONE in the Battle of the Branches. Also, thanks go to us that followed the Army. Good breakfasts were served and a lot of volunteers that helped. Thank you. What a big success.

I will end here with let's be kind to each other. Being kind to each other is a great feeling because it makes them smile. God Bless you and your families.

*Juan M. Palacios, Post 21 Commander*



. The Sons would like to thank everyone that attended the fund raising dinner for Juliette's House. The turnout was great, we served over 90 people. All of the proceeds will go to Juliette's House to help kids having issues in their life. The cheerleaders from McMinnville High School had four young ladies there helping out and was greatly appreciated. The Sons will continue to support Juliette's House in the future. I would like to thank all of the Sons members who helped with the event, especially Del White who made the tri-tip and beans, I thought they were very good.

The Sons will be serving Breakfast for Mother's Day and remember Mother's Ear for free at Post 21 on Mother's Day courtesy of The Sons of The American Legion – Post 21.

The SAL will continue helping around the Legion when they are called on. I would like everyone to thank a Veteran for their service. To all members of the Sons that have not attended a monthly meeting, please come and join in on making this great Sons Squadron.



## Peggy Lutz, WW II Navy Veteran



Peggy and I somehow became friends, it's not hard to enjoy being around a person with Peggy's knowledge and long longevity.

I knew she was about to have a birthday, her 101<sup>st</sup>. I didn't know what day. I contacted someone that did.

I couldn't help but want to do something to help her celebrate her birthday. I decided to get flowers for her and sent an email out to see if any of my fellow riders wanted to deliver some flowers on a Honda Gold Wing to Peggy. Those that joined in are, pictured left to right Bob Berweger Tony Amodeo, Del White, the birthday girl Peggy Lutz, Terry Naig, and Jim Connelly. Not pictured, is Jake Volz from Eagle Eye Droneography, our photographer. *(submitted by Bob Berweger)*



**Chaplain:** Here we are with another month come and gone. Our post has so many things going on for our Veterans and their families and we should all be proud of what we are doing at our post. As your Chaplain, I have had the chance to visit many veterans in their time of need. We voted in the new officers at the April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, I ask that you keep them all in your prayers. And if you can help in any way, please step up.

Looking ahead we will be doing the "Memorial Day Honors." We will once again visit local cemeteries where we will be giving honors for all the Veterans that have passed away. Memorial Day is a day that we thank and honor them for what they have done for our great country. Everyone is welcome to participate, we will be going to four cemeteries taking time to remember all that have served.

Our last stop will be at Post 21 to honor all members that we have lost this past year. In addition, this year we are recognizing the service of "**Garry Bradbury Hodgson.**" Garry was killed in the tragic accident June 3, 1969, while serving on the USS Frank E. Evans in the South China Sea. Senator Brian Boquist and Peggy Boquist have been given an invitation to be at Post 21 for the honor and the placement of the highway sign in honor **Bradbury Hodgson.** For questions, please call **Bob Berweger @ 503-583-0773.** I hope to see you all on this day.

Remember the listed people in your prayers:

Terry Ward - Cancer treatment.  
Roy Olheiser - Stroke .  
Chuck Wilson - Heart attack and surgery.  
Mike Morris - Agent orange disability.  
Jeanne Clayton - Wrist surgery.  
Jimmy Wagner - Knee surgery.  
Jim Connelly - Cancer treatment .  
Sam Fields - Cancer treatment.  
Gerald Evers - Broken back recovery.  
Gene Hamilton - Stroke recovery.

Keep them all in your prayers.

As always, I'm here to pray for all of you. Call or e-mail me. **May God Bless, Amen.**

**Chaplain Thomas Clayton** - 503-550-8044  
[armynavy6782@gmail.com](mailto:armynavy6782@gmail.com)

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## QUILTS OF VALOR

When I first heard about the program Quilts of Valor, I immediately concluded that these beautiful pieces of handwork would be awarded to men who had been dreams did I think I might receive one. So, this is a moment and a gift that I will forever treasure.

Whatever I did in my time in the Navy or have done in the way of service to others since then, has been done in the spirit of caring and sharing, having learned that life is at its best in those times of serving others.

I have never been under siege or in combat like the men, so am awed at being honored for spending my skills and knowledge simply -- the way I choose to live -- according to my faith which proclaims that when I serve anyone in need, I am serving my Master.

It is my honor to accept this beautiful Quilt of Valor. My heartfelt thanks, and my wish for blessings on the hands who have made it.

**Peggy Lutz, WWII Veteran  
US Navy WAVES, 1944-46**



### Letter to Quilts of Valor Foundation

*I shall forever treasure this precious quilt. It will never leave me. Now I want to share the memories this quilt will harbor, memories triggered by my touching a special name on the awesome Vietnam Wall.*

*David Berry was a senior at Newberg High School my first year on the faculty there. He was in both my journalism and creative writing classes -- as a "sleepy student", doing the bare minimum to escape flunking, sitting by the door so he could be last in and first out. I always worked to help less active students, but much as I tried, I could not find the right buttons to push with Dave. So, I went to Principal Edgar Miller for info. This is what I learned: "The first day of school this fall, Dave's twin brother Doug, dropped out, joined the Army, and was killed in action during his first week in Vietnam; but David says he will sign up, then stay the course to graduate, get his diploma, and THEN request duty at the front. Says he wants that black book!" Ironically, Dave was called up three days before graduation. As he left, he asked*

*the Principal to make sure his diploma was safe, that he'd be back to get it.*

*When sent to Vietnam, David requested duty as a medic in combat zones. After a crash course in First Aid showed he couldn't do much that involved the sight of blood, he volunteered to protect a helicopter landing clearing, offloading reinforcements and onloading wounded, often under fire from the surrounding forest.*

*On his first short break home, he came to my classroom office for a catch up for both of us. As he left, I told him I was honored that he had stopped by to see me, and that he was in my prayers.*

*The very first day he returned to duty after that trip home, he was killed as he answered a cry for "Medic" and crawled out into that helicopter clearing to help a wounded soldier. Both he and the wounded were killed by low level strafing from an ambush.*

*David Berry's funeral was conducted at a church in Newberg. A Marine guard in full dress stood behind his casket at attention during the entire service -- the same Marine who had been assigned to 24-hour guard duty for his lone casket for the journey from Vietnam to home. At the end of the service, NHS Principal Miller stepped up and laid Dave's diploma inside the opening.*

*Next, the Marine guard took the microphone and from a card read the Combat Citation, then reverently laid the Purple Heart atop the diploma. At this moment, the mourners in the Chapel rose to honor this gesture, with our National Anthem sounding in the background.*

*David Berry had gotten his diploma. He also had performed the ultimate duty of the military by giving his all in service to his country.*

*According to the Holy Bible, Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. John 15:13*

**Margaret (Peggy) Lutz  
WWII USNWR WAVES 1944-46  
Newberg High School Faculty  
1959-65**







The most recent identified POW/MIA.

## World War II

**Army Air Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Peter Timpo – 20.** Lost when the B-24 Liberator, he was the bombardier on, was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire and crashed during Operation Tidal Wave. Accounted for July 20, 2022. Announced April 5, 2023.

**Navy Electrician's Mate 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Cecil Barncord – 24.** Lost December 7, 1941 during the attack on Pearl Harbor – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for October 14, 2016. Announced April 6, 2023.

**Navy Mess Attendant 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Archie Callahan – 19.** Lost December 7, 1941 during the attack on Pearl Harbor – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for November 27, 2017. Announced April 6, 2023.

**Army Air Force 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. John Thomas – 23.** Lost August 1, 1943 when, the B-24 Liberator he was piloting, was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire and crashed during Operation Tidal Wave. Accounted for September 30, 2022. Announced April 20, 2023.

## Vietnam

**U.S. Air Force Colonel Ernest De Soto – 37.** Lost April 12, 1969 De Soto, his navigator and another aircraft were returning from a cancelled mission when both aircraft ascended into heavy cloud cover. The lead aircraft noticed De Soto's plane was not in sight and immediately began an aerial search without success. De Soto was posthumously promoted to Colonel while in missing status. Accounted for March 23, 2023.

**U.S. Air Force Captain Fredrick Hall – 25.** Hall was the Navigator on a F-4D Phantom II, his pilot and another aircraft were returning from a cancelled mission when both aircraft ascended into heavy cloud cover. The lead aircraft noticed De Soto's plane was not in sight and immediately began an aerial search without success. Hall was posthumously promoted to Captain while in missing status. Accounted for March 23, 2023.



## Korea

**Army Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Ellis Coon - 30.** Lost December 1, 1950 during the Battle of Ch'ongh'on when he was captured. Ellis died as a prisoner of war in Camp #5 of malnutrition and lack of medical care. Accounted for September 27, 2022. Announced April 5, 2023.

**Army Sgt. Richard Crotty – 22.** Lost September 1, 1950 during a battle with the Korean People's Army near Yongsan, South Korea. Accounted for February 3, 2023. Announced April 17, 2023.

**Riders:** The Legion Riders are working hard for Veterans by getting out and helping at the post to keep it running well.

The Riders voted for the new officers; I would like to thank Leanne Schnell for the good work she did as secretary. I would like to thank everyone for the assistance given to me as Director and I will assist Gale Sears as he takes over as the new Director. I would like to ask that everyone thank a veteran for their service.

*Terry Naig, Rider Director.*

## HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

I have enjoyed serving as Chairperson of the house Committee for the past 4+ years. Together we have accomplished many good things for the Legion, seen many improvements, and worked to maintain the physical assets of Post #21.

But, alas, Commander Palacios has chosen a new direction and removed me from the chair position. He has appointed Gary Bert as Chair of the House Committee. I hope you will give Gary all the support that you gave me. Good Luck Gary.

Dan Brown  
Former Chair, House Committee, Post #21



**Auxiliary:** The April Auxiliary Unit 21 meeting was focused on several past honors in the month, as well as nominations and election of officers. March 29<sup>th</sup> celebrated the Vietnam Veterans with recognition of a lunch and entertainment by Jesse and Cheryl Anderson, who honored our Veterans in song.

Upcoming Auxiliary volunteer opportunities include these events:

- All Saturdays in May – Poppy distribution and education at Evergreen museum – 10am – 3 pm. Several members are traveling to the Lincoln City Outlet Mall on a Saturday to distribute poppies. There is also a coloring contest to be held for area grade schools. May 26 is also national Poppy Day at Evergreen Museum.
- May 5 – Cinco De Mayo Auxiliary Dinner 4 pm – 7 pm. Get there early to a tasty salsa verde enchilada, rice and beans and chips and salsa meal prepared by Gregoria Hernandez and crew. Cost is \$15.
- May 29 – is Memorial Day cemetery visits to place flags; followed by the Memorial Day Dedication and Barbeque at the Post.

#### 2023-2024 Officers

President – Debra Godwin

Vice President – Gregoria Hernandez

Secretary/ Treasurer – Becky Berweger

Historian – Glenna Smith

Installation will take place in the May 16 meeting. The updated Constitution and Bylaws will be discussed and voted on at that time.

*Jenni Burkhead,  
Auxiliary  
Membership Chair*



Support American Legion Unit 21 Auxiliary and Local Veterans.

#### The Forgotten History of America's Memorial Day and What it Commemorates

Memorial Day is more than just the “unofficial start of summer” for many Americans it is one of the United States earliest holidays to honor those men and women who died while in service.

On May 5, 1868, following the end of the Civil War, a collection of Union veterans created Decoration Day as a time for people to decorate the graves of those who were killed in combat with flowers.

Decoration of graves became widespread after Abraham Lincoln's assassination in 1865. There were, at this point, over 600,000 American Soldier in the ground. This gave the previously existing informal ritual a new significance. It was this year that the federal government began making a National Cemetery for the Union war dead.

In the 1880s, the ceremonies became much more standardized. Largely due to the efforts of the Grand Army of the Republic, a veterans organization for Union Soldiers. Pamphlets with rituals, Bible verses and poems were distributed to local post commanders.

While many will complain that Memorial Day is not a day for barbecuing and drinking beer, this observance goes back to at least 1913. The Grand Army of the Republic opposed a Memorial Day race in 1911. However, they were increasingly elderly and had less power than they had even 20 years prior. Ironically, the race the Grand Army of the Republic opposed is one of the biggest Memorial Day traditions still going today – the Indianapolis 500.

Arlington National Ceremony hosted the first large observance in 1868 with flowers being placed on both Union and Confederate graves and presided over by General Ulysses S. Grant and his wife.

However, by World War I the holiday had expanded from those killed in the Civil War to any American soldier killed in during any war.

Memorial Day did was not made an official national holiday until the passage of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act on June 27, 1968 by Congress and President Johnson which made it the last Monday in May. “The bill that we sign today will help Americans to enjoy more fully the country that is their magnificent heritage,” Johnson said.

This year will mark 155 years of the United States honoring America's fallen soldiers on Memorial Day.

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## WHAT IS ARMED FORCES DAY?

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under one department -- the Department of Defense. Each Branch of the military was asked to drop sponsorship of its specific service day in order to celebrate the newly announced Armed Forces Day. The Army, Navy and Air Force adopted the newly formed day. The Marine Corps declined to drop support for Marine Corps Day but supports Armed Forces Day, too.

"Our Servicemen and women are serving throughout the world as guardians of peace-- many of them away from their homes, their friends and their families. They are visible evidence of our determination to meet any threat to the peace with measured strength and high resolve. They are also evidence of a harsh but inescapable truth--that the survival of freedom requires great cost and commitment, and great personal sacrifice."

President John F. Kennedy, 1963

The theme of the first Armed Forces Day was "Teamed for Defense." It was chosen as a means of expressing the unification of all the military forces under a single department of the government. Although this was the

theme for the day, there were several other purposes for holding Armed Forces Day. It was a type of "educational program for civilians," one in which there would be an increased awareness of the Armed Forces. It was designed to expand public understanding of what type of job is performed and the role of the military in civilian life. It was a day for the military to show "state-of-the-art" equipment to the

"Armed Forces Day, above all, honors the dedicated individuals who wear the uniforms of their country. Each serviceman, wherever he may be, whatever his task, contributes directly and importantly to the defense of the nation. The task of each one is the task of all the Armed Forces: to protect the freedoms which underlie the greatness of America."

General Earle Wheeler, 1967  
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

civilian population they were protecting. And it was a day to honor and acknowledge the people of the Armed Forces of the United States.

The first Armed Forces Day was celebrated by parades, open houses, receptions, and air shows. In Washington D.C., 10,000 troops of all branches of the military, cadets, and veterans marched past the President and his party. In Berlin, 1,000 U.S. troops paraded for the German citizens at Tempelhof Airfield. In New York City, an estimated 33,000 participants initiated Armed Forces Day "under an air cover of 250 military planes of all types." In the harbors across the country were the famed mothballed "battlewagons" of World War II, the Missouri, the New Jersey, the North Carolina, and the Iowa, all open for public inspection.

Precision flying teams dominated the skies as tracking radar were exhibited on the ground. All across the country, the American people joined together to honor the Armed Forces.

"This is the day on which we have the welcome opportunity to pay special tribute to the men and women of the Armed Forces ... to all

the individuals who are in the service of their country all over the world. Armed Forces Day won't be a matter of parades and receptions for a good many of them. They will all be on duty and some of them may give their lives in that duty."

"Our servicemen and women shoulder the burden of defense as one of the responsibilities of citizenship in this free country. Having participated in protecting our rights and having met oppression on the battlegrounds of the world, they are able to appreciate and savor the blessings of citizenship in the country they serve."

The Honorable Melvin Laird, 1972  
Former Secretary of Defense.





Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
	1	2	3 <a href="#">SONY's</a> 6:30 PM	4	5 <a href="#">Cinco de Mayo</a>	6 <a href="#">Cancer Bingo</a> 1:00 PM
7 <a href="#">Legion Bingo</a> 1:00 PM	8	9	10	11	12 <a href="#">Prime Rib Dinner</a> <a href="#">Special - Auxiliary KP</a> 5:00 PM	13
14 <a href="#">Mothers Day</a> <a href="#">Legion Bingo</a> 1:00 PM	15 <a href="#">Activities Committee</a> 5:00 PM <a href="#">Executive Committee</a> 6:30 PM	16 <a href="#">Auxiliary</a> 6:00 PM	17 <a href="#">General Membership</a> 6:30 PM	18	19 <a href="#">Prime Rib Dinner</a> <a href="#">Special - Sons KP</a> 5:00 PM	20 <a href="#">Armed Forces Day</a>
21 <a href="#">Legion Bingo</a> 1:00 PM	22	23	24 <a href="#">Legion Rider Meeting</a> 7:00 PM	25 <a href="#">Newsletter deadline</a>	26 <a href="#">Prime Rib Dinner</a> <a href="#">Special - Riders KP</a> 5:00 PM	27
28 <a href="#">Legion Bingo</a> 1:00 PM	29 <a href="#">Memorial Day</a>	30	31			

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Eric Aberg, William Allen, Tony Amodeo, Jesse Anderson, Garry Angus, Gary Arnold, Steve Bradley, Jenni Burkhead, John Carter, Danny Cummings, William Daley, Kathy Forster, Tim Giddings, Susan Haley, Morrison Hantze, John Hatch, Jim Holland, Richard Imholte, Dean Krieger, Robert Laddusaw, Brandon Lepkowski, Jim Letourneux, James Lewis, Roswitha Lewis, Juanita Lucht, Douglas Morehead, Terry Murrell, Richard Newberg, Donneen McCormick, Melvin Nice, Bill Nourse, Erwin Penrose, Tony Privatsky, Steve Randles, Gerald Rima, Gregg Schroeder, David Sleeth, Craig Stewart, Jerry Terry, Terry Ward, Bob Wittrock



AMERICAN LEGION – POST 21  
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## OFFICERS

### THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander – Juan Palacios  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice – Paul Krutsch  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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 – Armond Pilotte  
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 – Glena Smith  
Service Officer – Carol Doege  
Chaplain – Susan Haley  
Sgt. at Arms – Gail Wilson

### 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 Jenson

### The American Legion Riders

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

## THE RESULTS ARE IN!

Thank you everyone who came and participated in our annual Battle of the Branches Breakfasts. And Thank You to the many volunteers who came and helped make this an amazing annual event for Post 21.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place



### 4<sup>th</sup> Place



Help us honor and thank our Vietnam Veterans and their Families

**VIETNAM WAR VETERANS  
COMMEMORATIVE  
PINNING CEREMONY**

*Honouring those who served  
November 1, 1955 - May 15, 1975*

**Thursday, May 4, 2023**


**6PM-7PM**

Palmer Creek Lodge  
606 4th Street, Dayton Oregon

RSVP  


RSVP Dawnette Bowlin | 503-435-7719  
Questions: yamhillchapter.dar@gmail.com

 **DAR**  
Yamhill Chapter



We are on the Web!

Visit us at: [Vetsclub.org](http://Vetsclub.org).