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Commander: It has been a long and frustrating summer, but we are surviving and thriving.

We have several new members for the Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders. The Post won the *Department Recruiter of the Year* in an award for the most new members in 2020, let's do it again in 2021! Bring in a new member!

Our volunteer bartenders continue to provide us cold beverages during the hot summer months and also help keep us afloat, thank you ladies, keep up the good work. The kitchen has done well working together to serve us outstanding meals with the help of numerous volunteers, thanks to all of you.

Although we had to spend a considerable sum to repair the walk-in cooler in October, we are looking pretty good financially.

I want to say "Thank You" to the membership and all our volunteers who help keep the Post running.

Steve Farley, Commander.

Sons: The Sons are planning on doing the Pearl Harbor Breakfast on Sunday, December 6th this year. We will be serving scrambled eggs, bacon, and hash browns. Masks are mandatory!! All WWII veterans eat for free!! Cost for others is \$8.00 per person.

Terry Naig, SAL Commander, POST 21

Riders: Our Riders have been busy (and riding) into the early part of fall, continuing to support Legion programs and ideals in our region. Special recognition goes to a few members of our group who rode down to Dallas on 10/29 to deliver a warm 100th birthday greeting (with gifts from Commander Farley and Post 21 Auxiliary) to WWII USAF veteran, B-17 Fortress pilot and former German POW, Col. Stanton Ricky.

Recently announced American Legion Riders emblem usage guidelines from National were discussed in our October meeting. Of note, Riders will refrain from offensive messaging on their vests and will not openly carry weapons when wearing American Legion Rider apparel. The Post Commander has the final say on interpretation and enforcement of these rules.

We're all looking forward to supporting ongoing efforts within the Post 21 families to make sure all veterans in our community have a safe and warm holiday season. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Paul Schnell, Director.

Adjutant: Renewals are going really well we are now at 65% and we have at least 5 new members who have joined.

If you have not renewed your membership you can stop by the Post and drop it in the dues box or you can renew it from the comfort of your couch by visiting <https://legion.org/renew>.

Adjutant, Shirley Brown

Honor Guard: In July the Honor Guard performed a rifle salute for PFC Alexander Klass – a fallen soldier from Kosovo.

The United Veterans Honor Guard of Post 21 was very busy in September. The Honor Guard performed full military honors for the following Veterans.

Full military honors for George Beal a WWII Navy veteran who served on the USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor.

Flag raising ceremony at MichelBook Country Club.

Full military honors for Larry Thompson a Vietnam Navy Veteran.

Attended funeral for Honor Members mother, who was 100 years young at Finley Sunset Hills Mortuary.

Assisted the U.S. Navy Honor Guard rifle detail for Vaughn Wesley Marner, Navy Persian Gulf Veteran at Macy's Funeral Home.

Performed military honors for Richard Carmine, WWII Air Force Veteran. Mr. Carmine was a member of The American Legion.

Assisted the Willamina VFW Post and Sheridan American Legion for full military honors for Randy Hoff, Vietnam Army Veteran. Mr. Hoff and his son died in a house fire in June. Mr. Hoff was a member of the VFW and The American Legion.

The Honor Guard would like to give a big thank you to Jim Connelly for the reading of the explanation of the 13 folds and Brian Shirley for playing taps when needed.

Juan Palacios, United Veterans Honor Guard





The most recent identified POW/MIA.

World War II

Marine Corporal, Elmer Defahl – 22. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 29, 2020. Announced October 2, 2020.

Navy Electrician's Mate 3rd Class, George Gooch – 22. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 28, 2020. Announced October 14, 2020.

Navy Gunner's Mate 3rd Class, Shelby Treadway – 25. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 28, 2020. Announced October 15, 2020.

Fire Controlman 1st Class, Bernard R. Wimmer - 28. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 28, 2020. Announced October 15, 2020.

Navy Seaman 2nd Class, Charles Jones – 21. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 28, 2020. Announced October 15, 2020.

Navy Fireman 3rd Class, William Barnett – 21. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS West Virginia. Accounted for September 14, 2020. Announced October 19, 2020.

Navy Shipfitter 1st Class, Charles Perdue – 32. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for October 14, 2020. Announced October 19, 2020.

Navy Fireman 1st Class, Edward Johnson – 24. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 29, 2020. Announced October 19, 2020.

Navy Ship's Cook 1st Class, Rodger Butts – 47. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 28, 2020. Announced October 21, 2020.

Navy Fireman 1st Class, Howard Hodges – 20. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS West Virginia. Accounted for October 15, 2020. Announced October 23, 2020.

Korean War

Army Cpl. Robert Agard, Jr. – 19. Lost July 19, 1950, while conducting a night recon patrol near Taejon, South Korea he was never found, nor were any remains recovered. Accounted for September 29, 2020. Announced October 1, 2020.

Marine Pfc. Henry Ellis – 22. Lost November 30, 1950, while defending the convoy he was a member of near Koto-Ri, North Korea, conducting a night recon patrol near Taejon, South Korea he was never found, nor were any remains recovered. Accounted for September 29, 2020. Announced October 2, 2020.

Graves of World War II Marines, sailors likely found on remote Pacific island of Tarawa

The graves of 36 World War II Marines and sailors killed during the 1943 assault on the island of Betio, part of the Pacific atoll of Tarawa, have been located.

The remains are believed to belong to Marines and sailors from the 6th Marine Regiment killed during the last night of the three-day Battle of Tarawa November 1943. Military forensic anthropologists will work to identify them using dental records, DNA and other evidence to try and identify the remains.

The remains were discovered in March 2019 by searchers from the non-profit organization History Flight, a group dedicated to recovering the remains of missing American service members.

History Flight has recovered the remains of 272 individuals from Tarawa since 2015, when it began excavating under a contract with the Defense Department. It is estimated that there are at least another 270 to be found.

Tarawa is now part of the Republic of Kiribati. Its government allowed History Flight to demolish an abandoned building in its latest search. Many of the graves were underneath it. A large number of graves also are below the water table, meaning History Flight workers must pump water from the site each day to excavate. The Army Graves Registration Service excavated some of Tarawa's temporary cemeteries in the late 1940s but left behind parts of individuals during this process.

History Flight is now thoroughly excavating these grave sites, leading them to find some partial remains that have been matched with those already buried as "unknowns" in a national cemetery in Honolulu. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency dug up these remains in 2017 to make additional identifications.



U.S. Marines carry the remains of 36 unidentified Marines found at a World War II battlefield Tarawa Atoll, Betio.

Battle of Tarawa

November 20-23, 1943

November 1943, the Pacific war has been raging for two years, and the writing is on the wall. The US military has recovered from Pearl Harbor, battered the Japanese fleet at Midway, and punched a hole in the enemy defense perimeter at Guadalcanal. As 1943 draws to an end, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz begins his great drive across the central Pacific by targeting the Japanese-held Gilbert Islands.

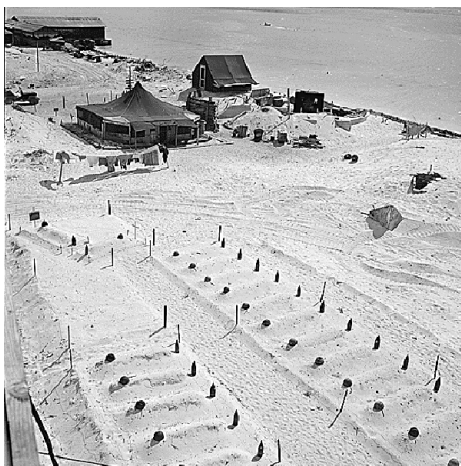
The Japanese have dug in as deeply as you can on a coral atoll. Betio is only two miles long and 800 yards wide. The Japanese commander, is confident, telling his men, "it would take one million men one hundred years" to conquer Tarawa.

The United States has over 30,000 men in the Gilberts, a 10-1 advantage over the defenders. The Americans open up early in the morning of November 20 with a heavy air raid on Betio, followed by a sustained, 3-hour naval bombardment, but the Japanese defenders were sitting in deep bunkers, and many survived to man the guns just as the first Marines hit the north shore.

The Marines would go on to win this fight. They are superb troops, well trained and equipped. The Japanese defend tenaciously, fighting to the last man, but the Marines grind them down in four days of tough fighting.

After their victory, the Marines set about burying the dead. They wrapped the bodies in ponchos and folded them into shallow graves. Then they moved on, and military construction crews came in to raze the island flat. They expanded the airfield and built a network of roads and offices. By the time an excavation team arrived in 1946 to exhume and identify the dead — part of a global campaign to recognize the fallen — no one could remember where they were. Investigators spent three months searching, but they found only half the Marines. Today, 471 of the Tarawa Marines are buried by name in American cemeteries. Another 104 have been laid to rest in "unknown" graves at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

And the rest — perhaps as many as 520 Marines — are still on, or near, Tarawa.



American Legion Riders ESCORT

October 20, 2020

Each time the American Legion Riders goes out on a mission we try to document Who, What and Where.

This mission was no different. There were a total of 4 riders that showed up to participate in Escorting **William T. Wingett, World War II Veteran** and one of the last **Band of Brothers** to his final resting place.

I was taking pictures of the three other riders when officer Kowing of the Oregon State Police pulls in, in his cruiser, stops near us and offers to take a picture of all of us. How incredibly special we all felt, and what a truly kind deed.

We, the 5 of us had a nice short chat, we told him how all legionnaires support law enforcement and how we would enjoy his company in his off hours. Perhaps we could even find a way to have him join The American Legion or a Family.



The Thin Blue Line

You might see them in uniform
Or maybe not at all
But know they will be there
When the get the call.

No talk of guts and glory
More like protect and serve
A symbol of devotion
And respect they deserve.

These are everyday heroes
These men and women in blue
And don't forget the working dogs
They are heroes too.

Know that if you need them
A hero will be near
To help you in the darkest of times
And take away the fear.





American Legion Post 21 Riders Cup

This laser engraved 20 oz. double wall vacuum insulated, stainless cup could be yours!

A genuinely nice gift for Christmas for a Legion Rider, a Legion Rider friend, and you. Keeps hot thing hot

longer and cold things cold an exceptionally long time. \$30.00 each Contact Bob Berweger for (503) 583-0773

Profits will go to the Legion Rider Scholarship fund!

The American Legion Legacy Scholarship

The American Legion Legacy Scholarship is a needs-based scholarship designed to fulfill a financial gap to children of U.S. military members who died while on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Children of post-9/11 veterans with a 50% combined disability rating from the Department of Veterans Affairs also qualify.

Each needs-based scholarship provides up to \$20,000 in aid for college. In 2019, 57 scholarships totaling \$1.1M were awarded, and since inception, over \$3M have been distributed.

While last year's donations (including the Legacy Run) to the fund were well over \$1M, canceled Legacy Run fundraisers have left the program woefully short, with *less than \$60,000* contributed so far.

If you have the means and the motivation, please consider donating to the Legacy Scholarship fund. More information can be found on the American Legion website at <https://www.legion.org/scholarships/legacy/faq>.

Or you can go straight to the Legion donations page at <https://www.legion.org/donate>. Make sure you select the "Legacy Scholarship Fund" for your tax-deductible donation.



American Legion Auxiliary

Food Drive

126 Atlantic Street, McMinnville
American Legion Post #21

Now to Dec 13th.



Please bring non-perishable food items

- CANNED MEAT (HAM, TUNA, CHICKEN, SPAM)
- MEAL KITS THAT DON'T REQUIRE EXTRA INGREDIENTS.
(INSTANT POTATOES, RICE, INSTANT SOUPS/RAMEN)
- PANCAKE AND MUFFIN MIX
- CEREAL • PASTA SAUCE • MAC & CHEESE
- CANNED SOUPS, CHILI AND PASTA MEALS.
- CANNED FRUITS AND APPLESAUCE
- PUDDING, JELL-O, FRUIT CUPS
- PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY / JAM
- CANNED/BOXED JUICES
- FLOUR, SUGAR, RICE, DRY BEANS, PASTA, OIL
- SEASONINGS

Support American Legion Unit 21 Auxiliary as we support our local Veterans and community.

CONTACT: BECKY BERWEGER 503-434-1834 OR AMERICAN LEGION 503-435-2218 FOR FURTHER INFO

Veterans Day is NOT the Same as Memorial Day.

A lot of Americans get this confused, and we'll be honest — it can be a little annoying to all of the living veterans out there.

Memorial Day is a time to remember those who gave their lives for our country, particularly in battle or from wounds they suffered in battle. Veterans Day honors all of those who have served the country in war or peace — dead or alive — although it's largely intended to thank living veterans for their sacrifices.

It was originally called **Armistice Day**, commemorating the end of **World War I**. In 1926, Congress officially recognized it as the end of the war, and in 1938, it became an official holiday, primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I. Then World War II and the Korean War happened, so on June 1, 1954, at the urging of Veterans service organizations, Congress amended the commemoration yet again by changing the word "armistice" to "veterans" so the day would honor American veterans of all wars.

Congress signed the Uniform Holiday Bill in 1968 to ensure that a few federal holidays — Veterans Day included — would be celebrated on a Monday.

For some inexplicable reason, the bill set Veterans Day commemorations for the fourth Monday of every October.

On Oct. 25, 1971, the first Veterans Day under this new bill was held. We're not sure why it took three years to implement, but not surprisingly, there was a lot of confusion about the change, and many states were unhappy, choosing to continue to recognize the day as they previously had — in November.

Within a few years, it became pretty apparent that most U.S. citizens wanted to celebrate Veterans Day on Nov. 11, since it was a matter of historic and patriotic significance. On Sept. 20, 1975, President Gerald Ford signed another law (Public Law 94-97), which returned the annual observance to its original date starting in 1978.

November

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
1 Bingo 1:00 PM	2 House Committee 5:00 PM	3	4 SON's 6:30 PM	5	6 Prime Rib Dinner Special 5:00 PM	7 Cancer Bingo 1:00 PM
8 Bingo 1:00 PM	9	10 AMVETS 6:30 PM	11 Veterans Day Spagetti Dinner 5- 7 PM - RSVP	12	13 Prime Rib Dinner Special 5:00 PM	14
15 Birthday Bingo 1:00 PM	16 Finance Committee 5:00 PM Executive Committee 6:30 PM	17 Auxiliary 6:00 PM	18 Activities Committee 5:00 PM General Membership 6:30 PM	19	20 Prime Rib Dinner Special 5:00 PM	21
22 Bingo 1:00 PM	23	24	25 Legion Rider Meeting 7:00 PM	26	27 Prime Rib Dinner Special 5:00 PM	28
29 Bingo 1:00 PM	30					



AMERICAN LEGION – POST 21
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OFFICERS

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander – Steve Farley
1st Vice – Paul Schnell
2nd Vice – Terry Ward
JAG – Steve Randles
Finance – Gale Sears
Adjutant – Shirley Brown
Sgt at Arms – Jim Connelly
Historian – Leroy Brown
Chaplain – Thomas Clayton
At Large – Robert De Kar
At Large – Jeanne Clayton
At Large – Dan Brown

AUXILIARY

President – Debra Godwin
Vice – Glena Smith
Treasurer – Becky Berweger
Secretary – Tracy Wittrock
Chaplain – Jeanne Clayton
Historian – Goya Hernandez
Sgt at Arms – Mike Gregory
Membership – Sim Sears

Sons of the American Legion

Commander/Finance – Terry Naig
1st Vice – Steve Kindel
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 – Mike Paul
Sgt at Arms – Jack Bailey
Historian – Jim Connelly
Chaplain – Rod Moore

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

Vetsclub21.org

Veterans Day Dinner

Wednesday November 11th

This year's free Veterans Day dinner will be spaghetti!

Cost: FREE to all veterans / \$10 per meal box for friends/family.

Space is limited so please consider having a meal to go.

MANDATORY RSVP: Please RSVP in advance with the number of boxed meals that you will be picking up on Wednesday, Nov 11th calling the post (503) 435-2218 prior to Friday, November 6th.

It is critical that we get a headcount, so we know how many meals to make and boxes to buy. We will only be making as many meals as we have RSVPs.

This is our first activity since the pandemic and we working with a skeleton crew so thank you in advance for your patience. If it runs smoothly and there is interest, we may do more in the future. I know it's not the wonderful Veterans Day Dinners that we normally put on but like everyone else we have to make creative adjustments for the time being.



WE ARE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL
TO ALL OF THOSE MEN AND WOMEN
WHO HAVE FOUGHT FOR OUR COUNTRY.
THE AMERICAN LEGION - POST 21
MCMINNVILLE, OR

VETERANS DAY
Honoring all who served