



*The American Legion – Post 21*  
*126 NE Atlantic Street*  
*McMinnville, OR 97128*  
*503 435-2218*  
*Vetsclub21@gmail.com*

**AUGUST 2021**

**Commander:** I hope that you are all doing well, and the Lord has kept you safe.

The Commanders Project is moving along with the donations received so far. I want to give a big thank you to all who have donated. I hope to order the new American Legion flag soon.

Our Honor Room is being used a lot with events and rentals. It looks great and well respected. If you have not seen it; you should come down and look. All the flags look good and are standing proudly. The Honor Room walls are dedicated to our Post Family's Awards. They are being updated regularly and our United Veterans Honor Guard will soon have a space on the wall as well.

We have been receiving quite a few donations lately and I would like to thank you all. Your donations will help us in helping veterans and our Post. Again, Thank You very much.

I lost my son recently and he was cremated in Texas where he was living. His mother brought him home by plane. She had a rough time with airport security. They had to inspect the urn. No respect, just doing their job. The funeral home gave her a letter for airport security, but it does not matter, they will inspect the urn. So, if plan on traveling by plane returning with an urn, be aware.

*Juan M. Palacios, Post 21 Commander*

*Snyder  
FL*



Post 21 had the great honor of the National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford visiting us for dinner. It was well attended by post members and the prime rib dinner was EXCELENT AND DELISCIIOUS. The National Commander was very pleased and spent a considerable amount of time at our post. Our Department Commander Don Weber, Department

Officers and District 2 Commander/Post 21 Commander Juan Palacios also attended. A big THANK YOU to our Department Auxiliary President, Debra Godwin for putting on the dinner. Also, all the volunteers that helped with the dinner. THEY WORKED HARD, LOOKED GREAT AND HAD A GOOD ATTITUDE. We should all be proud of our many volunteers.

**Chaplains Pulpit:** My dear fellow vets. It has been a long time coming but the post is starting to come alive. Please come out and enjoy all that our post has to offer.

As Chaplain I was called on to visit a Navy vet that is in the Portland VA Hosp. Please keep "Dennis Frazier" in your prayers.

As we have come to the end of another war, please reach out to the vets that have come home. We need to be there for them. As many may know some may still be dealing with the pains of the war. Many of us may be Vietnam vets and we know what it was like when we came home from the war.

As for me I found the Lord as my helper, and I pray that many more will find the help they need at this time. Reach out to them and let them know that Post 21 is there for them. As you know we have a great post.

On another note, I learned that the Hospital in McMinnville no longer has a Chaplain so if you find yourself there, please give me a call if you need me. Remember I'm here for you and your family. The great Lord is there to bless you. My prayers go out for each one of you.

Let us all keep moving in the greatness of American Legion Post 21.

May the Lord bless you.

*Chaplain Thomas Clayton*  
503-550-8044

#### LEGION RIDER AWARD FIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

Five Scholarships were awarded by The American Legion Riders of Post 21. The local students all from Yamhill County who received scholarships are Zella Diefengaugh from Sheridan AI Prep Academy; Mintesnot Crapper from Dayton High School; Kiley Myers from Dayton High School; Maddison Aaron from Willamina High School and Darien Leno from Willamina High School. Each student received an \$800.00 Scholarship.

*Congratulations!*

**Riders:** With no measurable rain in July, Riders had every reason to put in thousands of SAFE miles throughout the month. From supporting our neighbor, Newberg Post 57, and their Fun Run/BBQ, to huge cross-country trips, Riders have been RIDING!

We had the honor of escorting the family of USAF Justin Michael Davis, Gulf War Veteran, and son of Commander Juan Palacios, from Post 21 to his final honors at Willamette National Cemetery on July 28. We're thankful to have been accompanied by Riders from Post 57 (Newberg), Post 58 (Stayton), and Post 10 (Albany). Really great support from our Rider friends.

Some Riders also contributed their time (and sweat!) prepping for the International Air Show, putting up fencing to keep spectators out of harm's way. Thank you to ALL Riders who shared some of your time to volunteer in July.

On Saturday, August 21, we invite everyone to accompany the Riders as we try to hit every Lemonade Day stand in town! Lemonade Day empowers local youth to take ownership of their lives and become entrepreneurs. These youngsters are learning to plan, launch, own and operate their own businesses and we're excited to recognize and support their efforts. We'll be leaving Post 21 at 11 AM with a planned route to visit every one of them. Please join us!

Finally, our annual Scholarship Poker Run, Raffle and BBQ is just a few weeks away, Saturday, September 18th. We always get great support from our families here at Post 21 so please keep an eye open for volunteer opportunities.

Our biggest need right now is PRIZES for the raffle. 100% of our net proceeds from this event provides scholarships to local area youth. We need everyone's assistance in talking to local businesses about the event and the great community benefit of their donations of gift cards and merchandise. If you're patronizing a local business over the next few weeks, please take a moment to speak to a manager/owner about this opportunity to help young people take the next step on their educational journey.

Thank you!  
*Paul Schnell, Riders Director*



**Auxiliary:** The Auxiliary has been very busy in July. We could still use some volunteers for events coming in August.

August 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 – Noon need help setting up for the garage sale. August 13 and 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm for both days working at the garage sale.

The next Poppy event will be August 21<sup>st</sup> at Evergreen Museum from 10:00 am – 2:00. We are looking at staffing two shifts one from 10:00 – Noon and another from Noon – 2:00. Angel Mendoza from the Honor Guard has volunteered to help.

*Glena Smith, President*

### Department of Oregon Auxiliary President's Project

Funding for The Central Oregon Veterans Village a transitional housing village aimed at getting homeless veterans off the street. Our very own Debra Godwin, Department of Oregon Auxiliary President plans to raise \$10,000 to assist in the building of homes for Veterans.

T.J. Guns has donated a gun to be raffled off at Convention in June. All proceeds will go to the Project. There will also be a glass float with poppies, a Pendleton Blanket, a Metal Flag (like the one in the club) and any other donations that may come in. Along with a 50/50 raffle that will end at Convention. If you have questions, or items you would like to donate, contact Debra Godwin.



### Warning -Phone Scam Alert!

We have received information that a man claiming to be Billy Newman, he is fishing for information from Legion members trying to get their bank account information for the purchase of a lifetime membership.

He claims to be from The American Legion, he is not.



The most recent identified POW/MIA.

## World War II

**Army Air Forces 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Anel Shay, Jr. - 26.** Lost August 1, 1943, when the B-24 Liberator Shay was serving on as a bombardier crashed as a result of enemy anti-aircraft fire during Operation TIDAL WAVE. Accounted for June 28, 2021. Announced July 1, 2021.

**Army Pfc. Morris Swackhammer – 20** Lost November 22, 1944, as part of Operation DRAGOON during a battle with enemy troops northwest of Fraize village in France. Swackhammer was hit by a spray of bullets from a German machine gun. After the village was liberated, his body could not be found, and it is likely either German troops or residents of Fraize removed it. Accounted for June 28, 2021. Announced July 6, 2021.

**Navy Storekeeper 1<sup>st</sup> Class Harry Walker - 36.** Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for March 9, 2021. Announced July 6, 2021.

**Navy Seaman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Arthur Thinnies – 17.** Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for March 24, 2021. Announced July 6, 2021.

**USMC Pfc. Glenn White – 19.** Lost November 22, 1943, during intense fighting against Japanese resistance on the small island Betio in the Gilbert Islands. Accounted for June 7, 2021. Announced July 7, 2021.

**US Army 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. James Wright – 25.** Lost September 11, 1944, as part of Patton's Third Army during a fierce battle at the Moselle River near Dornot, Germany. Accounted for July 9, 2021. Announced July 20, 2021.

**US Army Pfc. Bill Morrison – 29.** Lost November 8, 1944, when his unit was engaged in battle with German forces near Hurtgen, Germany, he was reported killed in action. His body was not able to be recovered. Accounted for July 9, 2021.

**Army Pfc. Berton McQueen – 20** Lost November 22, 1944, as part of Operation DRAGOON during a battle with enemy troops Clefcy. McQueen was mortally wounded by German artillery and taken to an aid station where he died. His battalion was forced to abandon Clefcy his body was not recovered. Accounted for July 9, 2021.



**US Army Pfc. Stephen Mason – 21.** Lost November 3, 1944, during Operation MARKET GARDEN after his patrol failed to return from a mission to the enemy lines near Beek, Netherlands. His body was unable to be recovered. Accounted for July 9, 2021.

**Army Air Forces 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Alan Petersen - 23.** Lost August 1, 1943, when the B-24 Liberator Shay was serving on as a bombardier crashed as a result of enemy anti-aircraft fire during Operation TIDAL WAVE. Accounted for June 28, 2021. Announced July 1, 2021.

**US Army Pvt. Andrew Ladner – 30.** Lost November 30, 1942, while his unit was part of an effort to cut off Japanese supply and communications coming from Sadananda Village on the island of New Guinea. Accounted for July 9, 2021.

**Army Pfc. William Groh - 22.** Lost November 13, 1944, while his unit was part of the Hurtgen Forest offensive he was reported wounded in action. No one ever saw him after that, and he was not listed a prisoner of war. Accounted for July 9, 2021.

### Oregon Native from Korea To be Laid to Rest

"Finally, home." It's been nearly two years since New Mexico resident Katherine Gandara got a long-awaited phone call about the uncle she never met: Official word that a set of remains returned by North Korea had been identified as Corporal Norvin Brockett, a Powell Butte resident.

At the age of 17 Brockett convinced his family to let him join the Army and fight for his country in Korea. In December 1950, Brockett was a member of Battery A, 57<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on 6 December 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces in the vicinity of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea.

The Battle of Chosin Reservoir was a decisive battle in the Korean War. On 27 November, the Chinese Army surprised UN Forces at the Chosin Reservoir resulting in a brutal 17-day battle in freezing weather and rough terrain. The cold weather accompanied by frozen ground resulted in frostbite casualties, icy roads, and weapon malfunctions. In the end over 17,000 UN forces were killed or wounded or missing in action or died from their wounds. The Chinese suffered 3 times that amount.

On July 27, 2018, North Korea turned over 55 boxes purported to contain the remains of American service members killed during the Korean War. The remains arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-

Corporal Norvin Brockett was laid to rest on July 21, 2021, at Arlington National Cemetery.

*Welcome Home!*







## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 21 VETERANS MEMORIAL ROSE GARDEN**

BY: RICH PIMM

The Memorial Rose Garden was established in April 2000 when American Legion Auxiliary member Liz Hamilton asked Billie Axtell (a World War II Veteran and longtime Legionnaire and groundskeeper) if he would plant a rose bush on the south lawn to remember and honor her late husband, Harold Hamilton. Billie said "yes" he would be honored to. I volunteered to make a plaque with any personal information she requested to place beside the rose. Bob Cook said he would make a wooden stand for the plaque. The news spread like wildfire and soon other members wanted their loved ones honored as well. The original dedication took place July 9, 2000, and the rededication followed 10 months later Memorial Day, May 28, 2001.

Before we knew it there were 111 names, plaques and rose bushes in what is now our Rose Garden with no more room for roses. It was decided to erect a Memorial Monument with the original 111 names, and space for an additional 29 veterans to be remembered and honored.

The monument was designed, approved, finalized, and ordered on June 4, 2004. Measurements were taken and a dig hole made.... oops we hit a water pipe and flooded the hole. Thanks, Oakie (Pennington) for the repairs. Then came the electric work. Thanks Paul Hendrix! Lights, Vases, Pavers, Concrete, Bollards and Chains...Painting. I'd like to say THANKS to all, and I know I'll forget a few. Thanks Dave Smith, Bob Nugent, Rick & John Hamilton, and Don Watts. And a special Thank You to Bob Berweger for all his time and knowledge, again! Thanks to all the Monument was erected. Over the course of time the additional 29 names were added and still more space was needed. In July 2011 a second Monument was erected with 24 names already engraved. Since then, 94 more names have been inscribed on the second Memorial to total 118 names with room for 24 more. Two names were added to the first Memorial by their own request: Billie Axtell and Bob Nugent with space for one more name.... mine.

## ***We Need a New Memorial Stone!***

It will cost approximately \$25,000 to \$30,000 to fund and install a third Memorial Monument. At present there is \$10,110.03 in the Veterans Memorial Rose Garden Account. The estimated cost of the Stone Base is \$13,348.80. Additional costs for installation, fixtures, hardware, concrete etc., is between \$12,000 to 17,000.

To help raise the necessary funds I would like to ask all Military Veterans to Pre-quest to have their names engraved on the Monument when the time comes to meet with the Supreme Commander at a cost of \$100.00.

I love our Rose Garden and I know you do too! All donations and/or contributions will be patriotically, generously, and graciously accepted.

Please contact Rich Pimm if you have any questions, or if you wish to contribute or donate or to Pre-Quest. Rich Pimm @ 971-241-7904.



## **How did Post 21 get a 75 mm Howitzer?**

By: Galen McBee

Sometime around 1967 or early 68, members of the McMinnville Park Board thought perhaps an old Civil War type cannon might be a good addition to either City or Wortman Park. A letter was sent to the Department of Defense, and the city received a positive reply that yes, as a government agency the city would be eligible to receive a surplus cannon. Still thinking of an historic, 1800's cannon, they were surprised and disappointed when they received a WW II, Korean War era, 75 mm Pack Howitzer. In 1967-68 the Viet-Nam war was raging, and community debate developed over whether a cannon was appropriate for a McMinnville Park.

When I arrived in October 1968, I received a briefing on a City Council meeting where the room was filled with citizens in opposition to the cannon and its placement in one of the city parks. By this time there was no interest by either the park board or the city council in the cannon. I found the cannon chained to a tree in West Wortman and directed its removal and storage at the park's shops.

The cannon remained in storage for years and in the 1980's Gunny Brandon learned of the cannon and would borrow and mount it on a trailer for parades. When the American Legion built their lodge, the cannon was given to the American Legion on Permanent Loan and is currently in their memorial garden at the lodge. I believe this is the appropriate place for the display of this military artifact.

## What is all the activity at the Legion on Sunday?

Have you ever wondered what all the activity is on Sunday afternoons in the Legion Honor Room? It's the Legion Auxiliary Bingo Program. This program has been operating for over 30 years and was first held on the bar side of the Legion Hall with just a handful of players. In recent years it has grown steadily and outgrew the bar side and moved to the Honor Room.

Bingo starts at 1:00pm on Sunday afternoons, with sales beginning at 12:30. The cost to play is \$15.00 for one packet. The packet includes 10 regular games of bingo, 3 early bird games, and 2 blackouts. A double action game is sold on the floor during intermission. Payouts are determined by the percentage of sales – most payouts being \$15 or \$20 per bingo. The first blackout and the double action are also a percentage of sales, but there is a progressive blackout that, if won in 59 numbers or less, pays out a minimum of \$100. For each week it is not won, \$25 is added to the payout amount.

This program is managed by Darla "Mike" Gregory, Chris Trudo, and Randi Douglas – All Legion Auxiliary members. They have a loyal following of players, which also includes players from outside Yamhill County. This program has brought in thousands of dollars to The American Legion – Post 21 every year for them to use for their many worthwhile projects.

In addition, the first Saturday of the month is Cancer Bingo starting at 1:00pm with all proceeds being donated to the Willamette Valley Cancer Foundation. Thousands of dollars have been donated to Willamette Valley Cancer Foundation and all the money stays locally for the benefit of those being treated for cancer and their families. The Foundation is very appreciative of our efforts and many of their Board have attended our Cancer Bingo sessions. The cost to play Cancer Bingo is \$10 for a pack of 10 regular games. During intermission two blackouts and double action games are sold on the floor, at \$1 a piece. There is also a B-9 (benign) pot which is added each session. Each player wanting to participate pays \$1 for a chance to win the B-9 pot which is won by having a bingo on B9 in any game, other than the double action. Currently the pot is worth \$200.

If you haven't tried playing Bingo at the Legion on Sundays or Cancer Bingo on the first Saturday of the month, give it a try. Every session is open to the public and we always have a good time for a good cause!



## A Very Busy July at Post 21!

What a busy July it was at Post 21. On July 4<sup>th</sup> we had a Car & Motorcycle Show and BBQ. The attendance of not only the number of Cars & Motorcycles, but the number of people who attended was phenomenal. Everyone had a great time. We are planning on continuing this event next year. A big THANK YOU to Tim & Susan Fuller for a great job putting this event together.



The 2021 Salute to Veterans Golf Tournament was a huge success. The American Legion Post 21 thanks all the Michelbook members for their fantastic support of this event. The tournament would not have been as successful without the members rallying with their support and attendance.

A big THANK YOU to all the hole sponsors and business donations received. The entire Michelbook staff did a fantastic job in all respects. Much praise and Kudos to the Michelbook Country Club there were many compliments across the board from numerous participants. Can't wait to do it again next year!

As I write I can hear the Thunderbirds flying over preparing for the International Air Show the 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup>. What an amazing event that was in 2019! Can't wait to see it again!



Looks like August will be as much fun as July.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and who participated in the events in July. Without your support and participation, we could not succeed. THANK YOU!

*Shirley Brown, Adjutant*

## How to Schedule a Burial at Willamette National Cemetery

Our Post Service Officer, Tim Anderson, now has all the information and forms needed to bury a Veteran at Willamette National Cemetery. You will need the Veterans DD214 and a completed Monument Inscription request form.

If you are doing this without the assistance of a funeral home, you can get a flag at the McMinnville Post Office for free. They will also need to give them a copy of the DD214, so make copies.





# A BLAST FROM THE PAST

Could they be Legion Riders?



October 30, 1947, Halloween Patrol – These are members of the Walnut City Squirrels, McMinnville’s Motorcycle Club. They were on duty Halloween Night in 1947 to aid law enforcement officers in preventing serious Halloween pranks. They were made special deputies and worked under Sheriff G.W. Manning and Police Chief Woody Conklin. From left: Ernest Mourer, JR., Archie Anderson, Lewis Aldrich, Roy Snyder, Bab Eaton, Dean Cunningham, John Combs, Gerald Williams, Roy Brixley, Dan Adams, Chick Lucas, Nolan Sweeney, and Perry Derr.



**Bikes & Cars Welcome**  
**Saturday, Sept 18th, 2021**

McMinnville American Legion Post 21  
Open to all; Riders. Drivers and Passengers  
!!Always a great ride with the ALR !!

First Bike Out at 8am

Last Bike Out at 10am

\$15.00 1<sup>st</sup> hand per person, \$5 additional hands

Breakfast and After Run Meal available for purchase

Raffles, Drawings and Great Prizes



American Legion Riders



Contact Post 21: 503-435-2218

## National Purple Heart Day

National Purple Heart Day, also known as Purple Heart Day, Purple Heart Appreciation Day, and Purple Heart Recognition Day, is observed in the United States every year. It is dedicated to a U.S. Military decoration awarded to those brave men and women who were either wounded on the battlefield or paid the ultimate sacrifice with their lives. The Purple Heart is the oldest existing military award in the United States, if you consider its forerunner, the Badge of Military Merit. Only four people were ever awarded the Badge of Military Merit. After the Revolutionary War the award fell into disuse but was never officially abolished.

The Purple Heart is currently awarded to any member of the U.S. Armed Forces who has been wounded or killed in action against an enemy or as a result of an act of an enemy.

The Purple Heart is awarded for each wound, but the medal is given only for the first wound. For each subsequent wound or injury, oak leaf clusters of 5/16 inch stars are worn in lieu of a new medal.



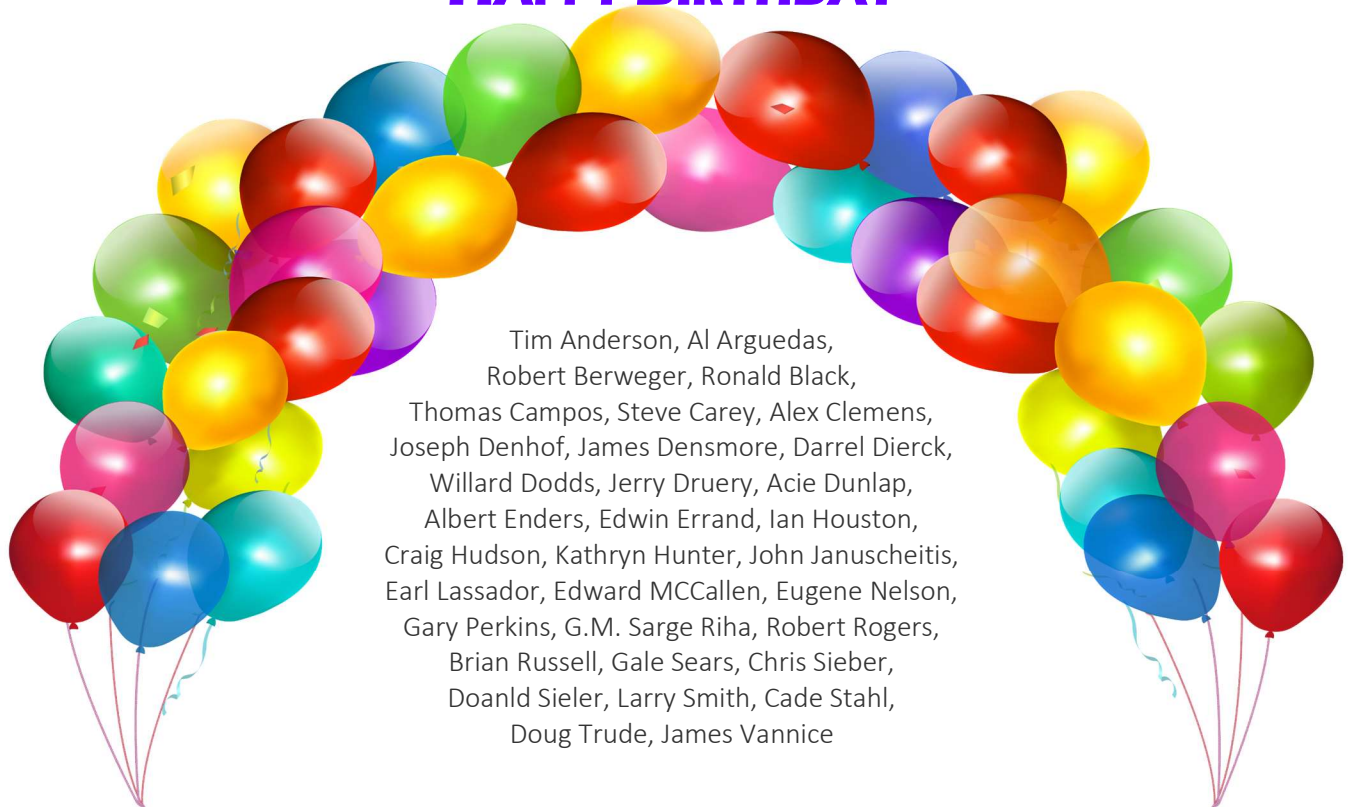
**"Let it be known that he who wears the military order of the purple heart has given his blood in the defense of his homeland and shall forever be revered by his fellow countrymen."**

**George Washington**

# August 2021

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

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



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



## OFFICERS

### 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 Jenson

### 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  
Chaplain – Vacant

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



American Legion Auxiliary

# Yard Sale

# Donation Time

July 24th to Aug 8th

126 NE Atlantic Street, McMinnville  
American Legion Post #21



Bring your clean lightly used clothing, sporting goods, small furniture, working small appliances, etc..(all in saleable condition) to the Legion to donate to our upcoming yard sale.

(Aug 13 and 14<sup>th</sup>)

Proceeds go toward our ongoing commitment to our Veterans and local community

(Please no electronics, car seats, high chairs or strollers)

CONTACT: BECKY BERWEGER 503-434-1834, DARLA GREGORY 503-560-3775  
OR THE LEGION FOR FURTHER INFO 503-435-2218

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."