

AMERICAN LEGION

APRIL 2025

McMinnville Post 21

126 NE Atlantic Street

McMinnville, Oregon 97128

503-435-2218

www.vetsclub21.org

vetsclub21@gmail.com

post21newsletter@gmail.com

Commander:

Hello, I'm sure the good Lord will continue to keep us safe.

This will be my last article as your Post 21 Commander. It's been a privilege and honor to serve you.

Once again we are honored to host the Oregon Memorial Traveling Wall. It will be at the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum on March 28th - 30th. Please come by and show your respect to our Oregon fallen Veterans. They gave ALL so LET'S NOT FORGET THEM.

The great Marine Corp. Breakfast is on April 13th. Come on down and see your handsome and tough Marines. Once a Marine ALWAYS a MARINE.

I'll close by saying "Good Morning Vietnam" as a way of remembering our Fallen Vietnam Veterans. They will not be forgotten no matter what.

Semper Fi
God Bless America

May the Lord bless you and keep you safe,
Juan Palacios
Post 21 Commander



Adjutant's Desk:

The website is up and fully functional at this time. We are still working on getting a google search to direct to the new site but it is able to be found when you search for Post 21 and click on the clubs website link.

As a reminder a website is a living entity and it will be changing as we have new events and new information to add to it. We will be asking each family to have a representative who is willing to bring new photo's or information to be changed or corrected on the website. It will be much easier to work with one person rather than having numerous people trying to all get the same thing accomplished!

Jim Willis Law Enforcement Career Camp. McMinnville High School has 5 applicants for the camp this year. We may have 1 more as they indicated an application will be turned in next week. That would make a total of 6 attending camp this year from our local high school!

Elections are being held in the April Membership Meeting on April 16th. A reminder that members will need to have their current and up to date membership card on them in order to attend the meeting. Members only are allowed in the meeting for elections.

www.vetsclub21.org (New Web Site Address)

Russ Ludwig
Post 21 Adjutant





From the Commander:

We live in a world that is ever changing and as an organization, we also need to change the way we do business from time to time.

The Executive board has made a decision that in order for us to meet the needs of our veterans, customers, and community moving into the future, we need a full-time club manager. Unfortunately, Debra Godwin is unable to take on the full-time position and will be stepping away from the role as club manager when we hire a new person. We are starting the recruitment process and will keep the membership informed on where we are at in the process. Debra will remain the club manager until that process is completed.

Debra will continue in her role as a bartender/server and will be a great resource to whomever we hire into the position. We owe her a world of thanks for stepping in to the role of club manager back in 2020 when Post 21 suddenly found themselves without a club manager. She held this Post together during covid, finding ways to bring income to the business as well as working with regulatory agencies to offer new ways of doing business that would not ever have been accepted before covid. Debra volunteered here long before she was asked to take on the role of club manager.

Debra works tirelessly both as the club manager and as a server. She seldom takes her full days off as there always seems to be something critical happening that needs her attention. All of this without complaint. She has been and I have no doubt will continue to be an incredible asset to our organization. Her love for veterans is core to the person she is. Please take a moment of your time to thank her for all she does and recognize her sacrifices to make Post 21 the best Post in Oregon.

Thank you
**FOR YOUR SERVICE
AND DEDICATION**






Notice of Election

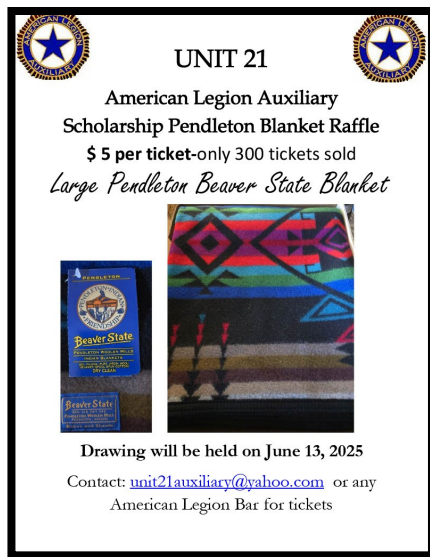
American Legion Post 21 annual elections of Executive Board/Officers will take place on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 6:30 pm.

Post Executive Board Positions consist of:

- Commander
- Adjutant
- First Vice
- Second Vice
- Finance Officer
- Service Officer
- Sgt at Arms
- Chaplain
- Judge Advocate
- Post Historian
- Members at Large (3 positions if no Previous Commander is in place)

All members will need to show their current and valid Membership Card to take part in the Meeting.





Auxiliary Unit 21 is raffling off this amazing Pendleton Blanket for our Scholarship Fund. \$5 per ticket (with a limited # being sold).

It will be on display later this week at Post 21
Please share and contact Sim Sears
for raffle tickets!

Our Scholarship fund focuses on helping kids in the community with trade, technical and traditional continuing education.

Contact your High School counselor
for scholarship applications

Auxiliary:

Hello from your Auxiliary!

Our nominations have started. Nominations for unit president Debra Godwin, for vice president Susan, Haley and Gregoria Hernandez, secretary Simm Sears, treasurer Becky Berweger.

We will continue nominations at our meeting in April. Our monthly veterans lunches are a hit!! We serve on average about 32 veterans.

Our next veterans lunch is April 10, from 11am until 1pm. Veterans eat for free.

Debra Godwin
Unit President

**REMINDER: It's time to carry
your 2025 Membership cards
for meetings and drink
discounts. As well as certain
meetings. Now's the time to
make sure your dues are paid
to date.**



The Oregon Memorial Traveling Wall is a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. that honors Oregon veterans who died in the Vietnam War, Iraq, and Afghanistan. The wall visits communities across Oregon.

Post 21 is bringing the Oregon Memorial Traveling Wall to McMinnville, Oregon March 28th—March 30th. The wall will be at Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum. There will be an opening ceremony on Friday March 28th at 1:00pm. The Wall will be available for viewing 24/7 from then until 12:00pm on Sunday, March 30th.





THE ANNUAL BATTLE OF THE BRANCHES FUNDRAISERS ARE IN FULL SWING!

Who's ready for some delicious breakfast competition? It's friendly, right?

Each branch is competing to raise the most money. Come out and support your branch - each meal counts!!

Each branch will feature their own menu's, have their own specials and run their own raffles.

Army has taken the title 2 years running... can they go for a three-peat?

WW2 and Korean War Vets eat free at each breakfast event.

Grab your whole family and come on down to the McMinnville American Legion and support your local vets!

With the increase in new customers we want to take this chance to remind us all that it is policy for members to carry their membership card, as well as, show the card when expecting discount prices on drinks. We appreciate your cooperation with this policy.



American Legion Post #21 **U.S. AIR FORCE**

Join your Air Force Family for the American Legion
Battle of the Branches Breakfasts



Raffles **Silent Auction** **Proceeds to Veteran Support**

\$10.00 per person Kids 5 yrs and younger eat free

WW2 and Korean War vets eat free

Scrambled Eggs, Country Potatoes, Bacon, Sausage Links, Biscuits & Gravy,
Waffles, Coffee and Orange Juice. Specialty Drinks: Bloody Mary's and
Mimosa's available for an additional \$6.00 each

Sunday, March 30, 2025

0800 -1100

Veterans Serving Veterans

126 Atlantic Ave. McMinnville



Month of the Military Child 2025: Honoring Young Heroes

April is recognized as the **Month of the Military Child (MOMC)**, a special time dedicated to honoring the resilience, strength, and sacrifices of military-connected children. Established in 1986 by former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, this month highlights the unique challenges these children face, such as frequent relocations and parental deployments, while also celebrating their contributions to their families and communities. A key event during the Month of the Military Child is **Purple Up! Day**, a nationwide initiative that encourages communities to show their support for military children by wearing purple. The color purple symbolizes all branches of the U.S. military—blending Army green, Navy blue, Air Force blue, Marine red, and Coast Guard blue.



In 2025, different organizations may observe Purple Up! Day on different dates:

- **April 15, 2025** – The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) will recognize Purple Up! Day.
- **April 23, 2025** – The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) has chosen this date for its official observance.

Regardless of the specific date, communities, schools, and organizations nationwide are encouraged to participate by wearing purple and hosting events that recognize the contributions of military children.

Gold Star Spouses Day: Honoring the Sacrifices of Military Families



Every year on **April 5**, the United States observes **Gold Star Spouses Day**, a day dedicated to honoring and recognizing the sacrifices made by the spouses of fallen service members. This solemn occasion serves as a reminder of the resilience, strength, and dedication of those who have lost their loved ones in military service. The term "**Gold Star**" dates back to **World War I**, when families of service members displayed service flags with blue stars to represent those actively serving. If a service member was killed in action, the blue star was replaced with a gold star, signifying their ultimate sacrifice. This tradition continues today, with Gold Star families receiving the **Gold Star lapel pin or Next of Kin lapel pin** as a symbol of their loss and the nation's gratitude.

Originally known as **Gold Star Wives Day**, the observance was officially recognized in 2010 to acknowledge the sacrifices of military widows and widowers. The name later changed to **Gold Star Spouses Day** to be more inclusive of all surviving spouses. The day is an opportunity for the country to come together in remembrance and support of these individuals.

On April 5, military organizations, veterans' groups, and communities across the nation hold various events and initiatives to recognize Gold Star spouses. These include:

- **Memorial Services and Ceremonies** – Many military bases and organizations host ceremonies to honor fallen service members and their families.
- **Community Gatherings** – Support groups and organizations, such as the **Gold Star Wives of America**, provide opportunities for spouses to connect and support one another.
- **Public Recognition** – Government officials and military leaders often issue proclamations, acknowledging the sacrifices of Gold Star spouses.
- **Social Media Tributes** – People across the country use hashtags like **#GoldStarSpousesDay** to share messages of gratitude and remembrance.

Gold Star Spouses Day is not just about remembrance—it is about ensuring that the sacrifices of both service members and their loved ones are never forgotten. As a nation, we honor these spouses for their resilience and unwavering devotion to the memory of their fallen heroes.

LEGION AFTER DARK MARCH





Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency— July Announcements

World War II

Announced on March 5, 2025 that U.S. Army Pvt. James G. Loterbaugh, 35, of Roseville, Ohio, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 20, 2024.

Announced on March 6, 2025 that U.S. Army Pvt. James L. Harrington, 21, of Cincinnati, Ohio, killed during World War II, was accounted for Aug. 21, 2023.

Announced on March 7, 2025 that U.S. Army Maj. James J. O'Donovan, 34, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Feb. 4, 2024.

Announced on March 11, 2025 that U.S. Army CWO Charles G. Ben-thien, 46, killed during World War II, was accounted for Feb. 25, 2025.

Announced on March 11, 2025 that U.S. Army 2nd Lt. William B. Bucey, 29, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for March 3, 2025.

Announced on March 12, 2025 that U.S. Army Sgt. Ivor D. Thornton, 34, killed during World War II, was accounted for March 10, 2025.

Announced on March 12, 2025 that Navy Fireman 3rd Class (F3c) Royle B. Luker, 17, killed during World War II, was accounted for on May 29, 2024.

Announced on March 12, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Russell O. Chitwood, 27, killed during World War II, was accounted for March 4, 2025.

Announced on March 17, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces Pfc. Lee I. Clendenning, 23, killed during World War II, was accounted for on March 11, 2025.

Announced on March 17, 2025 that U.S. Army Maj. James J. O'Donovan, 34, of Cohoes, New York, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Feb. 4, 2024.

Announced on March 17, 2025 that U.S. Army Sgt. Norman H. Drewes, 24, of Hamler, Ohio, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 13, 2024.

Announced on March 17, 2025 that U.S. Army Pvt Roman Cherubini, 22, of Bridgeton, New Jersey, killed during World War II, was accounted for Dec. 16, 2024.

Announced on March 19, 2025 that U.S. Army Pvt. Blanchard E. Pruitt, 19, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for March 17, 2025.

World War II

Announced on March 20, 2025 that U.S. Army Capt. Ralph L. Rowland, 43, killed during World War II, was accounted for March 18, 2025.

Announced on March 20, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. John A. Pagliuso, 24, killed during World War II, was accounted for on March 17, 2025.

Announced on March 21, 2025 that Army Cpt. Charles G. Gibson Jr., 28, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for March 17, 2025.

Announced on March 21, 2025 that U.S. Army Capt. Paul E. Pearson, 38, killed during World War II, was accounted for March 18, 2025.

Announced on March 24, 2025 that U.S. Army 2nd Lt. Charles Arnao, 30, killed during World War II, was accounted for March 18, 2025.

Announced on March 26, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces Cpl. Glenn H. Hodak, 23, of Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Sept. 25, 2024.

Announced on March 26, 2025 that U.S. Navy Reserve Ensign Eugene E. Mandeberg, 23, killed during World War II, was accounted for on March 4, 2025.

Announced on March 26, 2025 that U.S. Navy Reserve S2c Jerome M. Mullaney, 18, killed during World War II, was accounted for March 10, 2025.

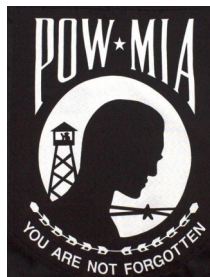
Announced on March 27, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces Tech. Sgt. Clarence E. Gibbs, 21, killed during World War II, was accounted for March 24, 2025.

Announced on March 28, 2025 that U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. John W. Ruark, 21, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for March 25, 2025.

Announced on March 28, 2025 that U.S. Army Cpl. James M. Walker, 46, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for March 19, 2024.

Announced on March 28, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces Cpl. Bruce H. Penny, 21, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for March 25, 2025.

Announced on March 28, 2025 that U.S. Navy Mess Attendant 3rd Class (Matt3c) Neil D. Frye, 20, of Vass, North Carolina, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Sept. 27, 2024.



OFFICERS:

The American Legion:

Commander - Juan Palacios
1st Vice - Leroy Brown
2nd Vice - Terry Ward
JAG - Position Open
Finance Officer - Cheryl Saviller-Miller
Adjutant - Russ Ludwig
Sgt-At-Arms - Robert Andrade
Historian - Position Open
Chaplain - Thomas Clayton
Service Officer - Mike Billings
At Large - Chris Dauterman
At Large - Rebecca Hardin
At Large—Position Open

Auxiliary:

President –Debra Godwin
Vice President - Gregoria Hernandez
Treasurer - Becky Berweger
Secretary - Sim Sears
Membership - Jeannie Clayton
Historian - Glenna Smith
Service Officer - Carol Doege
Chaplain - Shirley Burkett
Sgt at Arms - Susan Haley

Sons of the American Legion:

Commander - Del White
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2nd Vice - Gary Bert
Finance - Terry Naig
Adjutant - Robert Laddisaw
Chaplain - Pete Jensen
Sgt at Arms - Brandon Lepkowski
Advisor: Angel Mendoza

The American Legion Riders:

Director - Gale Sears
Asst. Director - Steve Sagmiller
Secretary - Bob Wilson
Treasurer - Sim Sears
Sgt at Arms - Wayne Jarshaw
Road Captain - Tony Amodeo
Historian - Jim Connelly

Newsletter Editor:

Jennie Ludwig

McMinnville Post 21

126 NE Atlantic Street

McMinnville, Oregon 97128

503-435-2218

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Korean

Announced on March 6, 2025 that U.S. Army Sgt. Rosslyn E. Gresens, 22, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Feb. 28, 2025.

Announced on March 7, 2025 that U.S. Army Cpl. Billie C. Driver, 18, of Dallas, Texas, killed in action during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 9, 2024.

Announced on March 11, 2025 that U.S. Army Cpl. Lester William Bauer, 20, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for March 4, 2025.

Announced on March 11, 2025 that U.S. Army Pfc. George A. Curley Jr., 18, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for March 3, 2025.

Announced on March 24, 2025 that U.S. Army Cpl. Joshua Corruth, 20, killed during the Korean War, was accounted

Announced March 24, 2025 that U.S. Army Master Sgt. George C. Manring, 21, killed in action during the Korean War, was accounted for March 17, 2025.

Announced March 25, 2025 that U.S. Army Cpl. Delmer R. Grissom, 19, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for March 20, 2025.

Announced on March 26, 2025 that U.S. Army 1st Lt. William H. Hott, 29, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for March 18, 2025.



April 9th

To submit an article or flyer for the newsletter, please include author of submission by the 21st of each month.

If you would like a digital copy of the monthly newsletter please send an email to:

post21newsletter@gmail.com

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UPCOMING Community EVENTS

Volunteering is the cornerstone to our great organization as stated in the preamble to the American Legion Constitution....”to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual Helpfulness.”

We encourage everyone to reach out and volunteer what ever small amount of time you have, it makes a big difference.

HOSTED BY
AMERICAN LEGION

9pm - 12am
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

26th APR

LIVE BAND

Legion After Dark

Drink Specials
FOOD

Classic Rock
DANCE FLOOR

Featuring
DOUBLE DT BAND
503-435-2218

126 NE Atlantic St McMinnville Oregon 97128

SPONSORED DESIGNATED DRIVER AVAILABLE - TIPS APPRECIATED

AMERICAN LEGION UNIT 21
AUXILIARY

Is Hosting:

What: Free Veteran's Lunch
When: 2nd Thursday of each Month
Time: 11:00am - 1:00pm
Where: American Legion Post 21
126 NE Atlantic St,
McMinnville, OR 97128
Contact for Info: Deb Godwin
503-435-2218



MIKE BILLINGS
POST 21 SERVICE OFFICER

(503) 435-2218
126 N.E. ATLANTIC STREET
McMINNVILLE, OR 97128-7005

(971) 241-0531
EMAIL: DAEWOODP51@GMAIL.COM

American Legion Post 21
McMinnville, OR



Chaplain Thomas Clayton
Army/ Navy Veteran
ph# 503-550-8044

 March 2nd  March 16th

Battle of the

Raffles

8:00 am - 11:00 am
(Each Branch serving on it's own day and serving it's own menu)
\$10.00 per adult
WW2 and Korean War Vet & Children under 5 EAT FREE
We hope to see you supporting the branches

Branches

 March 30th  April 13th

Silent Auction

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 SAL Mtg 6:30pm	3	4 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Legion KP 5:00pm	5 Cancer Bingo 1:00pm
6 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	7 Housing Committee Mtg 5:00pm	8	9	10 Veteran's Lunch 11:00am - 1:00pm	11 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Auxiliary KP 5:00pm	12
13 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	14 Activity Committee Mtg 5:00pm Executive Mtg 6:00pm	15 Auxiliary Mtg 6:00pm	16 General Member- ship Mtg 6:00pm	17	18 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Sons KP 5:00pm	19
20 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	21	22	23 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00pm	24	25 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Riders KP 5:00pm	26 After Dark 9p-1a Karaoke
27 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	28	29	30			

Donald Barnett, Mike Billings, Joseph Birch, Jim Black, William Boyce, John Branch, Sam Fields, Michael Gillespie, Ronald Grose, Eldon Hodapp, Robert Laddusaw, Bobby Laron, Brandon Lepkowski, Edward Lisle, Margaret Lutz, Marty Martinsen, Robert McMillan, Michael Sandels, Carlos Neitch, Jerome Paul, William Post, Stephen Randles, Mack Reid, James Shaw, Lonnie Seizer, Eugene Smith, Glenn Smith, Morris Spawn, Lee Vasquez, Robert Wittrock, Michael Whelan, Floyd Zumwalt

