

# AMERICAN LEGION

## OCTOBER 2024

### Commander:

Hello to one and all,

The good Lord continues to bless us in many ways. Thank you, Lord.

The Evergreen Air Show was a big success again this year. Many of our members contributed to making that happen. I'd like to take this time to acknowledge John Mohammed, our Person in Charge. He did an outstanding job of coordinating and directing many volunteers who worked at various jobs for the Air show. He went over and above the call of duty for endless days to get the job done. Even when some people would have lost their temper John kept his cool and completed the task at hand. John has always been there to volunteer for many events at our Post. Thank you again, John, for a job well done.

POW/MIA Recognition Day is always the 3rd Friday in September. This year it was on September 20th and the Auxiliary did a special presentation at the Post. Thank you, Post 21 Auxiliary. We had a good turnout of members and guests. American Legion State Commander, Flynn Phillips was also in attendance. American and POW/MIA flags were put up on the 3rd street bridge in honor of this day. Many people who passed by gave a thumbs up and/or said thank you. This always makes the job a little easier and lifts our spirits. POWs and MIAs will not be forgotten by those of us here at Post 21.

According to the Department of Oregon 2025 Membership report, we have recruited 9 new members, have 49 Paid up for Life members, 137 renewed members, and 1 transferred member. This brings our total to 196 members. Our goal is 447 and we are currently at 43.85%. Membership is very important to all Veterans Organizations. Our memberships are our voice to Congress. On Sep 20, 2024, American Legion National Commander James LaCoursiere Jr. issued his gratitude to Congress- and thanks to members of the nation's largest veterans service organization for rallying support-after Thursdays passage of an emergency spending bill that covers a nearly \$3 billion shortfall for the Department of Veterans Affairs. This is proof that your voice is heard through membership.

Our Finance Officer, Cheryl Saviller-Miller, is looking for three people who are willing to become trustees that will look over the books quarterly and verify the accounts are correct. If you wish to be considered for this or have any questions, please call Cheryl at (503) 437-2984.

As Department of Oregon 1st Vice Commander, Renee Ohler recently said, "Always remember to respect and take care of all Veterans. We all served our Great Nation as One and should all serve the Legion as One cohesive family."

May God continue to bless and keep you safe.

**Juan Palacios**

**Your Commander**

**McMinnville Post 21**

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### Adjutant Memo:

Thomas Ward Custer was the first soldier to win two Medals of Honor — both for actions in the Civil War. His first medal was given to him for his actions at the Battle of Namozine Church. He led a cavalry charge over a barricade under fire, seized a Confederate flag, and took three officers and 11 soldiers prisoner.

Three days later, at the Battle of Sailor's Creek, Custer again seized a Confederate flag during a cavalry charge, but in a much more dramatic fashion.

After leaping over a barricade, Custer singlehandedly broke a Confederate line. In the confusion he found the Confederate flag-bearer and charged at him. The Confederate promptly shot Custer in the face, causing him to fall back on his horse.

Custer regained his composure, killed the flag-bearer, and then presented the captured flag to his brother, Brigadier General George Armstrong Custer. He was ordered by his brother to report to the surgeon, and was placed under arrest when he ignored the order.

Thomas Custer would later die at the Battle of Little Bighorn, along with his two brothers in 1876.

### Lenny Pardue

#### Adjutant



## Chaplain's Corner:

As I bring this to all my Legion friends I hope that all is going well with you. There has been so many things going on at the post and around the world. I have to say that I would like to see more people coming out to our meeting as this is one way of showing your support for the post.

Please keep "Randy Whitehorn" in your prayers.

During our last meeting it was noted that he needs prayer and healing that I know that the good Lord can heal him. Remember as Vets we are all there to help our other vets. We are part of a great post, and it have given us so many things.

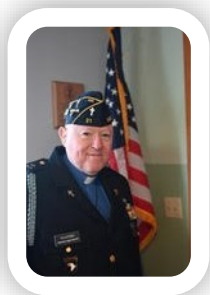
Moving on please keep our country in your prayers, as we all need to stand strong for our country that we all served to keep it free, the way it was in the beginning.

This is a great country that we live in.

Please keep me posted if you know of anyone that is in need of prayer, or maybe they are in the hospital and need a visit. As I told all the members last night that I have been a minister since 1976 and have been the Chaplain of Post 21 for about 11 years. I ask that if you feel that I should be doing more please let me know. I'm here to serve you.

As I close may the good Lord keep you safe as you walk back day.

**Chaplain Thomas Clayton**  
**armynavy6782@gmail.com**  
**Psalms 117**



## At-Large

The McMinnville Community Media Crew covered the Oregon International Air Show this year. Special thanks to Vicky Benzing, Cory Lovell and Drew Watson for the interviews. We also want to thank Herb Gillen for providing access to the show and the hot pits for interviews. Thank you to all the performers as well. Please forward to your Veteran friends and family. This was a special air show where recruits of the U.S. Air Force gave their oath of enlistment at show center directly in front of the ground crew of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds! Immediately after the recruits completed their oath of enlistment, the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds opened the show.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lWIWXYgobec>

### About McMinnville Community Media

McMinnville Community Media is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation. We provide access to community cable channels without discrimination for residents, students, employees of a business, or representatives of an organization within the City of McMinnville. We also partner with community, educational, service and faith-based nonprofit entities and government agencies who service individuals within McMinnville. MCM's mission is to strengthen and enrich our community by providing communication opportunities, tools, and training. We offer modern equipment, resources and know-how to help local citizens produce non-commercial television programs to be shown on MCM-TV cable channels. Local programming enhances dialogue in our community and often assists organizations with promotion, publicity, volunteer cultivation, and education.

**Christopher Dauterman**  
**Post 21 At-Large Officer**

The National Day of the Deployed in 2024 will be on Saturday, October 26. This day is set aside to honor those who have been deployed, or are currently deployed, to fight for the country. It also acknowledges the families of those who are separated from their loved ones.



**Letter From The Editor:**

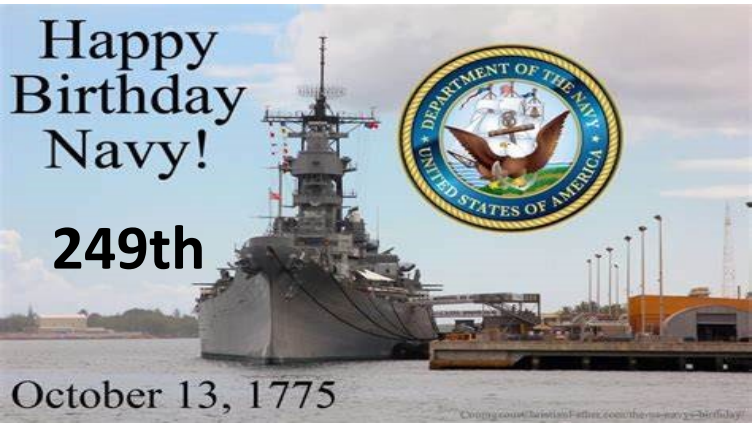
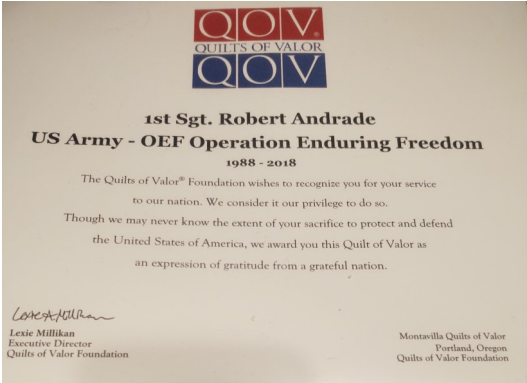
Dear Readers,

I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to create this newsletter. It has been an incredibly rewarding experience, and I am truly honored to share it with you. Coming from an extensive military family, I have always had deep respect and admiration for our armed forces. Working on the newsletter has given me the chance to further explore the rich history and immense sacrifices of our military, and I've enjoyed learning even more about the brave men and women who serve our country. I look forward to continuing this journey, and I hope you find as much value in reading the newsletter as I do in creating it. Thank you for your support and for allowing me to be part of this meaningful endeavor.

Sincerely,  
Jennie Ludwig



**Robert Andrade being presented his Quilt of Valor.**  
**Congratulations Robert and thank you for your service.**



U.S. Navy Day and the National Navy Birthday are two distinct observances that both honor the Navy, but they have different origins and focuses. Navy Day, celebrated on October 27, was originally established by the Navy League in 1922 to recognize the Navy's contributions and to honor President Theodore Roosevelt's role in expanding the naval fleet. However, it is no longer widely observed. The National Navy Birthday, celebrated on October 13, marks the official founding of the U.S. Navy in 1775, when the Continental Congress authorized the creation of a naval force during the American Revolution. This date emphasizes the Navy's historic roots and its ongoing legacy, while Navy Day focused more on modern achievements and advocacy. Today, the Navy Birthday is the more prominent observance within the Navy community.





# Vietnam War "Dust Off"

## Crews: Honoring Their Valor with the Congressional Medal of Honor

The Vietnam War gave rise to one of the most iconic and heroic roles in military history—Dust Off crews, the brave helicopter medics who risked their lives to evacuate wounded soldiers from the battlefield. Known for their unmatched courage and selflessness, these crews played a vital role in saving thousands of lives during one of America's most grueling conflicts. Decades later, their heroism is being recognized with the nation's highest military honor, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Dust Off crews were part of the U.S. Army's Medical Evacuation (MedEvac) operations. Using unarmed UH-1 "Huey" helicopters, these crews flew into the most dangerous combat zones to rescue the wounded. "Dust Off" became the radio call sign for medical evacuation missions and soon symbolized the courageous soldiers who flew them. Each crew typically consisted of four members: the pilot, co-pilot, crew chief, and medic. Together, they carried out perilous missions under fire, in challenging weather conditions, and through rugged terrain.

The term "Dust Off" became legendary in Vietnam, representing not just a call for medical evacuation but a symbol of hope for soldiers pinned down by enemy fire. These missions often required flying at low altitudes, making them easy targets for enemy forces, yet Dust Off crews repeatedly returned to the battlefield without hesitation, even under direct attack.

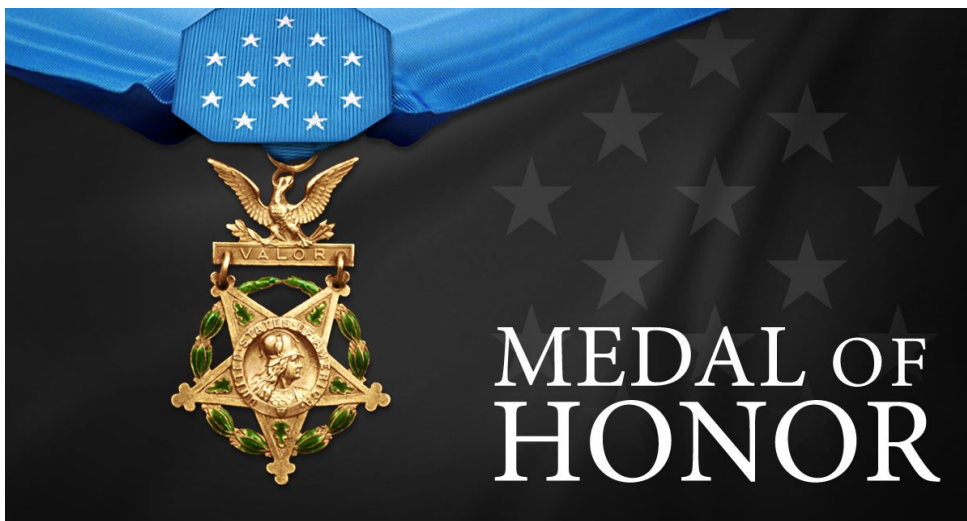
Throughout the Vietnam War, Dust Off crews were responsible for evacuating nearly 900,000 soldiers and civilians. The nature of the war—fought in dense jungles with few clear front lines—made helicopter evacuations essential. Dust Off crews were able to reach the wounded quickly, often within an hour, a feat that drastically increased survival rates.

The bravery of these crews cannot be overstated. Flying unarmed helicopters, they were routinely targeted by enemy forces. Pilots often had to land in hostile zones under heavy fire, while medics worked to stabilize patients on board. Despite the risks, the crews were known for their determination to complete every mission, no matter how dangerous. For many soldiers, hearing the distinct sound of a Huey helicopter in the distance meant the difference between life and death. While the Dust Off crews earned the admiration of their fellow soldiers and commanding officers, their heroism is now being formally recognized on a national scale. The Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest military award for valor, has been awarded posthumously to several Dust Off crew members for their extraordinary acts of bravery during the Vietnam War.

Among those recognized is Major Charles L. Kelly, known as the father of Dust Off operations. On July 1, 1964, Kelly was flying a rescue mission when he was ordered to abandon the mission due to heavy enemy fire. Kelly famously

responded, "When I have your wounded," moments before being fatally shot. His legacy inspired generations of Dust Off crews to continue their lifesaving missions regardless of the dangers.

Additionally, Specialist 5 Lawrence Joel received the Medal of Honor for his heroic efforts during a Dust Off mission in 1965. Despite being injured, Joel tended to wounded soldiers under intense enemy fire, saving lives with his courage and quick thinking. His actions exemplify the extraordinary bravery of the entire Dust Off community. **Cont. on next page**





## High School Liaison

McMinnville High School is looking to have some veterans come and talk to the sophomore class on the Tuesday prior to Veterans Day. The plan is to have an assembly in the auditorium and have veterans speak to the students about their experiences. Commanders Palacios is gathering folks to participate in this opportunity and if it is something you may wish to participate in and share please contact him with your interest. We are also generating interest in the law enforcement career camp for this summer. I will give updates on that as we get closer to summer time.

**Russ Ludwig**  
**Member At Large**  
**McMinnville High School**  
**Criminal Justice Teacher**



**“Dust Off” Crews Cont:** The recognition of Vietnam Dust Off crews with the Congressional Medal of Honor is a long-overdue tribute to the valor and sacrifice of these unsung heroes. Their contributions during the Vietnam War not only saved countless lives but also shaped the future of military medical evacuation practices. Today, Dust Off crews continue to inspire medics and rescue teams in conflicts around the world, and their legacy endures as a symbol of courage in the face of unimaginable danger. The honor bestowed upon these crews serves as a reminder of the extraordinary risks they took and the unwavering dedication they displayed. By flying into some of the most dangerous combat zones, these helicopter medics embodied the essence of selfless service and heroism. The Congressional Medal of Honor for Vietnam War Dust Off crews is more than just an award—it is a national recognition of the courage, dedication, and sacrifice of these soldiers. Their fearless actions under fire saved lives and boosted morale during one of America’s most challenging conflicts. As we honor their memory and bravery, the stories of Dust Off crews continue to inspire generations of soldiers, medics, and first responders, reinforcing the idea that true heroism often comes from the quietest, most selfless acts of service.



## American Legion Post 21 has a NEW Facebook

The page was just created this week. Be sure to go and FOLLOW and LIKE the page. The Post is excited to be able to promote all Legion and Legion Families future events on Social Media.

Utilizing this Facebook page we will be able to share photos from events and daily life here at the post. We will also be able to share flyers and posters and create “Events” for the greater community to see.

If you have a Legion event that needs to be promoted on Facebook please send a copy of your flyer to: [post21newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:post21newsletter@gmail.com) and Jennie will be sure to get it posted. We’d be happy to post birthday wishes and help celebrate anniversaries.

We’d like to say a BIG thank you to our Post 21 Family for being so patient and understanding while we are getting our social media presence and newsletter back up and running.





## Legion Riders:

ALR's participation in the Air show proved positive. A number of Post and ALR members volunteered in the security setup over the 5 day period. A special thank you to John Mohammad for his large involvement for our post and his volunteerism.

Riders and honor guard elements from two groups, including our local sea cadets, opened each days show. Next years event should be more descriptive of our post's involvement.

Our annual Scholarship Poker run went very well. I must say not without the help from a number of volunteers from Sponsors, the Ladies Auxiliary and Riders.

The Scholarship Poker run is in support of our local high school seniors and the day long activities. There were 73 hands sold initially, with an additional card purchase by a few. \$1,650 in cash prizes were provided for drawn poker hands. Donated raffle and silent auction items were also well supported.

An after action was completed reviewing this year's changes and what should be considered for the 2025 run.

An ALR committee was established and met to review what is known as our annual mileage program recognizing the miles ridden with post chapter members.

The committee is considering other miles ridden with other chapters during their activities and national U.S. events honoring veterans and their sacrifices.

Upon approval at our Wednesday, 25th of September meeting I believe the changes developed will provided positive results for our members.

Post 21 hosted the Fall State ALR meeting 28 September 2024.

**Gale Sears**

**Director, Legion Riders**

## Auxiliary Updates:

A great big hello from the Auxiliary. We have been very busy working to rebuild our relationship with the community and our Veterans. We continue to host our Veterans lunch once a month. The most recent lunch we held we served 33 veterans. Our veterans really enjoy coming, meeting new friends, and being taken care of. Veterans lunch is the second Thursday of every month from 11 to 1. We are working with Brookdale senior living and together with the auxiliary we are hosting a Veterans coffee and donuts once a month, and will be held the third Wednesday of the month from 8 to 10. We will be serving Oktoberfest Dinner, October 5th, from 5 pm until 7pm, cost is \$10.00. We are in the planning stages for our Christmas Basket program.

**Debra Godwin**

**Unit 21 President**



## A note from the Post

I hope all is well with everyone. There are several new customers visiting our Post, which brings in more revenue. We must take care of everyone equally. No one deserves better treatment than someone else. If you are a member, you should be the first to have patience with the servers. There is just one of them to take care of everyone. Remember they are volunteers, so be kind and respectful. If there is a complaint, then please bring them to me. I will work with our Commander to fix the issues. We want everyone's experience at our post a good one. Due to rising food and alcohol prices, we must adjust our prices. We are non-profit so we will still have the best prices in town. The price increases will take place October 14, 2024 and will be minimal.

**Debra Godwin**

**Club Manager**

**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.**





# Scholarship Poker Run



Arriving at the Legion Hall to a magnificent sunrise. What a beautiful way to start the day!





# Scholarship Poker Run





## Sparking Memories....

Story and Pictures submitted by  
Sim Sears

When I learned that September was National Service Dog Month I immediately started thinking of my Dad...he was a Devil Dog (War Dog) Handler in WWII.

While he was in Basic Training at Camp LeJeune, his troop was asked “who has a pet dog?” My Dad raised his hand (which he learned after was never a good thing) and was selected to go to train with the dogs.

During WWII, US citizens donated their dogs to the cause. His first dog was a German Shepherd with a good disposition and easily trained; but he noticed one of his mates with a Doberman that was obviously distressed and not trainable. He asked if he wanted to trade and Rocky became my Dad’s dog. Rocky was aggressive and smart and after time in the field...he became a bit shell shocked. They were sent to the 3rd Marine Div. Guam

Every time my Dad and Rocky were assigned a different troop to guard the initial reaction was getting made fun of by the soldiers. This continued until they noticed that when Dad and Rocky dug their fox-hole Dad was then able to sleep soundly while Rocky took guard. Rather quickly, the soldiers began volunteering to dig a bigger fox-hole to accommodate a few more soldiers, if Rocky would stand guard.

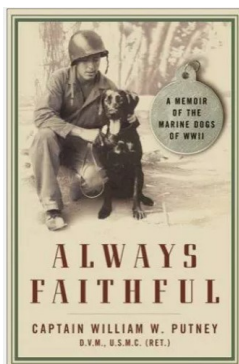
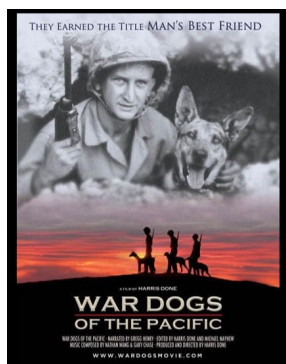
Dad and Rocky’s job was to go out ahead of the troops to check for ambushes. There were many times that Rocky alerted that there were Japanese soldiers either on attack or laying in wait.

During one all day patrol Rocky alerted. The following is his commendation for receiving the Silver Star for this incident:

“The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Private First-Class Marvin M Corff United States Marine Corps, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while serving as a War Dog Handler of Military police Company, Third Marine Div. in action against enemy Japanese forces during the assault on enemy held Guam, Marianas Islands on 2 September 1944. Noticing his war dog alert to some thick undergrowth in their pat during rest period while on all day patrol, Pvt First Class Corff unhesitatingly advanced alone to investigate the undergrowth and discovered an ambush of 5 hostile soldiers. Opening fire on them with this rifle, he killed four and drove off the other. By his aggressive fighting spirit and cool courage, Pvt First Class Corff saved the patrol from ambush and his devotion to duty was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.”

My Dad spoke of Rocky often, but rarely talked about the war. Dad always said he felt he didn’t do anything more that any other Marine would have done. He gave Rocky all the credit for keeping him alive during the battles. In fact, Rocky earned the rank of Sgt!

Because of the influence of his Lt. (Putney) and the time working with the dogs, my Dad went to UC Davis and graduated from the first Veterinarian program and spent his career in McMinnville.



A documentary movie “*War Dogs of the Pacific*” is by Harris Done and a book “*Always Faithful*” by William Putney were created about the War Dog Handlers on Guam. There is also an amazing statue dedicated to the Service dogs killed in action in Guam. Rocky survived and returned to his owner in Chicago.



# Department of Defense Warrior Games: Celebrating Resilience and the Spirit of Service

The Department of Defense Warrior Games is an inspiring annual event that showcases the strength, resilience, and determination of wounded, ill, and injured service members and veterans from all branches of the U.S. military. Founded in 2010, the Warrior Games is not just a sports competition, but a celebration of recovery, teamwork, and the warrior spirit that defines the military community.

## Origins and Purpose

The Warrior Games were established to provide an opportunity for wounded, ill, and injured service members to engage in adaptive sports as part of their rehabilitation process. The event initially began under the U.S. Department of Defense as a way to motivate and challenge service members to push past their injuries, both visible and invisible, and demonstrate the power of resilience and recovery. Over the years, it has evolved into a large-scale event that brings together athletes from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Special Operations Command, along with international military teams.

## The Power of Adaptive Sports

At the heart of the Warrior Games is adaptive sports, which are modified to suit the physical abilities of the athletes. The sports range from swimming, wheelchair basketball, and sitting volleyball to archery, track and field, and cycling. Each event is designed to accommodate a variety of physical and cognitive challenges, allowing all participants to compete at their highest level.

The goal of adaptive sports is not only physical recovery but also emotional and psychological healing. Many athletes find that participating in these events helps build confidence, strengthens bonds with fellow service members, and offers a renewed sense of purpose. Adaptive sports become a vehicle for personal growth, reminding athletes of their capabilities despite their injuries.

## Camaraderie and Competition

The Warrior Games are about much more than competition—they foster camaraderie, teamwork, and community. The athletes, many of whom have overcome tremendous adversity, share a common bond forged through their military service. Competing alongside fellow service members and veterans creates a supportive environment where participants push each other to succeed, celebrate victories, and encourage one another through challenges.

Families and caregivers also play an important role in the Warrior Games. Their support and encouragement are crucial to the athletes' recovery journeys, and the Games provide a space for families to witness the resilience and strength of their loved ones.

## The Warrior Spirit

Ultimately, the Department of Defense Warrior Games is a testament to the indomitable warrior spirit that drives service members and veterans, even in the face of injury and adversity. It is a celebration of life, recovery, and the never-quit attitude that defines those who wear the uniform.

The Warrior Games remind us all of the resilience that resides in each of us and the importance of perseverance, community, and hope in overcoming life's challenges. Through their participation, these athletes continue to serve as a powerful source of inspiration, proving that strength and courage come in many forms.

The next time you witness the Warrior Games, whether in person or through media coverage, know that you are watching true heroes who embody the heart of the U.S. military—those who continue to fight, adapt, and inspire.







# Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency— July Announcements

## World War II

Announced on September 3, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Forces Sergeant Henry H. Packard, 34, of Plymouth, New Hampshire, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for November 30, 2023.

Announced on September 5, 2024 that U.S. Army Pvt. Robert L. Skaar, 18, of La Crosse, Wisconsin, killed during World War II, was accounted for June 7, 2024. Skaar will be buried on October 1, 2024, in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Announced on September 9, 2024 that U.S. Army Private 1st Class Joseph C. MacDonald, 20, of Avenal, California, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for July 19, 2024.

Announced on September 10, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Force Staff Sgt. John A. Tarbert, 24, of Port Deposit, Maryland, killed during World War II, was accounted for May 10, 2024. Tarbert will be buried in Schuylerville, New York, on Nov. 8, 2024.

Announced on September 12, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Force Technical Sgt. Lynn M. Farnham, killed during World War II, was accounted for July 31, 2024.

Announced on September 13, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Force Pvt. Bernard J. Curran, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for August 2, 2024.

Announced September 13, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Force Tech5 William E. Eby, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for August 7, 2024.

Announced on September 13, 2024 that U.S. Army Pvt. Willard D. Merrill, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for August 19, 2024.

Announced on September 13, 2024 that U.S. Army Tech. Sgt. Charles E. Young Jr., 32, of Los Angeles, California, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Apr. 17, 2024. Young will be buried in Riverside, California, on Oct. 28, 2024.

Accounted for on September 13, 2024 that U.S. Army Corporal Raymond N. DeCloss, 24, of Salinas, California, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Apr. 29, 2024.

Announced on September 16, 2024 that Navy Fireman 1st Class Edward D. Johnson, 24, of Hurdsfield, North Dakota, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Sept. 29, 2020. Johnson will be buried on Oct. 25, 2024, in the Punchbowl.

## World War II

Announced on September 16, 2024 that Navy Chief Carpenter's Mate Tedd M. Furr, 39, of Selma, Alabama, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Nov. 5, 2020. Furr will be buried on April 2, 2025, in the Punchbowl.

Announced on September 17, 2024 that U.S. Army Tech Sgt. Thomas O. Moss, killed during World War II, was accounted for August 6, 2024.

Announced on September 17, 2024 U.S. Navy Chief Electrician's Mate (CEM) John J. Campbell, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for August 9, 2024.

Announced on September 17, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Force 1st Lt. Wylie W. Leverett, killed during World War II, was accounted for August 21, 2024.

Announced on September 19, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Force Pvt. 1st Class David C. Hansen, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for August 23, 2024.

Announced on September 19, 2024 that U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. John E. Edwinson Jr., killed during World War II, was accounted for September 11, 2024.

Announced on September 23, 2024 that U.S. Army Pvt. 1st Class Charles R. Reiser, 20, of Washburn, North Dakota, killed during World War II, was accounted for June 25, 2024.

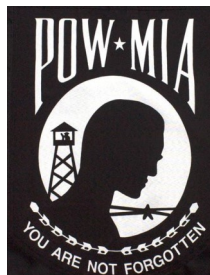
Announced on September 23, 2024 that U.S. Army Cpl. Malcolm S. Webb, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for September 11, 2024.

Announced on September 23, 2024 that U.S. Army Sgt. Norman H. Drewes, killed during World War II, was accounted for September 13, 2024.

Announced on September 24, 2024 that U.S. Army Pvt. 1st Class Robert L. Bryant, missing in action during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 18, 2024.

Announced on September 24, 2024 that U.S. Navy Pharmacist's Mate Third Class (PhM3c) Gilmore V. Rix, killed during World War II, was accounted for on June 18, 2024.

Announced on September 24, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Loring E. Lord, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 18, 2024.





# Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency— July Announcements

## World War II

Announced on September 24, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Donald W. Sheppick, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Sept. 20, 2024.

Announced on September 24, 2024 that U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Eugene J. Darrigan, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Sept. 20, 2024.

Announced on September 25, 2024 that U.S. Army Sgt. Howard L. Hasselkus, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 23, 2024.

## Vietnam

Announced on September 24, 2024 that U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Ronald W. Forrester, 25, of Odessa, Texas, killed during Vietnam was accounted for Dec. 4, 2023. Forrester will be buried on Oct. 7, 2024, in Arlington National Cemetery.

## The Punchbowl: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, commonly known as the Punchbowl, is one of the most revered and beautiful military cemeteries in the United States. Located in Honolulu, Hawaii, within the extinct volcanic crater of Puowaina, the Punchbowl is the final resting place for over 50,000 service members who served their country in various conflicts, including World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Since its dedication in 1949, it has stood as a solemn place of reflection, paying tribute to the sacrifices of those who have defended the nation.

The cemetery's unique location, nestled in the heart of a volcanic crater, offers stunning panoramic views of Honolulu and Waikiki, while also providing a tranquil space for visitors to honor the fallen. Among its notable features are the Court of Honor and the Memorial Walkway, which display mosaics and plaques commemorating significant battles fought in the Pacific theater during World War II. The Punchbowl serves as both a place of remembrance and education, allowing visitors to reflect on the bravery of the individuals who gave their lives in service to the United States while providing a lasting tribute to their memory.

## Korean

Announced on September 5, 2024 that U.S. Army Private 1st Class Robert J. Wright Jr, 20, of Hollybrook, Virginia, who died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War, was accounted for Apr. 28, 2023.

Announced on September 10, 2024 that Army Private 1st Class Charles A. Vorel Jr., 19, of Omaha, Nebraska, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for April 22, 2024. Vorel will be buried in Omaha, Nebraska, on Oct. 18, 2024.

Announced on September 10, 2024 that U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Israel Ramos, 18, of Calverton, New York, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for May 2, 2024. Ramos will be buried in Calverton, New York, on Oct. 11, 2024.

Announced on September 10, 2024 that Army Sgt. Charles E. Beaty, 26, of Lake City, Arkansas, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Apr. 5, 2024.

Announced on September 12, 2024 that U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Walter A. Ross Jr., killed during the Korean War, was accounted for June 7, 2024.

Announced on September 16, 2024 that U.S. Army Corporal Billie C. Driver, 18, of Dallas, Texas, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for September 9, 2024.

Announced on September 16, 2024 that U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Raymond E. Hall, 40, of Mt Ash, Kentucky, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for May 10, 2024. Hall will be buried in Calverton, New York, on Oct. 21, 2024.

Announced on September 19, 2024 that U.S. Army Pvt. 1st Class Jack M. Cash, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for August 26, 2024.

Announced on September 19, 2024 that U.S. Army Pvt. 1st Class William A. Wheeler, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for August 27, 2024.

Announced on September 23, 2024 that U.S. Army Cpl. Eriverto Ortiz, 27, of Batesville, Texas, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for August 10, 2023. Ortiz will be buried in Elgin, Illinois, on Oct. 28, 2024.





# LEGION AFTER DARK



Don't miss  
out on  
October's  
After Dark  
Event  
SCARY-OKE





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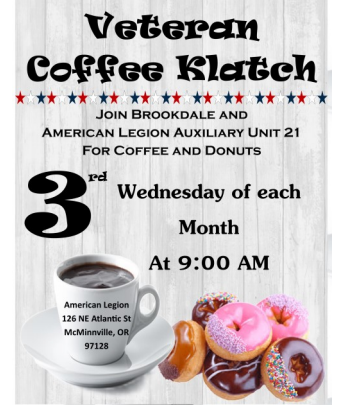
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# Legion Volunteers Needed and Classifieds

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Does your event need volunteers? Just send an email to the newsletter at:  
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Please include: Event, date, time, and PIC and we will post it in the next months newsletter.

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.



# October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm  Son's Mtg 6:30pm	3	4 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Legion KP 5:00pm	5 Cancer Bingo 1:00pm  Oktoberfest Dinner 5p-7p
6 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	7	8	9 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm	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 Coffee Klatch 9:00a  YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm  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 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm  Legion Riders Mtg 7:00pm	24	25 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Riders KP 5:00pm	26 After Dark 9p-1a` Scary-Oke with Angie
27 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	28	29	30 YCAP Food Truck 2:00pm-3:00pm	31		

Daniel Abbe, Mike Balcombe, Geri Boyce, William Bracken, Thomas Butler, Chad Cape,  
 David Chambers, Thomas Clayton, Kristine Coghill, Steven Draper, Gary Farmer, Byron Garoutte, Mike Gunn, Anthony Harrell, Eugene Henderson, Mark Houston, Forrest Jacks, Stephen Kindel, Willy Koch, Paul Krutsch, Galen McBee, Joseph Miller, James Momyer, James Moore, Paul Moore, Mike Morris, Mike Paull, John Paulus, Russell Port, John Richards, Florian Raqueno, Stephen Sagmiller, Jeff Schorman, Robert Schuetz, Carolyn Scott, Dale Service, Gracie Smith, Georgia White, Saronlee Wilde, Dewain Winters, Roy Whitman, Earl Wood.

