

# THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 21

JANUARY 2020

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## **BATTLE OF THE BRANCHES** Planning Meeting 1/15/20 @ 5:00pm.

**Second Vice:** There will be a planning meeting on January 15 at 5:00. If you are planning to participate in the 2020 Battle of the Branches Breakfast event, please attend the meeting.



**Legion Riders:** American Legion Riders - Post 21 is a group of Men and Women dedicated to not only Post 21 but to the American Legion, Country, Duty, Family, Service and God.

We come from all the Families that form our Post. They serve on other Family Committees within our Post and also hold positions at the State level. I personally would like to thank every one of them for their time and dedication. It not easy making every meeting, especially this time of year when family and friends are visiting during the holidays.

I hope that 2020 is as successful as 2019 was. The Riders meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month @ 1900 hours. We have many activities we support and will be discussing and planning functions for the upcoming new year. The riders are an active bunch who support many things throughout the West Valley and McMinnville area.

We thank the Post for their support and look forward to a Great New Year.

Jerry George, ALR Director Post 21

**Attention All Legion Riders!**

Don't forget dues for 2020 need to be in by next Tuesday! Next meeting is January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm.

**Auxiliary:** We made it through a busy month getting ready to hand out the Christmas Basket's. We ended helping 53 family's and 128 children. Our biggest year yet!! We need to send a big thank you to all the members that donated. Angel Mendoza for bringing 50 Turkey breasts and trimmings! Kirk Hutchenson and Perrydale School District for all the fresh veggies!! We are learning as we go and working to make the program better. Thank you, Becky Berweger, Tracy Wittrock, Mike Gregory, and Cheryl Pankey, for sticking by my side from start to finish!!

If you have not paid your dues, please get them in. We will be planning for the new year so more info will be coming!!! Your Auxiliary want to wish you all a very Happy New Year!!!



**Adjutant:** Thank you everyone who has paid their dues. We have met the goal of 80% renewals set by Department for December! We only need 74 more members to renew and we will be at 100%. Please, if you haven't paid your dues send them in or drop them off.

**Join us for a Super Bowl Potluck.**  
**Bring your favorite dish to share.**

**Saturday - February 2, 2020**



**Come down enjoy the game**  
**and watch it with friends!**





Following is a summary of News Stories of the most recent identified POW/MIA members from World War II, Korean War and Vietnam.

## World War II

**Edward A. Nalazek** – USMC Pfc. – Lost November 21, 1943 – Tarawa. Accounted for November 21, 2019.

**Alfred Edwards** – USMC Pfc. – Lost November 20, 1943 – Tarawa. Accounted for November 21, 2019.

**George M. Johnson** – USA-AF 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. – Lost October 20, 1944 – Tarawa. Accounted for December 16, 2019.

**Leo T. Keninger** – USN Fireman 1<sup>st</sup> Class – Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for December 5, 2019.

**John V. Phillips** – USA Sgt. – Lost August 27, 1942 – Philippines. Accounted for December 16, 2019

**Orval A. Tranberger** – USN Seaman 1<sup>st</sup> Class – Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for December 5, 2019.

**Lowell Twedt** – USA-AF 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. – Lost Bolzano, Italy October 20, 1944. Accounted for December 13, 2019.



### The first of 27 Tuskegee Airmen listed as MIA has been identified.

A crash site in recently discovered in Austria contained the remains of Captain Lawrence Dickson, a 24-year-old pilot who trained at the Tuskegee Army Airfield.

Qualifying as a pilot, Dickson flew with the 332<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Group, known as the “Red Tails” for the color of their aircrafts’ tails. Two days before Christmas 1944, Dickson took off from his base in Italy, in a P-51D mustang headed for Nazi-occupied Prague. He experienced engine trouble and subsequently crashed.

More than 70 years later the government contacted his family with possible news about his remains. The crash site was a few miles away from where his plane was last seen in Italy and the plane debris was consistent with a P-51, the plane he was flying in 1944.



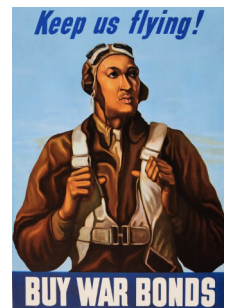
The details of Dickson’s service are illustrative of the bravery and perseverance Tuskegee Airmen displayed while fighting a war for a country that actively devalued them. Despite the fact that the Army Air Forces discriminated against Dickson and his black colleagues, he faithfully served his country in the 100<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron and earned a Distinguished Flying Cross and a Purple Heart for his service.

## Who were the Tuskegee Airmen?

The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African American military aviators in the United States Armed Forces and helped pave the way for the military’s desegregation after World War II. Before the Tuskegee Airmen, no African American had been a U.S. Military pilot. The budding flight program of the Tuskegee Airmen received a boost when First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt inspected the program in March 1941 and flew with African American chief civilian instructor C. Alfred “Chief” Anderson who had been flying since 1929 and was responsible for training thousands of rookie pilots. Anderson took his prestigious passenger on a half-hour flight in a Piper J-3 Cub. After landing Mrs. Roosevelt cheerfully announced, “Well, you can fly all right!”

The subsequent brouhaha over the First Lady’s flight had such an impact it is often mistakenly cited as the start of the Civilian Pilot Training Program at Tuskegee, even though the program had been going for nearly 5 months. Eleanor Roosevelt was a Trustee of the Rosenwald and helped secure the financing needed for construction of Moton Field in Tuskegee, Alabama.

The Tuskegee Airmen overcame segregation and prejudice to become one of the most highly respected fighter groups of World War II. The Tuskegee Airmen’s achievements, together with the men and women who supported them, paved the way for full integration of the United States Military.



The Department of Defense, POW/MIA Accounting Agency have identified the remains of U.S. Army Air Forces Captain Lawrence E. Dickson, pictured (second right) in 1942 with members of the graduating class at Tuskegee Army Flying School.

# January 2020

Happy New Year

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
			<b>1</b> Rose Bowl Potluck	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	<b>4</b> Cancer Bingo 1:00 PM
<b>5</b> Bingo 1:00 PM	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> SON's 6:30 PM	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Bingo 1:00 PM	<b>13</b> Finance Committee 5:00 PM Executive Committee 6:30 PM	<b>14</b> AMVETS 6:30 PM	<b>15</b> Activities Committee 5:00 PM General Membership 6:30 PM	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Bingo Potluck 1:00 PM	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Auxiliary 6:00 PM	<b>22</b> Legion Rider Meeting 7:00 PM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Bingo 1:00 PM	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Prime Rib Dinner Special 6:00 PM	



Roger Aaron, Dave Adams, Victor Banke, Becky Berweger, William Bitters, Rufus "Butch" Clason, Jeanne Clayton, Robert Dekar, James Densmore, William Ellis, Gerald Evers, Steve Farley (Jr.), Jack Gamble, Larry Gannaway, Clair Hutton, Dan Jones, Keith Kirkman, Stan Kosmiki, Steven Krossman, Richard Lund, James McCormick, Don McInnis, John Mohamed, Dennis Parr, Rex Phillips, Craig Pubols, Richard Riegel, Jason Ryan, Brian Sauer, Richard Skeffington, Sterling Smith, John Stensland, Garner Stephens, Dennis Strutz, Keith Urban, Jim Vanscoyk, Kenneth Weldon, Gary Wirfs, Mickey Wood, Bob Zeek.

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## Calling all cooks

# CHILI COOKOFF

Annual Chili Cookoff  
February 15<sup>th</sup>

Bring your favorite recipe. **HOT** or **MILD**. **RED**, **WHITE** or **Green**. The judges are being rounded up to pick their favorite. Be sure to sign up early.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### January - 2020

- 1 – Rose Bowl Potluck
- 7 – Sons Meeting
- 14 – AMVETs Meeting
- 15 – Battle of Branches Planning meeting.
- 15 – General Membership Meeting
- 21 – Auxiliary Meeting
- 22 – Legion Riders

#### February

- 2 – Superbowl Potluck
- 15 – Chili Cook-Off.



VS



Join us for the Rose Bowl game

**New Year's Day**

**January 1, 2020**



Party starts at 1:00 p.m.

**It's a potluck!**

**Bring your favorite dish to share!**



*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[Vetsclub21.org](http://Vetsclub21.org)