

126 Atlantic Street
McMinnville, OR 97128
503-435-2218 vetsclub.org
vetsclub21@gmail.com

Commander: Members, we are again going through a painful partial shutdown with to-go food only. Thank you all that are continuing to support us during this trying time we will need everyone's help to get through this. As we did during the last shutdown, we are doing our best to take care of our employees and volunteers and hope to be able to continue to do so.

I would like to thank our volunteers that are keeping the post open to have meals for our Veterans even if they are to-go only. As we go forward, we will continue to follow Gov. Brown's mandates and as always keep the club cleaned and sanitized to the best of our ability.

While we have been in limited operation some of our members, our volunteers and staff have been doing a full inventory of stock and cleaning and sanitizing the Post. This is a major undertaking and I want to give all involved my thanks on a job well done.

Watch Facebook and our web page for continuing updates in the days to come.

*Steve Farley
Commander Post 21*

Sons: Because of the recently implemented restrictions imposed by the by the governor the Sons will not be able to put on the Pearl Harbor Breakfast. Let's hope 2021 is a better year for everyone.

Terry Naig, SAL Commander, POST 21

Chaplain: As we come into this new month and Christmas just around the corner take the time to remember that the Lord is still alive. My prayers have been going up for all of you that God would take care of all of you. Keep up your support for the post at this time of the year. Remember that it will get better because as Vets we know how to stand strong. As the holidays come please stay safe. Post 21 is a very strong post because of all the members that are a small part of Post 21. I am always there for you at all times. Blessings go all!

Chaplain Clayton, Chaplain



Adjutant: Renewals are going great we are at 75%. Remember if your membership card looks like the one below your membership will expire on December 31, 2020.



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

Adjutant, Shirley Brown

Auxiliary: We would like to thank everyone for the ongoing donations for our Christmas Baskets. We will start the shopping and assembly of the baskets starting December 14th. We will be handing out the baskets on December 19th. If you are interested in helping with the shopping or assembly of the baskets, please contact Becky Berweger.

I want to personally thank the members and staff for all the help cleaning and sanitizing and organizing our post during the freeze. What a great difference we all made.

Stay Healthy and Safe! Merry Christmas to all!

Debra Godwin, Unit 21 President

Riders: Not really much to report since we didn't have a meeting in November, but we're looking forward to getting together again and finding the rare nice-weather windows for Fall/Winter rides. Wishing members of all our American Legion Families a warm, safe and Merry Christmas!





The most recent identified POW/MIA.

World War II

Paul L. Boemer – 21, Navy Coxswain. Lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 – USS Oklahoma. Accounted for September 29, 2020. Announced October 28, 2020.

Korean War

Army Cpl. Paul W. Wilkins – 19. Lost July 19, 1950, while fighting enemy forces near Choch'iwon, South Korea conducting a night recon patrol near Taejon, South Korea he was never found, nor were any remains recovered. Accounted for October 30, 2020. Announced November 3, 2020.

Why the Military is still identifying Sailors killed during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

For decades, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and its predecessors have worked to identify those killed in the Korean War, Vietnam War and other conflicts. Thanks to their hard work and scientific innovations — like DNA testing — investigators have started to look even further back: to the Pearl Harbor dead and others from World War II.

With each passing conflict, the Department of Defense scientists gradually fine-tuned their ability to gather information from human remains and compare genetic information from family members to DNA gathered from service members' remains, including some that have been degraded or commingled. Forensic analysis of the remains discovered something surprising: the traces of about 100 people in the single casket.

Department of Defense DNA Operations, says that DNA and other identification technologies have evolved rapidly in the past few decades as the military has pursued more identification projects, including for people who perished in the Korean War. The technique was used to help identify service members from the Korean War, whose remains were returned to the U.S. by North Korea in 55 boxes last year.

In 2010, Congress added identifying the remains of World War II dead to the accounting agencies' mission. In 2015 as part of the USS Oklahoma Project the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, through a partnership with the Department of Veteran Affairs exhumed all the coffins containing the unknown remains from the USS Oklahoma and began the lengthy identification process. . More than 200 service members from the ship have been identified just in the last four years.



Wreckage of Three WWII planes have been found

The last time anyone saw these military aircraft, U.S. forces were attacking Japanese targets in the western Pacific during World War II. "Operation Hailstone" in February 1944 was a decisive victory for the U.S. but it came at a cost to American forces.

Launched from the Aircraft carriers USS Enterprise and USS Intrepid two Dauntless dive bombers and one Avenger torpedo bomber were among the missing US. Planes. Now, 76 years later, they have been found. A recovery operation discovered pieces of the long-lost planes at the bottom of Truk Lagoon in Micronesia.

When the smoke from the two-day battle cleared approximately 30 American aircraft were also lost, along with 23 aviators and crewmen. The three planes that were recovered went undetected until 2019, even though the spot is a popular destination for divers.

The mission to find the planes was led by scientists and volunteers with *Project Recover*, a private organization of divers, aviators and historians dedicated to finding WWII service members missing in action in the South Pacific. Underwater surveys of the sea bottom in Truk Lagoon identified potential airplane debris, after deploying divers and robots equipped with high-definition cameras they found the debris fields contained the remains of the three aircraft.

Many of the big Japanese ships — oil tankers and merchant vessels measuring hundreds of feet long — that were sunk in Truk Lagoon in 1944 have since become overgrown with coral and are now popular destinations for divers to visit. The holds of some of the ships are actually filled with Japanese airplanes and trucks. They are amazing places to go scuba diving. But by comparison, airplanes that broke into fragments aren't necessarily recognizable to recreational divers, which could explain why the missing planes — or what was left of them — were overlooked for so long.

As for the crewmen who were aboard the planes, there's a high likelihood that intact remains could be found inside the wreckage, particularly in the case of the torpedo bomber, in which two crew members were pretty much locked inside the back of the airplane.

Now that the crash sites have been located, *Project Recover* will turn its data over to the U.S. Department of Defense's Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. The federal agency will then evaluate the sites for the possible recovery and identification of any remains.

Project Recover stated that "We won't know until that recovery actually happens, whether anyone is still inside the aircraft. But from our experience, I'd say that there is a very good probability that that is the case."



December 2020

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
		1 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM	2 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM SON's 6:30 PM	3 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM	4 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM Prime Rib Dinner Special 5:00 PM	5 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM
6 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM Bingo 1:00 PM	7 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM	8 Christmas Tree Sales 8:00 AM AMVETS 6:30 PM	9 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM Legion Rider Meeting - SPECIAL DATE 7:00 PM	10 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM	11 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM Prime Rib Dinner Special 5:00 PM	12 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM
13 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM	14 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM	15 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM Auxiliary 6:00 PM	16 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM General Membership - Cancelled 6:30 PM	17 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM	18 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM Prime Rib Dinner Special 5:00 PM	19 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM
20 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM	21 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM Finance Committee 5:00 PM	22 Christmas Tree Sales 11:00 AM Finance Committee 5:00 PM	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



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



OFFICERS

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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

AUXILIARY

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

Sons of the American Legion

Commander/Finance – Terry Naig
1st Vice – Steve Kindel
2nd Vice – Jim Vansoyck
Adjutant – Del White
Sgt at Arms – Brandon Lepkowski
Chaplain – Pete Jenson

The American Legion Riders

Director – Paul Schnell
Asst. Director – Gale Sears
Secretary – Leanne Schnell
Treasurer – Mike Paul
Sgt at Arms – Jack Bailey
Historian – Jim Connelly
Chaplain – Rod Moore

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

Vetsclub21.org

The American Legion Annual Christmas Tree Sale



Starting
Saturday, November 28th
until we are sold out
Daily 11:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Douglas Fir

5' – 6' Douglas Fir	\$25.00
6' – 7" Douglas Fir	\$30.00

Grand Noble

6' – 7' Grand Noble	\$45.00
7' – 8' Grand Noble	\$55.00

Let's get all the families involved! We need everyone's help to make this fundraiser successful.

If you have time please consider helping to sell Christmas Trees! Even if you can only come down for an hour, it still helps! This is probably our biggest fundraiser of the year, especially for 2020!



Remember Pearl Harbor