

AMERICAN LEGION

FEBRUARY 2025

McMinnville Post 21

126 NE Atlantic Street
McMinnville, Oregon 97128
503-435-2218
www.vetsclub.org
vetsclub21@gmail.com
post21newsletter@gmail.com

Commander:

Greetings to one and all. Thank you, Lord, for keeping us all safe from harm. Currently, we are at the halfway point of 2024 – 2025. I would like to talk about membership, which is VITAL to our organization and others as well. We all have many reasons for becoming a member of the American Legion. No matter what the reason is for you joining our Post, thank you. Without you we wouldn't exist.

We have 447 members currently in our Post. There are 24 new members, 50 paid up for life (PUFL), 224 who have renewed and 1 transfer, which totals 299. That leaves us with 148 that currently need to renew their membership for 2025. If you or someone you know are struggling with paying the dues or for some reason don't want to be a part of our Post anymore, please let me know. I care and would like to hear from you.

As you can tell by reading this newsletter, we have a lot of things going on that you can be a part of. We love seeing new families come in and enjoy a meal together or celebrate a special event. Please continue to let people know that we are here and are a part of the community.

May God continue to bless you and keep you safe.

Juan Palacios
Post Commander
Semper Fi

Adjutant's Desk:

Welcome to the new year 2025!

Just a few notes on what we have been doing on our communication and media. Our Post 21 Facebook is being utilized to let our community know what events and other activities are taking place. The Post 21 website is also undergoing a facelift. We are in process of moving our information to a new domain in order to make the website more user friendly and more visually stimulating. We hope to have it up and running in the next month or two and are archiving everything we can from the old website in preparation for the opening of the new site.

Special thanks to Jennie Ludwig and Rachel Bailey for their work on the website project. We will see the fruit of their labor soon!

We will also be working on a volunteer of the quarter awards for our Post. We will be sending out questionnaires to the family members for their recommendations for our March Newsletter edition.

If you have any questions or want anything placed in the newsletter or other Post 21 media please submit your requests to:

post21newsletter@gmail.com Thank you!
Russ Ludwig
Post 21 Adjutant

Bryan Garouze a 98-year-old WW II Navy Veteran was presented with a Quilt of Valor in Newberg.

Tuesday, January 21, Bob (Doc) Wilson, Mike Paul and me Bob



Berweger attended the Quilts of Valor presentation.

Pictured left to right, Sharon Brenier and Rosi Nyberg with Quilts of Valor and the guest of honor Bryan Garouze.

From your Finance Officer:

Happy New Year! I am wearing a few hats in this message. First, the finance report. We now have a budget. I will have it attached to this newsletter so that anyone interested can see it. If you have questions, please reach out to me. The commander presented it at the general membership meeting, I explained it in detail and the members approved it.

We are now preparing everything we need to get to our accountant for the 2024 taxes. We will be working with the Son's and the Riders to gather their information to include in our taxes since they use our federal tax ID number. We said sad goodbye to Stacey Johnson, one of our office managers/bookkeepers. Stacey was headhunted from us and will be greatly missed, but a wonderful opportunity for her. However, we want to take this time to welcome our newest office manager/bookkeeper, Rich V started work with us on January 18. He has many years' experience working/creating computer systems, bookkeeping, office management and loves spreadsheets. We are looking forward to a great year.

Hat #2: I have volunteered to be committee chair for our nomination/election committee. Leroy Brown, 1st Vice, has volunteered to be my co-chair. There are many ways to help serve in our post. One of the many important ways is to become a member of the Executive board. This board leads the Post. Becoming a part of this board needs dedicated members who are willing to spend time helping to make decisions that can have a long-term impact to our Post. Read the duties of each position within the board in our by-laws. If you don't have a copy of the by-laws and they are not on-line on our website, please contact me through Vetsclub21@gmail.com email and I will send you copies of the position descriptions as described in the by-laws. Nominations will begin at the March general membership meeting, again in April with the voting to commence immediately after the nominations in April.

An individual can be nominated by someone else or let it be known to the committee chair or co-chair they wish to have their name put forward. At some point before elections, you must be present to accept the nomination or present in writing your acceptance of the nomination for whatever position you wish to be considered for. They are all important! To be eligible to participate, you must be a current member of the American Legion, Post 21. Elections and the posting of new officers will be held in April. To attend the April general membership meeting, you must have your 2025-member card. It will be a closed meeting. If you do not have your card, you will not be allowed in that meeting.

Hat #3: Person In Charge (PIC) for Army Battle of the Branches breakfast. The battles begin March 2. As the 2023 and 2024 battle winners, Army will go first. Breakfast hours 8-11, \$10 person, WW2 and Korean war veterans eat free, as do children age 5 and under. We will need volunteers to help prep on Saturday, March 1, time to be determined. We will also need help cooking, cleaning and serving food to those who come to eat. Let me know if you can spare the time to come out and help us become the 2025 battle winners. Go Army!

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.

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.

BUDGET

LAST YEAR 2024

CURRENT YEAR 2025

INCOME

POST 21

Christmas Trees	(\$ 5,780.86)	(\$ 10,366.00)
Veterans Support	(\$ 4,894.23)	(\$ 25,000.00)
Travelling Wall	(\$ 4,850.00)	(\$ 7,000.00)
General Donations	(\$ 8,416.00)	(\$ 10,000.00)
Restricted	(\$ 11,266.71)	(\$ 2,537.00)
CC fees and Licenses		
Business Expense		(\$ 17,000.00)
Activities & Events - non-restaurant	(\$ 1,308.00)	(\$ 5,000.00)
Merchandise Income	(\$ 60.00)	
Post Membership	(\$ 12,300.00)	(\$ 13,500.00)
Son's %5 Funds For Maintenance	(\$ 250.00)	
Riders 5% for Maintenance	(\$ 495.00)	
Post 5% for Maintenance	(\$ 13,641.55)	(\$ 7,275.00)
Bingo Income ILO Aux 5% for Maintenance	(\$ 15,718.00)	(\$ 16,000.00)
Cancer Bingo Income	2,209.00)	2,000.00)
Room Rental Income	2,200.00)	2,200.00)
	83,389.35)	117,878.00)

RESTAURANT

ATM Income Activities & Events	(\$ 1,486.00) (\$ -)	(\$ 1,486.00)
- Restaurant Sale of Goods	(\$ 346,043.10)	(\$ 9,500.00)
Food & Beverage Sale of Goods	121,632.92)	385,000.00)
Liquor Sale of Goods Beer & Wine Facility Maintenance	53,197.64)	140,000.00)
Account Lottery for Capital		65,000.00)
Projects		35,000.00)
	(\$ 522,359.66)	(\$ 660,986.00)

RV PARK & DRY STORAGE

Rent - Dry Storage	(\$ 4,200.00)	(\$ 4,800.00)
Rent - RV Park	58,000.00)	63,800.00)
RV Park Laundry	780.00)	950.00)
		(\$ 69,550.00)

EXPENSES

POST 21

Business Expense	(\$ (\$ 2,386.00)	(\$ 17,000.00)
Post - Office Expense	(\$ 8,680.00)	(\$ 9,000.00)
Utilities Total (not including RV)	(\$ 513,342.00)	(\$ 35,441.00)
Maintenance - Non-Restaurant	10,000.00)	(\$ -)
Tax Preparation	15,000.00)	10,000.00)
Insurance	850.00)	20,000.00)
X-mas Bonus		1,000.00)

Incl: License and CC

Fees

EXPENSES

POST 21

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Utilities Total (not including RV)	(\$ 513,342.00)	(\$ 35,441.00)
Maintenance - Non-Restaurant	10,000.00)	(\$ -)
Tax Preparation	15,000.00)	10,000.00)
Insurance	850.00)	20,000.00)
X-mas Bonus		1,000.00)

* move cc fees and licenses to Post = \$17000

Committed from
(\$ 247,428.00) bank accounts

The History of the United Service Organizations (USO): Supporting America's Troops

The United Service Organizations (USO) has played a vital role in boosting the morale and welfare of American military personnel since its founding in 1941. Born out of a pressing need to support soldiers during wartime, the USO has evolved into a symbol of hope, entertainment, and connection for service members and their families. Its history is deeply intertwined with the United States' military engagements and reflects the enduring spirit of American support for its armed forces.

In February 1941, as the United States prepared for the possibility of entering World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt recognized the need for an organization that could support the growing number of military personnel. To address this, six civilian agencies—the YMCA, the YWCA, the National Jewish Welfare Board, the National Catholic Community Service, the Salvation Army, and the Travelers Aid Association—came together to form the USO. The goal was simple yet profound: to provide a “home away from home” for soldiers and offer them recreational, social, and emotional support.

During World War II, the USO established itself as a cornerstone of morale-building for troops. More than 3,000 USO clubs sprang up across the United States and abroad, offering soldiers a place to relax, write letters home, or enjoy recreational activities. However, it was the USO Camp Shows that truly captured the hearts of service members. These live performances featured some of the era's most beloved entertainers, including Bob Hope, who became an enduring figure in USO history. His performances for troops on the frontlines brought laughter and a sense of normalcy to soldiers in the midst of war.

After World War II, the USO scaled back its operations but remained committed to serving the military. When the Korean War erupted in 1950, the USO quickly resumed its mission. Entertainers continued to visit troops, while USO centers provided critical support to service members stationed abroad. This period also marked the beginning of the USO's expansion into offering services to military families, recognizing the unique challenges faced by those supporting loved ones in uniform.

The Vietnam War presented a unique set of challenges for the USO. Public sentiment about the war was deeply divided, but the USO remained steadfast in its mission to support troops. Once again, entertainers played a vital role in boosting morale. Bob Hope's annual Christmas tours became iconic, bringing joy to soldiers stationed in remote and dangerous locations. USO centers and clubs were established in Vietnam, providing soldiers with much-needed respite from the stresses of combat.

The USO's commitment to supporting the military continued through the Gulf War in 1990-1991. The organization adapted to meet the needs of a modern military, providing entertainment, care packages, and support to service members deployed in the Middle East. During this time, the USO also began focusing more on assisting military families, offering programs and services designed to strengthen their resilience.

In the wake of the September 11, 2001, attacks and the subsequent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the USO once again became a vital source of support for American troops. The organization expanded its efforts to include digital resources and mental health programs, ensuring that service members had access to critical support no matter where they were stationed. USO tours continued, featuring high-profile entertainers who volunteered to perform for troops in war zones and remote outposts.

Today, the USO operates over 200 locations worldwide, offering services ranging from care package delivery to transition assistance programs for service members returning to civilian life. The organization also hosts events for military families, ensuring they feel connected and supported during times of separation and deployment. The USO's enduring mission remains as relevant as ever: to strengthen the bonds between the American public and its military by providing service members with the resources, care, and appreciation they deserve.

For more than 80 years, the USO has stood as a testament to the unwavering support of the American people for their military. From its origins in World War II to its modern-day operations, the USO has continually adapted to meet the needs of troops and their families. Its legacy is one of resilience, compassion, and a steadfast commitment to ensuring that no service member ever feels far from home.

Volunteers Needed



We are currently looking for individuals who want to help the USO keep service members connected to family, home, and county while they serve our nation.

Join our Team!

- Opportunities at Sea-Tac, JBLM, Portland, and annual events
- Flexible Schedule: Days, nights, and weekends available
- At Sea-Tac, parking is complimentary while volunteering
- Service Members can earn the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

What do Volunteers do?

- Boost morale of military guests with a friendly smile and top notch customer service
- Help keep our complimentary military lounges open for service members
- Distribute snacks, meals and comfort items at USO centers and special events



Register Here!



or visit volunteers.uso.org

For more information about USO Northwest, visit northwest.uso.org

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





UNIT 21

American Legion Auxiliary

Scholarship Pendleton Blanket Raffle

\$ 5 per ticket-only 300 tickets sold

Large Pendleton Beaver State Blanket



Drawing will be held on June 13, 2025

Contact: unit21auxiliary@yahoo.com or any American Legion Bar for tickets



Quilts of Valor Foundation

Catherine Roberts' Dream

Quilts of Valor Foundation began in 2003 with a dream, literally a dream. Founder Catherine Roberts' son Nat was deployed in Iraq. According to Catherine:

The dream was as vivid as real life. I saw a young man sitting on the side of his bed in the middle of the night, hunched over. The permeating feeling was one of utter despair. I could see his war demons clustered around, dragging him down into an emotional gutter. Then, as if viewing a movie, I saw him in the next scene wrapped in a quilt. His whole demeanor changed from one of despair to one of hope and well-being. The quilt had made this dramatic change. The message of my dream was: Quilts = Healing. The model appeared simple: have a volunteer team who would donate their time and materials to make a quilt. One person would piece the top and the other would quilt it. I saw the name for this special quilt: it was Quilt of Valor, a QOV.

From the beginning, Catherine Roberts had definite ideas about standards of excellence for Quilts of Valor:

I knew a Quilt of Valor had to be a quality-made quilt, not a "charity quilt." A Quilt of Valor had to be quilted, not tied, which meant hand or machine quilting. It would be "awarded," not just passed out like magazines or videos, and would say unequivocally, "Thank you for your service, sacrifice and valor in serving our nation."

To learn more about nominations or volunteering you can go to: [https://](https://www.qovf.org)

www.qovf.org

Those comforted as of
December 31, 2024:
Last Month – 2,569
Year to Date – 38,029
Lifetime Total – 401,361

On February 6, 2025 at 11:00am during the Band of Brothers meeting two local Veterans will be honored with Quilts of Valor. The meeting will take place at Evergreen Aviation Museum.

Thank you for your service and dedication

Charlie Bauer

And

Bill Boyce

Vet Tix (Veteran's Ticket Foundation)



Vet Tix, short for Veterans Tickets Foundation, is a nonprofit organization in the United States that provides free or discounted tickets to various events for veterans, active-duty service members, and their families. These events include concerts, sports games, theater performances, family activities, and more.

The mission of Vet Tix is to strengthen communities by giving back to those who have served or are currently serving in the military. The organization also includes first responders under its "1st Tix" program. Tickets are often donated by event organizers, venues, and individual supporters.

Vet Tix is designed to show appreciation for service members and provide them with opportunities to bond with their families, reduce stress, and enjoy enriching cultural or recreational experiences. Members can request tickets through the Vet Tix website by verifying their service status. The platform operates on a small delivery fee for processing tickets.

For more details, you can visit their official website: www.vettix.org.

In exploring the website myself, I found some incredible deals including discounts on airfare and hotels. Looking to go to a Trailblazers or Oregon Ducks basketball game? You can get up to 4 tickets for just \$16.97—just covering the digital delivery charge. They have deals for sporting events, comedy shows and concerts in cities all over the United States.

Traveling? Be sure to check out Vet Tix Member Deals to get discounts on all things extra vel—including amusement parks, aquariums and ski resorts!

Going to a movie costs quite a bit these days, but Vet Tix can get you discounts on those as well—including the concession stands.

Ever hear of the Go City Passes—the one-price-pass to see all the top attractions in some cities—yeah Vet Tix can get you a great deal on those as well—up to 55% on certain cities.

Before making your plans be sure to check out all Vet Tix has to offer. It's simple to sign up, took about 5 minutes to access a world of deals specifically for veterans.



The annual Battle of the Branches Fundraisers are coming!

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!

First up is last years winner - ARMY - See you on March 2nd!



2023 and 2024 Battle Winners

U.S. ARMY

American Legion Post #21

Join your Army Battle Buddies 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

U.S. ARMY Scrambled Eggs, Spam, Sausage Links, French Toast, Country Fried Potatoes, Stuff on a shingle; Biscuits, Fruit Salad, Juices and coffee

Sunday, March 2, 2025
0800-1100
 126 Atlantic St. McMinnville

Veterans Serving Veterans



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
 126 Atlantic Ave. McMinnville

Veterans Serving Veterans

Chaplain's Corner:

Well here we are at the start of a new year. I hope that all has been well with all of you. As we come into this new year there are many things going on at the Post. Our post has been doing many great things and it's. Getting bigger and better. I think that we have one of the best post around and we keep standing up with the help that we do for the vets that need our help.

One thing that needs to be noted that we we be helping with is that the "Yamhill Veterans Health and Wellness Event" called as stand down to help Vets in need. The event will be held on May 14th, 2024 at Chemeketa Yamhill Campus Rooms 101-103 from 10am to 2pm. More information to come. We would like to have as many members that would like to help please let me know. This is going to be a great time to help other men and women vets. Vets stand together. As we close out please keep the following in your prayers: Terry Ward - Jim Connelly - Larry Brown & wife. If there are anymore please let me know.

May God keep you all safe,
Chaplain Thomas Clayton
armynavy6782@gmail.com
503-550-8044
Many God Bless.



Looking back to members that have pasted away - may we never forget.

Members who pasted in 2021-

Warren Collins = 1944 to 2021

Jim Smith = 1945 to 2021

Roberta Lee [Bobbie] Van Scott = Aux Member - 1963 to 2021

Spec. Donna Anderson - family member - unknown date

Jim Earl = Vet - Jan. 1949 to 2021

Brad Hodges - 1964 to 2021

Ted Steber - 1933 to 2021

Garner Stephens - 1933 to 2021

Donna Anderson - 1963 to 2021

Linda Ward - 1950 to 2021 = Aux. member

Ron Brown Vet member pasted in Jan. 1949 to 2021

Members who pasted in 2022 -

Ryan Andrew - 1987 to 2022 = SAL member pasted Jan.

Donna Raye Reed = 1959 to Feb. 7, 2022

Marvin Leroy Worden - Sept. 3, 1927 to April 13, 2022

Joseph Bloodgood - May 1, 2022

Virgil Lucht - June 14, 2022

Randy Webb - March 23, 1959 to June 22, 2022

Stevie Brown - April 25, 1951 to July 31, 2022 [age 71]

Donald Sieler - Pasted on Sept. 16, 2022

Rayment M. Mader - Pasted on Sept. 16, 2022

Members that pasted in 2024-

Robert P. McMillan - Sept. 29, 2024 = Air Force

John Ambrose - Dec. date unknown = Air Force

Steve Hatfield - Dec. 26, 2024 = US Army

Jim Baker - US Army

Frank Heyl - 1923 to 2024 US Army Air Corps [age 101]

How to place a classified:

Does your event need volunteers? Just send an email to the newsletter at:

Post21newsletter@gmail.com

Please include: Event, date, time, and PIC and we will post it in the next months newsletter.

Atta Boy/Atta Girl:

The ladies that host the American Legion Bingo's do an amazing job. Every week they work to host our Bingo events. Be sure to join them on Sunday's at 1:00pm for regular Bingo and the 1st Saturday of every month for Cancer Bingo where the proceeds go to the Willamette Cancer Center.

Thank you ladies for all you do for your American Legion Post, you local veterans and of course, the local cancer patients.



Honoring Unity and Sacrifice: Four Chaplains Day

Each year on February 3rd, Americans across the nation pause to remember a remarkable story of heroism, selflessness, and unity. Known as Four Chaplains Day, this observance commemorates the incredible actions of four U.S. Army chaplains who gave their lives to save others during the sinking of the USAT Dorchester in World War II.

On February 3, 1943, the USAT Dorchester, a troop transport ship, was en route to Greenland with over 900 soldiers and civilians aboard. In the early hours of the morning, the ship was struck by a torpedo from a German U-boat. Chaos erupted as the Dorchester began to sink rapidly in the icy North Atlantic.

Amid the panic, four Army chaplains—Lt. George L. Fox (Methodist), Lt. Alexander D. Goode (Jewish), Lt. John P. Washington (Catholic), and Lt. Clark V. Poling (Reformed Church in America)—calmly and courageously guided passengers to safety. They distributed life jackets and offered prayers, words of comfort, and hope to those in need. When the supply of life jackets ran out, the chaplains removed their own and gave them to others.

Witnesses recalled the chaplains standing together on the deck as the ship sank, arms linked, praying and singing hymns. Their extraordinary sacrifice became a symbol of unity and faith transcending individual beliefs. Four Chaplains Day is not only a time to honor these brave men but also a reminder of the values they exemplified: courage, selflessness, and interfaith cooperation. The chaplains came from different religious backgrounds, yet their actions underscored a shared humanity and a commitment to serving others.

Their legacy has been preserved through the efforts of organizations such as the Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation, which promotes unity and service. The story of the Four Chaplains continues to inspire military personnel, religious leaders, and civilians alike.

How to Observe Four Chaplains Day

- **Attend a Memorial Service:** Many communities and religious organizations hold special services or events to honor the Four Chaplains.
- **Learn and Share Their Story:** Educate others about this inspiring act of heroism. Schools, places of worship, and local veterans' organizations often host discussions or presentations.
- **Volunteer or Donate:** In the spirit of service, consider volunteering your time or donating to causes that support veterans, interfaith dialogue, or humanitarian efforts.
- **Reflect on Unity:** Take a moment to reflect on the importance of coming together despite differences, especially during challenging times.

A Timeless Legacy

The story of the Four Chaplains reminds us that true heroism knows no boundaries of faith, culture, or background. Their sacrifice is a beacon of hope and a call to live lives marked by compassion, courage, and unity. As we observe Four Chaplains Day, let us honor their memory by striving to embody the values they so powerfully demonstrated.





Thank you to Lovin' Harmony and the AcΘviΘes CommiZee for a fantasΘc night of Karaoke! We can't wait for the next event - which has a LIVE BAND—Double DT is coming us with Classic Rock.



The Tet Offensive: A Turning Point in the Vietnam War

The Tet Offensive, launched on January 30, 1968, during the Vietnamese lunar new year known as Tet, remains one of the most significant and consequential events of the Vietnam War. It was a coordinated series of fierce attacks by North Vietnamese forces and the Viet Cong against more than 100 cities, towns, and military bases throughout South Vietnam. The offensive shocked the United States and dramatically altered public perception of the war.

The Tet Offensive was planned to destabilize South Vietnam and provoke a popular uprising against the U.S.-backed government in Saigon. Although intelligence reports hinted at an imminent attack, the scale and intensity of the offensive caught American and South Vietnamese forces off guard. Traditionally, the Tet holiday had been a time of truce, making the assault even more unexpected.

Key battles occurred in cities like Hue, where intense fighting led to the destruction of much of the historic city and exposed the atrocities committed by the North Vietnamese, including mass executions. In Saigon, the U.S. Embassy was breached, a symbolic blow to American confidence.

Militarily, the Tet Offensive was a failure for North Vietnam. U.S. and South Vietnamese forces repelled the attacks, inflicting heavy casualties on the Viet Cong and diminishing their operational strength. Yet, the psychological and political impact on the United States was profound.

The offensive contradicted optimistic reports from U.S. military leaders and the Johnson administration, which had suggested that the U.S. was nearing victory. Graphic news coverage brought the brutal realities of the war into American living rooms, fueling public discontent and anti-war sentiment. Prominent journalist Walter Cronkite famously declared that the war might end in stalemate, leading President Lyndon B. Johnson to reportedly remark, "If I've lost Cronkite, I've lost Middle America."

In the aftermath of the Tet Offensive, U.S. public support for the war plummeted. Protests intensified, and political pressure mounted for the U.S. to scale back its involvement. President Johnson announced that he would not seek re-election, and the administration began exploring peace negotiations with North Vietnam.

The Tet Offensive marked a turning point in the Vietnam War. While it did not achieve its military objectives, it



succeeded in undermining American resolve and exposing the limits of U.S. intervention. The event underscored the complexity of the conflict and highlighted the resilience and determination of the North Vietnamese forces. Today, the Tet Offensive serves as a case study in military strategy, media influence, and the interplay between public opinion and policy. It stands as a reminder of the far-reaching consequences of war and the unpredictable nature of global conflict.



Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency— July Announcements

World War II

Announced on January 2, 2025 that Marine Corps Sgt. Robert F. Van Heck, 25, of Chicago, IL, killed during World War II, was accounted for on April 13, 2023.

Announced on January 13, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces StaU Sgt. Loring E. Lord, 28, of Somerville, Massachusetts, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 18, 2024.

Announced on January 14, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces Pvt. Donald E. Bays, 21, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Dec. 20, 2024.

Announced on January 21, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces StaU Sgt. Felix J. Shostak, 24, of Proctor, Vermont, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 19, 2023. Shostak will be buried in Proctor, Vermont in June 2025.

Announced on January 21, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces Capt. Arthur M. Lingo, 24, killed during World War II, was accounted for Jan. 10, 2025.

Announced on January 21, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces StaU Sgt. Eugene J. Darrigan, 26, of Wappinger's Falls, New York, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Sept. 20, 2024.

Announced on January 28, 2025 that that U.S. Army Pfc. Robert L. Bryant, 23, of Bloomington, Illinois, missing in action during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 18, 2024. Bryant will be buried in Richmond, Virginia in April 2025.

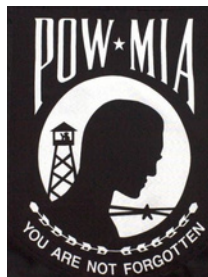
Announced on January 28, 2025 that U.S. Army Pvt. Charles W. Smalley, 19, killed during World War II, was accounted for Jan. 14, 2025.

Announced on January 28, 2025 that U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Justice J. Buttala, 24, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Jan. 14, 2025.

Vietnam

Announced on January 7, 2025 that U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Donald W. Downing, 33, killed during the Vietnam War, was accounted for Dec. 20, 2024.

Announced on January 21, 2025 that U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Donald W. Downing, 33, of Columbus, Wisconsin, killed during the Vietnam War, was accounted for Dec. 20, 2024



Korean

Announced on January 7, 2025 that that U.S. Army Pfc. Arthur A. Clifton, 17, of Los Lunas, New Mexico, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 19, 2024.

Announced on January 21, 2025 that U.S. Army Pfc. Joseph R. Travers, 24, of Taunton, Massachusetts, who died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War, was accounted for June 20, 2024.

Announced on January 21, 2025 that U.S. Army Sgt. DeLoren D. Dage, 23, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Jan. 15, 2025.

POW/MIA Empty Chair

Resolution 288, adopted at the 67th American Legion National Convention, calls for designating a POW/MIA Empty Chair at all official meetings of The American Legion as a physical symbol of the thousands of American POW/MIAs still unaccounted for from all wars and con-

flicts involving the United States.

**Taken from American Legion website

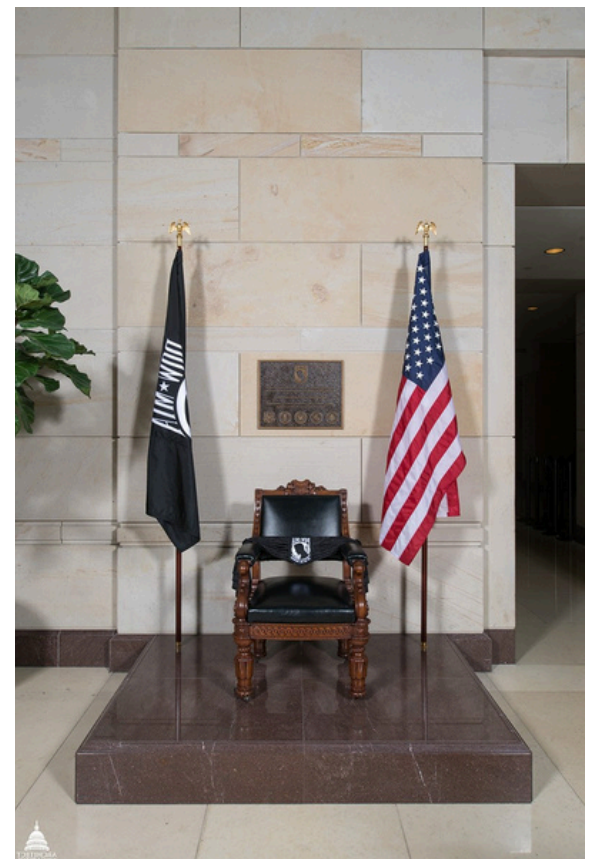


Photo of the POW/MIA Empty Chair at Emancipation Hall, U.S. Capitol Visitor Center 2017

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

1st Vice - Steve Kindel 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
www.vetsclub.org
vetsclub21@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.

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

AMERICAN LEGION BIG GAME

Potluck 50/50 RAFFLE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9
2:30 PM

CHIEFS VS EAGLES

AMERICAN LEGION POST 21
 126 SE ATLANTIC AVE
 MCMINNVILLE 97128
 503-435-2218

LEGION AFTER DARK
 GENERAL PUBLIC WELCOME 21 AND OVER
 126 NE ATLANTIC ST, MCMINNVILLE, OR 97128
February 15, 2025
9pm - 1am

LIVE Music

DRINK SPECIALS

Double DT
 ddtbandrocks.com

Legion member drinks discounts honored with proof of

Food

DANCE FLOOR

Classic Rock

Sponsored Designated Driver will be available - Tips Appreciated

Hosted by : McMinnville's Best Kept Secret.... **Post 21** **AMERICAN LEGION**

BINGO O GO

4TH OF JULY COMMITTEE BINGO

FUNDRAISER

FIREWORKS

WHERE: SHERIDAN AMERICAN LEGION
 WHEN: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21
 DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM
 BINGO STARTS AT 6:30PM
 PRESALE TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER!
 COME OUT AND SUPPORT YOUR WILLAMINA 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS DISPLAY

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Cancer Bingo 1:00pm
2 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	3 Housing Committee Mtg 5:00pm	4	5 SAL Mtg 6:30pm	6	7 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Legion KP 5:00pm	8
9 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	10	11	12	13 Veteran's Lunch 11:00am - 1:00pm	14 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Auxiliary KP 5:00pm	15 After Dark 9p-1a Karaoke Double D T
16 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	17 Activity Committee Mtg 5:00pm Executive Mtg 6:00pm	18 Auxiliary Mtg 6:00pm	19 General Member- ship Mtg 6:00pm	20	21 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Sons KP 5:00pm	22
23 Legion Bingo 1:00pm	24	25	26 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00pm	27	28 Prime Rib Dinner Special—Riders KP 5:00pm	

Roger Aaron, Victor Banke, Rufus “Butch” Clason, Chris Crossley, James Densmore, William Ellis, Gerald Evers, Rick Goodman, Clair HuΣon, Dan Jones, Keith Kirkman, Stan Kosmicki, Steven Kossman, Richard Lund, Don McInnis, Thomas Miller, John Mohammed, Michael Morris, Leonard Pardue, Dennis Parr, Craig Pubols, Richard Skeffington, Andrea



Smother, Jon Stensland, Dennis Strutz, Keith Urban, Roland VoraΣh, James Wagner, Mickey Wood