# The American Legion :

TIREY J FORD POST 21 16701 E. 40 HIGHWAY INDEPENDENCE, MO 64055-5328 816-373-0221

#### **JANUARY 2016**



HOME POST OF PRESIDENT HARRY STRUMAN

CHARTERED MAY 1, 1921

Dorothy Ballew, Director of Business Operations
BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS: MON-FRI 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
ADJUTANT OFFICE HOURS: MON - FRI 9:30 AM-3:00 PM
Lounge Hours:

Monday - Saturday 2:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. Sunday - 2:00 - 6:00 P.M. (Noon football game lounge opens at 11:30 A.M.)

#### POST EVENTS FOR JANUARY

Business Office will be closed on January 1, 2016

Lounge will open at 4:00 PM on January 1, 2016

POST MEETING - JANUARY 7th @ 7:00 PM POST E-BOARD MEETING JANUARY 21st @ 7:00 P.M.

AUXILIARY MEETING -JANUARY 7th @ 7:00 PM AUXILIARY E-BOARD MEETING JANUARY 6th @ 6:30 PM

SAL MEETING - JANUARY 7th @ 7:00 PM

ALR MEETING - JANUARY 14th @ 6:30 PM

STEAK NIGHT - JANUARY 1st

BREAKFAST BUFFET -JANUARY 9th 7:30 - 9:00

DANCES - 6 Dances in JANUARY- See Page 3

BINGO - Mondays & Tuesdays at 6:30 PM-Doors and Snack Bar open 4:00 PM.

**Moved or Moving?** 

Non-Profit Organization

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Add your new address above. then cut out this page and return it to the Post at the address listed on the upper left side of this page

#### 2016

January 1, 2016 is a day of fresh starts. According to tradition, New Year's Day dinner will bring you fortune in the year to come. Just to make sure, we will be serving

Black Eyed peas

Start your new year off right by joining us at our monthly steak night. Yes, we are serving steak, fried chicken and fried shrimp on

New Year's Day.

Lounge will open at 4:00 PM. May the New Year bring you 365 reasons to be happy!





Past Commander

### THE TIREY J. FORD POST 21 NEWS



JANUARY 2016

#### **POST OFFICERS - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Commander Phil Greco 1st Vice Commander Ed Murray 2nd Vice Commander Noel Tyler 3rd Vice Commander Ed Witthar Adjutant Tom Tanner Finance Officer Chris Wehr Judge Advocate Wes Blake Historian Open Service Officer Debra Eglich Chaplain Kerry Boardman Mike Sweeney Sergeant-at-Arms

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Mark Clark

Americanism Chris Wehr Athletic Boyd Lighthill Marge Neal Bingo Boy's State David Baham Chris Wehr **Budget & Finance** Cadet Patrol Norman D'Angelo Dance Wayne Keller Home Improvement Bill Nash

Home Improvement

Kitchen

Bonnie Sweeney

Newsletter Editor

Oratorical

Patriotic Council

R.O.T.C.

Mark Clark

Salvation Army

School Awards

Bill Nash

Bonnie Sweeney

Ed Murray

Balph Buchanan

Bill Liddle and
Archie Hughes

Mark Clark

Mike Amerine

OPEN

#### **HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Don Decker Dir. of Bldg. Oper, Bill Nash, Michael Keene, Dennis Mooney, and Tom Tanner

#### **AUXILIARY OFFICERS**

President Bonnie Sweeney
Vice President Dorothy Ballew
Secretary Marsha Mooney
Treasurer Lana Butler
Historian Judy Nash
Chaplain Fran Myers
Sergeant-at-Arms Faye Zacharias

#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander Mike Lapanne
Vice Commander Daryl Wimmer
Adjutant Jim Williams
Finance Officer Jim Coldwell
Historian Daryl Wimmer
Chaplain John Winfield
Sergeant-at-Arms Leroy Brugioni

#### **AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS**

Director Dennis Mooney Assistant Director Mark Clark Secretary Marsha Mooney Treasurer Wes Blake Judge Advocate Robert Ford Historian David Cary Chaplain Don Leming Sergeant-at-Arms Dan Orr Ride Captain Tom Tanner

#### MINUTES OF POST MONTHLY MEETING

Commander Phil Greco called the regular monthly of the Tirey J Ford Post 21 to order at 7:03 PM, 3 Dec15, at the Post Home. Commander Greco Conducted the opening ritual.

- Chaplain Kerry Boardman gave the opening prayer.
- · 1st Vice Ed Murray placed the POW/MIA Flag on the empty chair.
- · There were 9 officers and 39 members present.
- · Finance Officer Chris Wehr read the Finance Report for the month of November. A motion was made by Kerry Boardman to accept the Finance Report as read. The motion was 2nd by Everett Ellis. The motion carried. A copy of the last report is posted on the bulletin board in the Lounge.
- The Executive Committee meeting minutes from 19 Nov 15 were read.
- Officer Reports:
- · Commander Greco talked about 2 fund raisers for the Post. One is a raffle for an Elvis decanter and the other is selling bracelets.
- Newsletter was reprinted by mistake. Check with printer on postage refund.
  - Committee Reports:

Bingo report was given by Mike Sweeney and \$4000.00 was donated to Post by Bingo.

Phil Greco gave the Dance report. \$6014 was made from the November dances.

Talks are ongoing with Landmark Dodge for sponsoring one of our ball teams.

Boy's State is in need of a new Chairman.

Salvation Army Bell ringing will be at Hy Vee on 5 Dec from 9am till 4 pm

- · New members and transfers were read. A motion was made by Mark Clark, 2nd by Kerry Boardman and carried by voice vote to accept the new members.
- $\cdot$   $\,$   $\,$  There were 3 deceased members for the month of November.
- The adjutant gave the membership report. There are 1287 members as of 3 Dec 15 for a 79% of our yearly goal.
- · The meeting minutes for Nov were deferred until next meeting.
- Adjutant read correspondence.
- New Business: Mike Amerine made a motion to conduct a complete audit of the Post. The motion was 2nd by Conrad Mowrey. Discussion held. Commander George Scarborough Called for the question. Vote conducted 17 yeas and 17 nays. Call failed to pass by required two-thirds majority.
- Mike Amerine restated the motion. The motion was voted on and failed by a majority.
- For the good of The American Legion: ALR Director Dennis Mooney asked for more volunteers for the Salvation Army Bell ringing on 5 Dec.
- $\cdot$   $\,$  12 and 13 Dec The Ham Radio club is holding a special event at the WWI Monument.
- Steak Night is this Friday night.
- Wed December 9 is the 5th District Meeting.
- $\cdot$   $\,$   $\,$  The Craft Fair held at the Post had 44 Vendors and was a success.
- $\cdot$   $\,$  The 1st Vice removed the POW/Mia Flag from the empty chair.
- The Chaplain gave the closing prayer.
- · Commander Greco conducted the closing ritual and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM.

The next regular scheduled meeting is 7 January 2016, at 7PM.

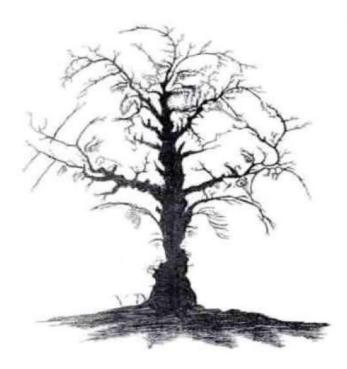
-Tom Tanner, Post 21 Adjutant adjutantpost21@gmail.com



"Happy Birthday and Best Wishes"
We have 113 members with January birthdays.
We hope you enjoy your special day!
One will be 95, One will be 94, Two will be 93, Three will be 91 and two will be 90.

The youngest will turn 30 this month.

#### CAN YOU FIND THE 10 FACES IN THE TREE



\*\*\*\*\* UPDATE \*\*\*\*

DUES ARE \$45.00

AS OF JANUARY 1, 2016

#### JANUARY 2016 DANCE SCHEDULE

1		2	Dixie Cadillacs
8		9	Reddymen
15	Loose Change	16	Sweetwater
22		23	Reddymen
29		30	Ranger

Doors open at 5:30 P.M. Beverage & Snack Bars Open at 5:30 P.M.

Both Dance Times - 7:00 P.M.-10:30 P.M.
Admission to Friday & Saturday Dances \$7.00

#### THE COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings to all my fellow Legionnaires.

I hope you all had a joyous and blessed holiday season. It's been hard to keep up with all that's been going on at the post. This is always a busy time of the year for us. We've been helping Vets in need with increased frequency during this holiday season, and with our three adopted holiday families whose needs are always immense this time of year. I thank you all for your generosity on our gift tree and donations of cash & gifts. I wish that all of our members could see and feel the emotion when we deliver their meals and gifts on Christmas Eve. It's such a great feeling to be able to bring a little more joy into their troubled lives.

Kudos go out to Tom Tanner, our Post Adjutant, for his selection as a Veteran Volunteer for the State of Missouri. Lt. Gov. Kinder has selected him because of all his volunteer work and will honor him on March 1st, 2016 at a luncheon and awards ceremony at the Capital. Tom does an incredible amount of volunteer work and richly deserves this honor. This also sheds a light on Post #21 and the work we do as a post and the four pillars of the American Legion.

I will close for now since I'm on a deadline here, but my wishes go out to you all for a great New Year and remember to be safe.

Good luck with your New Year's resolutions!

**Commander Phil Greco** 



**RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER IN '16** 

AS OF JANUARY 1, 2016 ALL DUES WILL BE DELINQUENT.
THAT MEANS IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID FOR 2016, YOU WILL CEASE
GETTING THE NEWSLETTER BOTH BY MAIL AND E-MAIL.
NO ENTRANCE TO THE LOUNGE SINCE YOUR KEY CARD WILL BE
DE-ACTIVATED, NO NEWSLETTER FROM DEPARTMENT AND NO
MAGAZINE FROM NATIONAL.

**EDITOR** 

#### **AUXILIARY NEWS**



Auxiliary Unit 21 Officers wish you a very happy & healthy 2016. We sincerely hope you had a very Merry Christmas and enjoyed visiting with your family and friends. We thank you for helping us to join with the Legion Family in adopting our Christmas families and bringing smiles to many

faces.

We hope you attended and enjoyed the Christmas Dinner held here at the Post on December 11th. The Legion honored their employees and thanked them for their dedication and service. Several of the Auxiliary members have volunteered many hours decorating the Post for the holidays along with help from some of the Legionnaires. Thank you each and every one who helped and thank you for the volunteers who put the Christmas Dinner together and even stayed to clean it up afterwards. Faye's Christmas Raffle went over very well and all of the prizes were awarded at the Christmas Dinner.

Following the Christmas Dinner, on Saturday morning Santa greeted the guests and had gifts for several children attending the breakfast. Thank you Santa for taking time from your busy schedule to make so many smiles come to life.

The Auxiliary is still in need of a Bingo Chairman. We hold Bingo on Monday nights and truly need more help. This is what supports many of our charities. If you have questions about what your duties would include, please contact Linda Mitchell or Bonnie Sweeney and we will work with you.

Our next regular business meeting will be held on Thursday, January 7th at 7:00 P.M. Our next Executive Board meeting will be on January 6th at 6:30 P.M.

Thank you for your continued support and for everything that you do for our Veterans, Active Military, our Children and our Community.

> **Bonnie Sweeney** Auxiliary Unit 21 President

#### -WANTED-

Working vacuum sweeper needed for the Post. If you have an extra one and would like to donate, we would appreciate.

#### **Auxiliary New Members, Transfers, Deaths**

**New:** Lana M Boggs, Pamela Bryson, Patricia Cochlin, Roberta Fields, Kathy Hayes, Margaret Merryman, Joyce Rice, Kenda Hudson-Smith, Pat Stansell.

**Transfers:** Mallory Bertucci, Debora Champagne, Reighlyn Champagne, Melody Sasser.

Deaths:

#### **AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS**



Greetings, I hope that you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New EGION RIDERS Year. We had 3 families that were in

need this Christmas season, the Angel Tree has been a success again this year. Thanks to the SAL, the Auxiliary and everyone who adopted an Angel for making it a success. I hope that you all had a nice New Year. At the time I write this, the weather has been nice and I hope that it will continue, but I know things change so keep your scooter ready. We will ride until the snow comes as long as the roads are safe. Safety is the most important part of every ride. We will make every effort to maintain our goals so keep an eye open for emails, we usually have short notice so come out if you can. Don't be a fair weather rider. See you on the next one.

Stay safe and dress warm. Dennis Mooney, Director

Dennis Mooney - ALR Director





#### CHIEFS FANS – LET'S TAILGATE

Kansas City Chiefs fans, let's tailgate in the Lounge. The Auxiliary is proud to sponsor this event along with the Post. We have a special menu for you to select your favorites from. Please make plans to join us in the

Lounge and bring your friends. We will also be having a 50-50 pot each game. Proceeds from this fund raiser will be donated to one of the charities that we support. Tailgate dates for January are:

Sunday, Jan 3 Noon - Chiefs @ Home Raiders\*

\* Subject To Flexible Scheduling

Please note that on the Sunday noon games, the Lounge will open at 11:30 A.M. Our menu will be available from Noon until the game is over. Let's all have fun supporting this event, our team and the Post 21 Family.

#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



I hope everyone had a good holiday and we, from the SAL, wish you a Happy New Year! Thank you to everyone in the Post who has supported us so that we could provide assistance to veterans and families in need.

As the SAL commander, I want to thank all the "behind the scenes" people who organize things, help us out, make things happen, donate toward our causes, support us and never get recognized. In this season of giving, we deeply appreciate you who do all this without getting anything in return. Thank you so much for your kind hearts and everything you do!

Here's some of the things we did to wrap up 2015:

- We thanked the Bingo players in December for their year-long support of our 50/50 Raffle by giving away five \$20 Hy-Vee gift cards.
- We provided Christmas dinner for the 11 homeless veterans living at Heroes Home Gate.
- We provided \$300 for the wish list holiday tree at the Post. Special thanks to Lelia Brownfield, who helped us out by doing the shopping.

A special note: A suggestion was made, and the SAL is considering lowering dues for grandkids and other persons under 21 in order to make it more affordable for those giving a SAL membership as a gift. Please consider "passing the torch" to those in your family who are under 21 and eligible for a SAL membership and purchase their membership at the new, reduced price. This enables them to carry that membership forward through their lifetime without the hassle of finding family DD-214's later. This brings in the younger members!

We will be voting on the reduced dues for members under 21 on January 7th. SAL members, please come to the meeting to discuss it and vote! We have several other interesting topics to discuss as well, we hope to see you there! We meet at 7 p.m.

Lastly, watch for our new SAL fundraiser coming soon. It will be something fun and different!

......Mike Lapanne, SAL Commander

POST 21 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
3RD THURSDAY EACH MONTH AT 7:00 PM
AUXILIARY UNIT 21 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING: JANUARY 6th @ 6:30 PM

#### **FOOD SERVICE MENUS FOR JANUARY**

Monday 5:00 till 7:00 P.M.

1/4	Smothered Hamburger Steak, Mashed Potatoes	
	& Gravy, Green Beans & a Dinner Roll	\$8.00
1/11	English Style Battered Cod & Clam Strips,	
	Baked Potato, Creamed Peas & Hush Puppies	\$8.00
1/18	Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Corn	
	& a Dinner Roll	\$9.00
1/25	Country Fried Steak or Tenderloin,	
	Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Steamed Veggies & Roll	\$8.00

ABOVE MEALS INCLUDE SALAD BAR

Tuesday 5:00 till 7:00 P.M.

1/5	Ham & Beans, Fried Potatoes & Cornbread	\$6.50	
1/12	Open Face Hot Beef Sandwich/Mashed Potatoes		
	& Gravy	\$6.50	
1/19	Baked Pork Chop in Dressing, Baked Sweet Potato,		
	Baked Beans & a Dinner Roll	\$6.50	
1/26	Brisket, Steak Fries, Slaw & Garlic Bread	\$6.50	

### SNACK BAR MENU ALSO AVAILABLE ON MONDAYS AND TUESDAYS

Wednesday 5:00 till 7:00 P.M.

1/13	Bacon Cheeseburger or Mushroom Swiss		
	Burger with Fries, Tater Tots or Onion Rings	\$5.75	
1/20	Tenderloin, Chicken Fritter or Fish Sandwich		
	with your choice of Fries, Tater Tots or		
	Onion Rings	\$5.75	

Friday 5:00 till 7:00 P.M.

1/1 NEW YEARS DAY/STEAK NIGHT
8 oz. KC Strip \$11.00
Shrimp \$9.50
Fried Chicken \$9.00
Above meals include Baked Potato or Fries & Salad Bar,
Plus Black Eyed Peas

1/15 TACO BUFFET - \$6.50 Per Person
Tacos, Taco Salad, Nachos, Refried Beans,
Black Beans & Hot Dogs, Plus all the Toppings

Saturday 7:30 A.M. till 9:00 A.M.

1/9 Buffet to include Eggs, Bacon, Sausage,
Fried Potatoes, Hash Browns, Corned Beef Hash,
Grits, Biscuits & Gravy, Juice & Coffee \$7.00

Sunday

1/3 11:30 A.M. Chiefs kickoff at Noon vs Oakland Special Auxiliary Fund Raiser Tail Gate Buffet Available For Above Game

### 67 Years Later Tirey J. Ford Post 21 Honors Daughter of WW II Veteran

Lana (Mardis) Boggs recently discovered that her father, John E Mardis, a WWII Veteran, never received Military Honors after his tragic death in September 1948. John lost his life in a traffic accident involving a drunk driver when his daughter was only a year old.

John E. Mardis was a multiple-spindle drill press operator at the Aircraft Accessories Incorporated, Kansas City Kansas and also operated milling machines. John enlisted in the Army August 9, 1944 at Fort Leavenworth Kansas. As he advanced through the ranks, John was a rifleman, Ammunition Bearer, Section Leader, and Platoon NCO. He served as a Technical Sergeant in Company B, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division US Army during WWII. John was in the Asia Pacific Theater of Operations twelve months, where he supervised a Platoon of Riflemen. While there, he took part in, and survived the Battle of Ryukyu Islands of Okinawa. That was one of the bloodiest conflicts in the Pacific Theatre. John was discharged February 17, 1946 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He was awarded the Combat infantry Badge, the Bronze Star and the Good Conduct Medal upon his discharge from the US Army. John then served his community as a City Police Officer of Greencastle, Missouri for at least one year. His last job was as a Decorator for the Chicago Decorating Company. That's when that fatal accident cut short his life of thirty years, in Gary, Indiana.

His daughter, Lana, contacted Tirey J Ford American Legion Post 21 in Independence, Missouri and requested support in giving John the military Honors he had not received, since John had been a WWII Veteran. The Post coordinated a special presentation on November 16, 2015, of an American Flag which had flown over the Missouri Capital building. John's daughter, Lana, received the special American Flag with full Military Honors. John's granddaughter and her husband were also present. Participating in the presentation was American Legion Post Commander Phil Greco, Post Adjutant Tom Tanner, Post Chaplain Kerry Boardman and the honor funeral team from MONG, VFW 1738 Honor Team. Several members from the American Legion, SAL and Auxiliary also attended the ceremony.





#### FROM THE ADJUTANT'S DESK

Membership for the Post is at 79.98% of the goal as set by National. We still have a long way to go to reach 100% of our goal before the end of the Legion year. If you have not paid your dues yet they are overdue and should be paid prior to 1 Jan 16 to avoid paying the higher rate. The new dues rate is \$45.00

The Post participated in The 5<sup>th</sup> District revitalization in Nov and gained 23 transfers and 25 potential transfers.

If you would like to receive your Monthly newsletter via e-mail please let me know and I will include you on the newsletter list. As of 7 Dec 15 we have a total of 490 members on the Post e-mail list. It would be greatly appreciated if you have an e-mail address, please forward it to me so it can be included on the list. The e-mail address for Post is <a href="mailto:adjutantpost21@gmail.com">adjutantpost21@gmail.com</a>.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one a very Happy New year.

-Tom Tanner, Post 21 Adjutant adjutantpost21@gmail.com



CECIL D BARKER, DONALD K CHOAT, ARTHUR L SAWYER

With reverence, we commit these, our comrades, to the Post Everlasting

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

Caleb G. Breneman, Walter S. Ellis, Bruce J. Enrietto, Daniel F. Feller, Kevin R. Haynes, James A. Merrill, Louis E. Warnken, Lorretta A. Wesseldine, Stephen L. White

#### **TRANSFERS**

Omar A Ampie, Elroy F Aslakon, David C. Bessette,
Kenneth W. Bledsoe, Patrick F. Briggs, Lelia R. Brownfield,
Earl Connerley, Fred Dinwiddie, Janet Dodrill,
Otis B. England, Gerald L. Harvey, Walter Jacobs, Gary Kusman
Robert McEntee, Antonio Medina, Robert D. Noel,
Michael Steward, James S Tally, Jeffery L. Thelander
Clarence Townsend, Alvin A. Vonseggern, Gary G. Williams,
Charles E. Zaman

#### **Have You Heard?**

#### **Beretta Story**

This is a story of self-control and marksmanship with an "itsy bitsy shooter" by a woman facing a fierce predator.

What is the smallest caliber you trust to protect yourself? The 25 cal. Beretta Jetfire:

#### Here's her story:

While out hiking in Alberta Canada with my husband we were surprised by a huge grizzly bear charging at us from out of nowhere. She must have been protecting her cubs because she was extremely aggressive.

If I had not had my little Beretta Jetfire with me I would not be here today!

Just one shot to my husband's knee cap was all it took.

The bear got him and I was able to escape by just walking away at a brisk pace. It's one of the best pistols in my collection

If you desire your newsletter via e-mail Contact: adjutantpost21@gmail.com

## WEB SITE TO OBTAIN DD-214

www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/



#### **SICK CALL**

Steve Ellison

Call the Post at (816) 373-0221 to report any illness.

THE POST BUSINESS OFFICE SELLS OUTDOOR FLAGS
ONLY \$20.00 FOR A 3X5 U.S. MADE FLAG
OTHER SIZES CAN BE ORDERED.
SUPPORT YOUR FREEDOM... FLY A FLAG

VA AL Service Officer @ VA Medical Center, Ron McBee, (816) 922-2883 Phone or Fax (816) 922-3381 Hours of operation 9:00 - 3:00 PM M-F

#### **POOL TOURNAMENT RESULTS**

The tournament was held on the 2nd of December 2015. It was Scotch Doubles with pizza and prize money. The winners were as follows:



First Place Jerry Tinsley - Boyd Williams



Second Place
Jimmy Williams - Gary Cordell



Third Place
Joe Pulley - Bill Spots

#### The business below donates to and supports our Legion programs

#### Legion Member

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Legion Member

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Legion Membe

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Legion Member

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**Legion Member** 

THE TIREY J. FORD NEWS is published monthly by Tirey J. Ford Post 21 of the American Legion

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The News is published for the benefit of members and friends of the Post



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