

**Community Military Appreciation Committee (CMAC)**  
**Minutes**  
**April 14, 2017**

Executive Board Members Present: Chairman-Larry Smith; Chairman-Jim Erixson; Secretary-Yvette Brown-Wahler; Treasurer-Bruce Evans; and, Operations-Mike Burton. Board Directors Present: Chaplain-James Mead; Marketing-Samantha Whitley; Outreach-Dan Sockle; Safety-Roy Billings; and, Supply/Website-Bill Hauser. Members at Large Present: Sean Gibson; Elizabeth Johnston (absent); Teresa Wheeler (absent); and, Natalie Hantho (absent). [11]

CMAC Members Present: Richard Alvarez (VFW), Denise Bender (PIC), Tom Cates (PT Boat 658), Nelson (40et8) & Stephanie Collazo-Serrano (40et8-LF), Casey Curry (returning Veterans Project), Jim Czmowski (Young Marines), Bob Day (PT Boat 658 – Meals on Wheels), Fraizer Raymond (Buffalo Soldiers), John Hopkins (40et8), Jerry Keen (40et8), Ray Kutch (40et8), June Lasch (American Red Cross), Patrick Locke (40et8), Anne McEnerny-Ogle (City of Vancouver), Ron Powers (PKVV), Leonard Mills (Vancouver Elks 823), Eugene Sanchez (NIVA), Joel Scott (ESGR), Gerald Siegel (40et8), Michael Stacey (PKVV), Steven Stanley (Young Marines), Marlene Varga (Homes for Heroes)

CMAC Guests: BG Curtis Loop (Army Reserve Ambassador) spoke about commissioning of USCGC Munro. Bryndle Rohan (Costco-Camas) spoke about Heroes Night events, registration and honoring memory of Bill Morehouse as an annual community award.

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Larry Smith.
2. Sickness and Health:
3. Prayer: Chaplain James Mead.
4. Pledge of Allegiance: Jim Erixson.

CMAC Notes:

1. CMAC & Fort Vancouver Nat'l Trust to honor Dale F. Bowlin, US Army Veteran/POW. Witness tree dedication was held on April 12th at Fort Vancouver, Officer's Row, planted outside of Howard House.
2. Bill Morehouse, Buffalo Soldier, was interred on April 11<sup>th</sup> at Willamette National Cemetery.
3. Director of WA Department of Veterans Affairs, Lourdes 'Alfie' Alvarado-Ramos, and her Communications/Legislative Assistant, Heidi Audette, receive a copy of CMAC Minutes when published to keep Olympia informed of events in Southwest WA. Contact information: [communications@dva.wa.gov](mailto:communications@dva.wa.gov); (800) 562-0132

CMAC Announcements: Michael Stacey (PureKraze) spoke about the City's approval of design of property site and ongoing raffles to support building of Veterans Village.

## CMAC Events:

- A. Our Community Salutes – April 20<sup>th</sup>, Evergreen School District; Union High School 7:00pm. Army Recruiting Battalion will lead and coordinate this event. 125+ new recruits [Army, Marines, Navy & Air Force] to be sworn-in from Clark County and Portland Metro areas.
- B. 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Nez Perce Chief Redheart Ceremony – April 22<sup>nd</sup>, NPS Fort Vancouver; 10:00-1:00pm. NPS support with silent generator. Lunch for attendees follows ceremony.
- C. Memorial Day Ceremony – May 29<sup>th</sup>, Fort Vancouver Parade Grounds Bandstand. 11:00am Ceremony. Indoor reception 10:00-10:45am at the Marshall House, FTV Officer’s Row; by invitation & CMAC. Outdoor reception follows ceremony sponsored by civic and Veteran organizations. Fort Vancouver Garrison Flag Pole Dedication with rifle salute; time TBD.
- D. Costco-Camas ‘Heroes Night’ – June 24<sup>th</sup>; 5:00-8:00pm. Parking lot Car Show 2:00-7:00pm. Must RSVP, fee \$10 and RSVP for car show, fee \$15. Set up NLT 4:45pm.
- F. Patriots Day & 9/11 Ceremony – September 11<sup>th</sup>; 9:00am.
- G. Veterans Day Ceremony – November 11<sup>th</sup>; 11:00am.

## Upcoming Community Events: [See informational flyers at [www.cmac11.com](http://www.cmac11.com) – ‘Events’]

April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Nez Perce Chief Redheart Pre-Ceremony Dinner for volunteers; Sandy & Erskine Wood’s home; 6:00pm
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	JBLM 2017 Retiree Appreciation Day; VA-American Lake Conference Ctr; 7:30-1:00pm
April 21 <sup>st</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup>	American Legion Post #14 (St John’s Road) Ladies Auxiliary Spring Bazaar; 9:00am-4:00pm; \$
April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Young Marines participating in Windhaven Therapeutic Riding program; LaCenter, WA
April 24 <sup>th</sup>	Vets Bowl Fundraiser for Veterans Village; PureKraze for Veterans; Big Al’s Bowling Ctr; 7:00-9:00pm; \$
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	2017 Barn Dance Fundraiser – Partners in Careers; Clark County Square Dance Center; 5:30-10:00pm; \$
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	5th Annual Black & White Gala – Clark County Veterans Asst. Ctr.; Heathman Lodge; 5:30-10:00pm; \$
May 5-6 <sup>th</sup>	Used Book Sale – 40et9 V99 LeFemmes; in Boxcar Room; 10:00am-4:00pm; \$
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	NW Battle Buddies 6th Annual Auction & Dinner Fundraiser; Embassy Suites-PDX Airport; 6:00pm; \$
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Job Hiring Event; ARFC; sponsored by WNG and WorkSource; 9:00am
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Let’s Take Flight Fundraising Dinner & Auction; FTV Nat’l Trust; Pearson Air Museum; 5:30-8:30pm; \$
May 29 <sup>th</sup>	Race to Remember – Memorial Day Run; Races start/finish at Phil Arnold-Columbia Way; 12:30-6:00pm
May 29 <sup>th</sup>	Service Soldier’s Bivouac – National Park Service; Fort Vancouver (following ceremony – 5:00pm)
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Paddle for Life benefitting CC Veterans Assistance Ctr; Vancouver Lake Regional Park;
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Independence Day Fireworks – July 4th;10:00pm
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	40et8 V99 Veterans Golf Day; \$
Late 2017	Commissioning of the USS PORTLAND (LPD 27) an amphibious transport dock ship. In Portland, OR.

(\$) Contribution &/or Fee

## Community Service Opportunities:

- April 21<sup>st</sup> - 6:00pm; Chief Redheart Pre-Ceremony Dinner for volunteers; Sandy & Erskine Wood’s home; RSVP: (360) 892-1443 // [columbiagrove@msn.com](mailto:columbiagrove@msn.com).
- Race to Remember (non-profit) mission is to support and honor our past and present military heroes through races, organize military care packages, coordinate “Soldier in the Classroom”, “Thank You Cards”, and “Books for Soldiers”. [racetoremember.com](http://racetoremember.com) (a non-profit)
- Windhaven Therapeutic Riding {Warhorses with Warriors} offers horse riding lessons to Veterans over eight sessions; teaching how to handle a horse and advancing to overnight trail rides. Located in La Center, WA. [windhaventherapeuticriding.org](http://windhaventherapeuticriding.org) (a non-profit)
- Team Rubicon's primary mission is providing disaster relief to those affected by natural disasters, be they domestic or international. By pairing the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders, medical professionals, and technology solutions, Team Rubicon aims to provide the greatest service and impact possible. Team Rubicon ‘Greyshirts’ deploy internationally. [teamrubiconusa.org](http://teamrubiconusa.org). (a non-profit)

- Village Without Walls (new Vancouver non-profit) assist elderly citizens to stay in their homes. Projects include: replace smoke alarms, change light bulbs, visits, etc. Contact John Chapman; [villagewithoutwalls.org](http://villagewithoutwalls.org).
- Home with Heroes – nominate Veterans for October fishing event on: [homewithheroes.com](http://homewithheroes.com). (a non-profit)
- VA Vancouver volunteer opportunity to become a VA parking lot shuttle driver. Contact Dave Hancock for more information: [sftree@centurytel.net](mailto:sftree@centurytel.net).
- WA Hunter Education Program offered by American Legion Post #176 – Salmon Creek; teaches firearm safety, survival & compass skills, and sportsmanship. [www.post176.com](http://www.post176.com).
- 10th Annual Patriotic Tribute at Volcanoes Stadium to Thank, Honor and Salute Oregon's "Fallen Warriors" on Tuesday, July 4th. Theme is "We Will Not Let Them Be Forgotten". An opportunity to kick back and enjoy our Patriotic Tribute, professional baseball and a gigantic Fireworks show. Mrs. Bennet, mother of Tyrone Wood, and Mrs. Doherty, mother of Glen Doherty, will be honored.
- Volunteers have supported the National Park Service since its founding in August 1916. Volunteers still uphold the agency's values today by working with national park staff and partners to preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources of the National Park System. For more information on volunteering at the national park, visit [Volunteer.gov](http://Volunteer.gov) and search for "Fort Vancouver National Historic Site."

### Veterans Interest:

- Wear PURPLE on April 15th in honor of all military branches, to celebrate Youth week 2017, and to show your support for military kids.
- FTV AMVETS Post #6 Ladies Auxiliary Organizational Meeting on May 4th invites women Veterans to apply for membership. AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary is open to mothers, wives, widows, grandmothers, sisters, daughters and granddaughters of AMVETS, and female veterans, who are currently serving or who have honorably served in the Armed Forces of the United States including the National Guard and Reserve components, any time after September 15, 1940. For more information call: (360) 253-2499.
- Northwest Battle Buddies annual gala on May 6th is raising funds to provide 60 service animals to Veterans.
- 2017 Portland Rose Festival; Friday, May 26th through Sunday, June 11th. [www.rosefestival.org](http://www.rosefestival.org).
  - 2017 Fleet Week; Tuesday, June 6th through Saturday, June 10th.
- Oregon Summer Star 2017 – A camp for Youth of Military Families; ages 8-18. Sunday, June 25th through Friday, June 30th at Camp Cascade, Lyons, OR. Register at [oregonsummerstar.org](http://oregonsummerstar.org); for more information contact – [akari@tsuga.org](mailto:akari@tsuga.org).
- Vietnam Wall online site to discover former service persons, POW/MIA, KIA histories; <http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>.
- Windhaven Therapeutic Riding {Warhorses with Warriors} offers riding lessons to Veterans over eight sessions; teaching how to handle a horse and advance to overnight trail rides. Located in La Center, WA. [windhaventherapeuticriding.org](http://windhaventherapeuticriding.org) (a non-profit).
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- Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) is sponsoring a documentary series – The Vietnam War, ten episodes. Veterans can meet and converse with the film makers Ken Burns and Lynn Novick. Monday, July 24th, 7:00pm; Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, Portland. Ticket can be purchased at: [portland5.com](http://portland5.com); TicketsWest; and/or Portland's box office; \$12, groups of eight or more \$10.
- Home with Heroes – nominate Veterans for October fishing event. [homewithheroes.com](http://homewithheroes.com).
- Portland Vet Center and American Legion Post #1 are hosting a monthly social on the third Friday of each month for WWII, Korean War & Former POW Veterans; 1830 SE 122nd Ave, Portland, OR. PoC for transportation – Ryan McNabb (503) 688-5361.

### Legislative Affairs:

- On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017: "The Department of Veteran Affairs, announced by VA Secretary Dr. David Shulkin, will offer urgent mental health care beginning this summer to thousands of former service members with less-than-honorable discharges, as part of its expanded initiative to stem stubbornly high rates of suicide."

- VA fixes Veteran Crisis Line announced on March 21st by DVA Secretary Shulkin. Atlanta Call Center now online and roll-over calls dropped to one percent. [veteranscrisisline.net](http://veteranscrisisline.net) / 800-273-TALK (8255) / Text: 838255. Additionally, VA is updating and adding websites to improve customer services.
- On March 3rd, 2017: “The Department of Veteran Affairs, announced by VA Secretary Dr. David Shulkin, will offer urgent mental health care beginning this summer to thousands of former service members with less-than-honorable discharges, as part of its expanded initiative to stem stubbornly high rates of suicide.”
- US House Bill HR 299 and Senate Bill S.422 introduced and under review to clarify presumptions relating to Agent Orange exposure of the “Blue Water Navy” and other Veterans who served in the territorial waters of the Republic of Vietnam. For more information contact the Fleet Reserve Association: [action.fra.org/action-center](http://action.fra.org/action-center).
- On March 14th, 2017, Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) and Senator Deb Fischer (R-NE) introduced legislation to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) to ensure military service members are not charged cancellation fees for pay TV and Internet service contracts when they deploy or change duty stations.
- On April 5th, 2017: The Military Officers of America’s (MOAA) annual ‘Storm the Hill’ initiative addressed important issues affecting active duty, reserve, guard and Veterans. “This year the focus is on ending the sequester, with its harmful budget caps, and the widows tax offset to SBP-DIC that will cost surviving spouses \$15,000 year if not repealed.” Additional concentration on: Preserve Commissary benefits; Call-up orders for Guard and Reserve personnel; Retired Pay Restoration Act; and Full concurrent receipt for disabled military retirees. For members log onto [MOAA.org](http://MOAA.org). For non-members contact your Senator or Congressman/woman on the US Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

### CMAC Meeting Dates:

April 14 <sup>th</sup>	40et8	8:30am
*April 28 <sup>th</sup>	40et8	8:30am
*May 12 <sup>th</sup>	40et8	8:30am
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Fort Vancouver	9:00am (Memorial Day set-up)
June 9 <sup>th</sup>	40et8	8:30am
*June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	40et8	8:30am
July 7 <sup>th</sup>	40et8	8:30am
*July 21 <sup>st</sup>	40et8	8:30am
August 4 <sup>th</sup>	40et8	8:30am
*August 18 <sup>th</sup>	40et8	8:30am

(\*) Ex Board meeting follows at 10:00am

- Armed Forces Reserve Center 15005 NE 65th Street, Vancouver, WA
- 40 et 8 7607 NE 26th Ave., Vancouver, WA

### 2017 Calendar:

Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> : Easter  
 Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> : Federal taxes were due (date change due to Washington DC holiday)  
 Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> : National Day of Prayer  
 Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> : V-E Day  
 Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> : Military Spouse’s Day  
 Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> : Mother’s Day  
 Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> : Armed Forces Day  
 Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> : Memorial Day (federal holiday)  
 Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> : Flag Day  
 Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> : Father’s Day  
 Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> : Independence Day (federal holiday)  
 Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> : National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day  
 Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup> : V-J Day  
 Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> : Labor Day (federal holiday)

Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>: Patriots Day-9/11 Remembrance  
Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>: National POW/MIA Recognition Day  
Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>: Gold Star Mother's Day  
Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>: Columbus Day (federal holiday)  
Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>: Halloween  
Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>: Daylight Savings time ends  
Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>: Election Day  
Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>: Thanksgiving Day (federal holiday)  
Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day  
Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Day (federal holiday)  
Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>: New Year's Eve

Please contact CMAC Secretary to add community events and/or service opportunities.

Secretary – Yvette Brown-Wahler [CMAC.Secretary@gmail.com](mailto:CMAC.Secretary@gmail.com) // [ycbw@comcast.net](mailto:ycbw@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.cmac11.com](http://www.cmac11.com) Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CMAC11Vancouver>  
You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXU4JtmurujzFaEJzKqhcog/feed>