**Community Military Appreciation Committee (CMAC)**

**Meeting Minutes of September 15, 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: Marketing-Samantha Whitley; Supply/Website-Bill Hauser. Members at Large Present: Frazier Raymond [8]

CMAC Members Present: Richard Alvarez (VFW); Nelson (40et8) & Stephanie Collazo-Serrano (40et8-LF), Jim Czmowski (Young Marines), Bob Day (PT-658), Dave Hancock (SFA/NIVA), June Lasch (ARC), Patrick Locke (40et8), Anne McEnerny-Ogle (City of Vancouver); Meredith McMackin (ES), Leonard Mills (Vancouver Elks 823), Monica Ocampo (ESGR/Oxford Suites); Steven Stanley (Young Marines), Missy Taylor (Young Marines) [14 ]

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Larry Smith
2. Prayer: Jim Erixson
   1. Moment of Silence in remembrance of National POW/MIA Recognition Day
3. Pledge of Allegiance: Mike Burton

CMAC Scheduled Events:

A. September 30th Vancouver Stand Down; VA Vancouver Campus gymnasium; 9:00am-2:00pm

B. November 11th Veterans Day Ceremony/Parade; Providence Academy; 11:00am

C. December 8th CMAC Christmas/Holiday Party; 40et8; 5:00pm – Social; 6:00pm – Hors d’oeuvres (Appetizers)

CMAC Meeting Dates: 8:30am: September 29th; October 13th; \*October 27th; November 10th; \*December 1st. (\*) Executive Board meeting follows at 10:00am

CMAC Chairman Summary: Requested all take time to remember those lost and hurting from Hurricanes Harvey and Irma; now to include Hurricane Maria. Additionally, service members killed &/or injured in recent military accidents. Several companies/businesses are hiring giving Veterans preference. Approximately 120 citizens attended Patriots Day – 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. 300+ Veterans, police, fire department, and others attended Kings for Cops & Operation Salmon fishing event held in Ridgefield.

CMAC Notes:

* Board members attended Governors Veteran Affairs Advisory Committee Town Hall on September 21st.
* Leonard Mills, Vancouver Elks, joins executive board as a member-at-large.

CMAC Guests:

* Minh Pham from the Vietnam Veterans organization and discussed teaching the sons & daughters of the Vietnam War by conducting community & cultural events within SW Washington.

Upcoming Community Events: [See informational flyers at www.cmac11.com – ‘Events’]

* September 22-24th Oregon International Air Show; Hillsboro Airport; $
* September 23rd Friends of Fort Vancouver “Swing Back to the 1950s” fundraiser; Pearson Air Museum; 7-10pm; $
* September 30th 5th Annual Jim Pepper Fest “Seeing the Woman”; Parkrose High School, Portland, 11am-7pm
* October 1st-November 12th Duellatoria 19th Century Military Training Course; Pearson Air Museum; 4-5:30pm; $
* October 2nd 40et8 Le Femme fundraiser bringing businesses & Veterans auxiliaries together
* October 6-31st Nightmare on Elk Street Haunted House; Vancouver Elks; times vary; $
* October 10th Female Veterans Peer Group event; 11-12:30pm; Lacey
* October 13-16th Oregon 1000 Flags Celebration of Honor; Chinook Winds
* October 26th B-17Alliance Training Center – ‘Secret Code Map’ exhibit; Salem; $
* November 1-2nd CDM Symbol of Freedom event; CDMCaregiving.org; Vancouver
* November 7th Vancouver Elks Lodge #823 hosting Veterans Day Dinner; 5:30-7:30pm; Info – (360) 256-0823
* December 1st Hoe-Down Fundraiser for Veterans Assistance Center; 40et8; $

($) Contribution &/or Fee

Veterans Interest:

* Annual Influenza Immunization Campaign now-November 22nd. Get your flu shot in the Portland VAMC Atrium; M-Thur, 9-3:30pm; Walk-In; or go to your local Walgreens Pharmacy (show VA ID & photo ID).
* Washington State University Alumni are offering yard & household clean-up assistance to Veterans in need.
  + Contact WSU Alumni Association for more information.
* WorkSource Vancouver offers Veteran orientation on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month; (360) 735-5000
* As of September 27th the Department of Veteran Affairs will no longer operate Veteran On-Line Application (VONAPP). Veterans, service members and family members may continue online submissions through VA’s Vets.gov or eBenefits.gov website.
* Army, Navy and Air Force Exchanges will start offering to all honorably discharged Veterans online shopping starting on Veterans Day, November 11th , Register by calling: (844) 868-8672, Vet Verify Contact Center; M-F, 0800-1700
* September – December Mental Health Disorder & Dementia training available for Veteran’s family and friends; see flyers on CMAC website
* PTSD: Decision Aid App helps Veterans learn about & compare effective PTSD treatments
  + www.ptsd.va.gov/apps/Decisionaid
* Meal Train for Portland VA Fisher House (Vancouver campus) is seeking volunteers to create, cook & serve meals to families of Veteran hospitalized in the Portland VA Hospital. Approximate number of people to serve is 32; delivery or cook time in FH kitchen, 3:00-7:00pm. Meal Train for FH Calendar available thru 12/31/2017. For more info: https://mealtrain.com/mdv4d3; FH office (360) 567-4647, Barbara Decoito-Weaver. (a non-profit)
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* Free Legal Assistance Services for military retirees, active duty, and reserve available in the Portland/Vancouver area; offered by the 6th Legal Operations Detachment. Contact: heiko.p.coppola.mil@mail.mil; (253) 229-0372

Citizen Interest:

* Donate your eclipse glasses to “Astronomers without Borders” for 2019. The Fort Vancouver National Historic Site is listed for designated collection. Drop off at Visitors Center.
* Washington new distracted driving law, effective July 23rd. The law named “Driving Under the Influence of Electronics; offenses reported to insurance companies, etc.
* Compassion Connect offers clinical services in medical, dental and chiropractic care. Certain clinics may also provide vision and other forms of physical care such as foot & nail care. Clinics are available throughout Clark County and Portland metro areas. www.compassioncconnect.com/calendar/ or /models/
* American Red Cross Blood Center in need of blood donations; contact Vancouver ARC for list of times
* American Red Cross Cascades Region has available a Prepare! Resource Guide; redcross.org/cascades
* Air Force Emergency Management offers a free Emergency Preparedness Guide at www.BeReady.af.mil

Community Service Opportunities:

* VA Vancouver Long Term Patient Care in need of T-shirts and Sweat Pants, all sizes
* North County Community Food Bank is seeking volunteers; 8:15-11:30am; office@nccfoodbank.org
* Compassion Connect offers clinical services in medical, dental and chiropractic care. Certain clinics may also provide vision and other forms of physical care such as foot & nail care. Clinics are available throughout Clark County and Portland metro areas. [www.compassioncconnect.com/calendar](http://www.compassioncconnect.com/calendar)/ or /models/

Legislative Affairs:

* US House Appropriations Committee approved FY 2018 spending plans co-authored by Congresswoman Jamie Herrera Beutler to include an amendment to block Oregon’s unfair tolling “scheme” on I-5 & I-205; military pay raise 2.4%; reforms better support for military sexual assault victims; and improvements to flawed development grant system.

2017 Calendar:

Sunday, September 24th: Gold Star Mother’s Day

Monday, October 9th : Columbus Day (federal holiday)

Tuesday, October 31st : Halloween

Sunday, November 5th : Daylight Savings time ends

Tuesday, November 7th : Election Day

Thursday, November 23rd : Thanksgiving Day (federal holiday)

Thursday, December 7th : Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Monday, December 25th : Christmas Day (federal holiday)

Sunday, December 31st : New Year’s Eve

Military Service Birthdates:

US Merchant Marines – 12 June 1775

US Army – 14 June 1775

US Army Special Forces (Green Berets) – 19 June 1952

US Coast Guard – 4 August 1790

US Air Force – 18 September 1947

US Navy – 13 October 1775

US Marine Corps – 10 November 1775

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

Secretary – Yvette Brown-Wahler CMAC11.Secretary@gmail.com // ycbw@comcast.net

Website: [www.cmac11.com](http://www.cmac11.com); ‘Like us’ on Facebook: CMAC – Community Military Appreciation Committee