

**Community Military Appreciation Committee (CMAC)
Meeting Minutes of September 29, 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; Supply/Website-Bill Hauser; Safety-Roy Billings; Advocate-Leonard Mills **Members at Large Present:** Frazier Raymond; Sean Gibson; Natalie Hantho. [13]

CMAC Members Present: Richard Alvarez (VFW); Tom Cates; Nelson (40et8) & Stephanie Collazo-Serrano (40et8-LF), Jeff Davis (VBMA); Pam Davis; Bob Day (PT-658), Jack Giesen; Dave Hancock (SFA/NIVA), Jerry Keen (Pointman); Vicki Kraft (17th Legislative District); June Lasch (ARC), Timothy May (Vetcorps); Anne McEnery-Ogle (City of Vancouver); Meredith McMackin (ES), Leonard Mills (Vancouver Elks 823), Terry Ogle; Pam Peiper (3rd District SW WA); Steven Stanley (Young Marines), JoAnn Strickland. [19]

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

CMAC Scheduled Events:

- A. November 11th Veterans Day Ceremony/Parade; Providence Academy; 11:00am
- B. December 8th CMAC Christmas/Holiday Party; 40et8; 5:00pm – Social; 6:00pm – Hors d'oeuvres (Appetizers)
- C. Our Community Salutes; Skyview High School; April 19th 2018

CMAC Meeting Dates: 8:30am: 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, Irma; and Maria. Be prepared for weather emergencies by stocking up on food and water, possible loss of electrical power, and charge cell phones and radios.

CMAC Notes:

- Space for three tables remains open for Veterans Day within Providence Academy by the Historic Trust. Contact program manager at (360) 992-1804
- Natalie Hantho resigned from CMAC Board and the Historic Trust due to accepting new job with Evergreen School District. We wish her fair winds and following seas.
- Meredith McMackin (Gold Star Mother) accepted Vancouver City Council proclamation in recognition of Gold Star Mother's Day.
- Chaplain James Mead discussed suicide awareness with the recent Vietnam War series. Concern if Veterans watch program they have a "buddy" with them in case of mental health distress.
- The 2017 Vancouver VA Stand Down was deemed a success with approximately 60 Veteran and Community "vendors" supporting homeless Veterans and those in need.

CMAC Guests:

- US Air Force Recruiting Command: Msgt Nick Gega; Ssgt Kris Pachess; and, Tsgt Kody Stiller, are assisting CMAC to provide new Air Force recruits in for the Our Community Support 2018 event.
- Vicki Kraft, WA 17th Legislative District, discussed her support for Veterans and continuing to be present at events giving back to Veterans.
- Jeff Davis, Vancouver Barracks Military Association (VBMA) announced the completion of construction on their replica World War I ambulance, and traveling to Washington DC as part of the Centennial Commemoration of World War I.
- Louise Fendrich, casework manager for Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Beutler announce initiative for Veterans to participate in an event on October 16 to record their stories to be preserved in the Library of Congress and Veterans History Project. Contact 360-695-6292 / louise.fendrich@mail.hous.gov.

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

- October 6-7th 40et8 Le Femme Cabane 99 Fall Vendor Fair; Boxcar Room (78th Street); 9:00am-3:00pm; \$
 - October 6-31st Nightmare on Elk Street Haunted House; Vancouver Elks; times vary; \$
 - October 7th Oktoberfest at Bingo Hall (40et8 V99) 6:30pm; \$
 - October 10th Female Veterans Peer Group event; 11-12:30pm; Lacey
 - October 13-16th Oregon 1000 Flags Celebration of Honor; Chinook Winds
 - October 21st VA Portland Job Fair; 9-1pm [see below for more information]
 - October 26th B-17Alliance Training Center – 'Secret Code Map' exhibit; Salem; \$
 - November 2nd Symbol of Freedom event; Warehouse '23; 11:30am; CDMCaregiving.org; Vancouver; \$
 - November 7th Vancouver Elks Lodge #823 hosting Veterans Day Dinner; 5:30-7:30pm; Info – (360) 256-0823
 - November 9th Veterans Appreciation Reception; Oxford Suites; Jantzen Beach; 3:30-7pm; RSVP by 11/6
 - November 10th Marine Corps Birthday Party; 40et8 Boxcar; 6-11pm; RSVP 360-907-5342; \$
 - November 10th Marine Corps Brunch (9:00-12pm) and 242nd Birthday Dinner (time TBD); Cascade Bar & Grill
 - November 17-18th LeFemmes(40et8 V99) Holiday Bazaar; Boxcar 9:00-3:00pm; \$
 - December 1st Hoe-Down Fundraiser for Veterans Assistance Center; 40et8; \$
- (\$) Contribution &/or Fee

Veterans Interest:

- Portland VA Job Fair; October 21st; 9:00-1:00pm;
 - https://www.portland.va.gov/PORTLAND/features/portland_va_job_fair.asp
 - <https://www.usa.jobs.gov/GetJob/viewdetails/480153900#>
- It's that time of year again! RVP has discounted Trail Blazer tickets for the game on Military Appreciation Night, Friday, November 10, 2017. The Trail Blazers will play the Brooklyn Nets.; book by October 13th; [rosequater.com/returning Veterans](http://rosequater.com/returning_Veterans)
- 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)
- 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
- 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.
- 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.compassionconnect.com/calendar/ or [/models/](http://www.compassionconnect.com/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
- Cressa Alert website provides information on emergence preparedness.

Community Service Opportunities:

- Farmers Insurance & WorkSource are leading a "Suits for Soldiers" campaign to collect new and gently used suits and other business attire for military personnel to use at job interviews. WorkSource Veterans Program will benefit. More information to follow.
- 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

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. The Congresswoman is working with Senators Murray and Cantwell to protect Southwest Washington on unfair tolls.
- WDVA website provides information for Veterans interested in free-or-reduced-rate passes or programs for disabled Veterans – <http://www.dva.wa.gov/program/>

2017 Calendar:

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 Veteran & community events and/or service opportunities.

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

Website: www.cmac11.com; 'Like us' on Facebook: CMAC – Community Military Appreciation Committee