

**Community Military Appreciation Committee (CMAC)
Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2022
40et8 and VIA Zoom**

Executive Board Members Present: Co-Chairman – Larry Smith, Co-Chairman– Mike Burton; Operations-Marlene Varga, Secretary – Stephanie Collazo-Serrano, Treasurer – Bruce Evans, Board Directors Present: Chaplain - James Mead (Excused) Supply/Website - Bill Hauser, Safety-Roy Billings (Excused), Outreach -Dan Sockle (Excused), Members at Large Present: Frazier Raymond (Excused), Sean Gibson, Alex Patterson (Excused); Elizabeth Johnston (Excused), Samantha Whitley, Teresa Wheeler, Minh Pham (Excused), Ron Powers, Jay Williams, Michelle Marra (Excused), Sarah Nein, (Excused) [11]

CMAC Members Present: Anne McEnerny-Ogle (City of Vancouver), Terry Ogle (City of Vancouver), Steven Stanley (Young Marines), Patrick Locke (Toastmasters), (CMAC), Amanda McCullum (1st Choice), Sara Fox (VFW). Ron Brandon (Marine Corps League), Buck Marr (MOAA), Judge Darvin Zimmerman (Veterans & 1st Responders Board), Les Lomax (40et8), Michael Stacey (Pure Kraze), Rod Williams (MOAA), Pat Spring (CMAC), Ralph Walker (CMAC), June Lasch (Red Cross), Ron Ostrander (CMAC), JoAnn Strickland (CMAC), Richard McHugh (CVI), Tom Barton (Radio Club),[19]

Meeting called to order by Larry Smith

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Mike Burton
2. Prayer/Inspiration: Steven Stanley

CMAC Scheduled Events:

- Memorial Day Ceremony-May 30, 2022, 11:00am-Fort Vancouver
- Heroes Night-June 11, 2022-Time TBD, Pearson Air Museum

CMAC 2022 40 et 8 and Zoom

Apr 8th 40et8 and Zoom 8:30 AM
Apr 22nd 40et8 and Zoom 8:30 AM

CMAC Summary

- Sean went over the details of Our Community Salutes. Walkthrough was March 22nd. Everything is ready to go. We will have about 65 students that we will be honoring.
- Marlene is working on putting together this years Memorial Day Ceremony. It will take place on the Parade field like in past years. We will have a reception. Marlene will go over details at our next meeting.
- Ron Powers shared the new director of Clark Colleges Veterans Resource Center is Donna Larson. Ron is working having her speak at CMAC.
- Judge Zimmerman shared that the last two days of the fundraising event for the fallen officers is March 25th and 26th. If you are unable to attend and want to donate to the fundraiser, donations can be made to Veterans and First Responders Board of SW WA at PO Box 61628, Vancouver, WA 98666.
- Judge Zimmerman thanked Ralph Walker and Patrick Locke for all his help with the VFW Pavilion.

- Larry and Mike presented Judge Zimmerman a check for \$500.00 to donate to the fundraiser for the fallen officers.

Guest Speakers

- March 29th is Vietnam War Commemoration Day and Ron Powers and Michael Stacey with Pure Kraze presented Vietnam Veterans in the meeting with a special pin and certificate to honor them for their service in Vietnam. Some of the veterans that were honored, shared their experience.
- Rod Williams with MOAA shared they are conducting their annual spring campaign throughout the month of April. Some of their 350,000 members from across the country will soon be reaching out to your legislators to schedule in-person or virtual meetings to discuss this year's campaign topics. MOAA's three advocacy topics this year are:
 - **The Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282/S. 344)** would provide concurrent receipt of retired pay and disability pay for combat-injured veterans.
 - **The Stop Copay Overpay Act (H.R. 4824)** would overturn the doubling of TRICARE copays for mental health care for uniformed services families and retirees.
 - **Ensuring a 4.6% military pay raise** as a minimum across all ranks would keep faith with members of all eight uniformed services, maintaining the link to the Employment Cost Index (ECI) established by statute. Keeping this full raise intact in the NDAA remains one of MOAA's constant priorities. (Information copied from an email written by Rod Williams).

Additionally, MOAA is advocating for comprehensive toxic exposure reform. If you have an experience or would like to share your story, you can contact Rod Williams, President, Columbia River Chapter of MOAA at Cell: 503-317-2273 or email him at [Email: Rodwill50@hotmail.com](mailto:Rodwill50@hotmail.com).

Events/Announcements

- VA to Expand 3 Caregiving Programs by 2026. Email copied and sent from Mike Burton: As reported on January 25, by Aaron Kassraie for AARP, the VA has announced plans to expand three of its home- and community-based caregiving services to its 171 medical centers by the end of 2026. Services are expanding to areas with the highest unmet needs and will include the addition of 58 medical foster homes, 70 veteran-directed care programs, and 75 home-based primary care teams within these programs: Home-Based Primary Care; Medical Foster Home; and Veteran-Directed Care. https://www.va.gov/GERIATRICAL/pages/Home_Based_Primary_Care.asp
- Dan Sockle shared about a sleep study the VA is conducting, called Improving sleep, sleep-related outcomes, and biomarkers in Veterans. The purpose of this research study is to learn about how receiving bright light or negative ions in the morning might affect sleep in Veterans of all ages. To determine if eligible: <https://octri.ohsu.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=EDAKYRNTF4>. Those interested can also contact OHSU/VA study team at 503-468-6002.

'Like us on Facebook'

- REACH Too is hosting a Veterans Support Circle the last Thursday of each month starting at 5pm starting July 29th at the REACH Center, 1601 E. Fourth Plain Blvd, Building 17 (in the basement)

Like us' on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CommunityMilitaryAppreciationCommittee/

Or visit us at our website at www.cmac11.com

If you would like to add your event to our Calendar of events, please email:
Stephanie Collazo-Serrano, at CMAC11.Secretary@gmail.com

CMAC Mailing Address

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