

**Community Military Appreciation Committee (CMAC)  
Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2022  
40et8 Boxcar and VIA Zoom**

Board of Directors present: Chairman – Larry Smith, Vice Chairman– Mike Burton; Operations- Marlene Varga, Secretary – Stephanie Collazo-Serrano, Treasurer –Bruce Evans, (Excused), Board Members, Teresa Wheeler (Excused), Sam Whitley, and Rod Williams, Bill Hauser Safety-Roy Billings, Outreach -Dan Sockle, Donal Singleton, Aaron Ochoa (Excused), Sean Gibson, Minh Pham (Excused), Ron Powers, Jay Williams, Sarah Nein (Excused), Steven Stanley Bryndl Rohan (Excused), Paulette Fryar (Excused) [13]

CMAC Members at Large present: Tony Sprague (Congresswoman Perez), Judith Johnson (CCVAC), Pat Spring (CMAC), June Lasch (Red Cross), Tom Barton (Radio Club), Megan Anderson (Clark College Vets Center), Les Lomax (40et8), Buck Marr (MOAA), Geri Stuart (Blue Star Mothers), Ralph Harris (Red Cross), Curt Loop (AUSA), Larry Clifton (40et8), Brian Andrus (Legion of Service), Lauren Andrus (Legion of Service), Cyndi Holloway (Waste Connections), Carolyn Long (WSU), Sarah Fox (VFW), Tennyson Long (Columbia River HS), Bill Crist (AUSA). Narcisa Eral (CMAC), Bruce Maas (DAV), Larry Hoff (18<sup>th</sup> District), Ralph Walker (CMAC), Myrna Leija (Veterans & 1<sup>st</sup> Responders Board), [24]

Meeting called to order by Larry Smith  
Pledge of Allegiance: Mike Burton  
Prayer/Inspiration: Ron Powers

CMAC Scheduled Events:

- Our Community Salutes-May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Skyview High School, 6pm
- Memorial Day Ceremony May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Fort Vancouver, 11am
- Heroes Night-June 24, 2023, Pearson Hangar, Time, 3pm-8pm
- Patriots Day Ceremony September 11, 2023, Vancouver Waterfront, 9am
- POW/MIA-September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, ARFC, 11am
- Veterans Day-November 11, 2023-Pearson Air Hangar-11am

CMAC 2023 40 et 8 and Zoom

Feb 17 <sup>th</sup>	40et8 and Zoom	8:30 AM
Mar 3 <sup>rd</sup>	40et8 and Zoom	8:30 AM
Mar 17 <sup>th</sup>	40et8 and Zoom	8:30 AM
Apr 14 <sup>th</sup>	40et8 and Zoom	8:30 AM
Apr 28 <sup>th</sup>	40et8 and Zoom	8:30 AM

CMAC Summary

- Larry Smith presented an award to Cyndi Holloway on behalf of Waste Connections for their continued support of our Memorial Day Ceremony. Cyndi Holloway shared Waste

Connections gives over 250k back to the community and CMAC is close to her heart and honored to help our organization.

- Marlene Varga went over the Organizational Chart that we are working on. The chart includes a Board of Directors, an Advisory Council, Event Managers, and Members at Large. The Board of Directors will be responsible for making final decisions and voting on items brought to the board. The Board of Directors will include Larry Smith, Mike Burton, Bruce Evans, Stephanie Collazo, Teresa Wheeler, Rod Williams, and Sam Whitley. We are currently working on putting together the Advisory Council who will be the steering body of the organization. This council will consist of members who have a key role in the organization as well as event managers. Marlene and Stephanie will be reaching out to members in those roles to see if they are interested in being a part of the Advisory Council and get updates at our future meetings. The Event Managers will be responsible for putting together teams of people to help coordinate each of our events. Members at Large will include everyone in the organization. We want to make sure that everyone knows we are a team and everyone in the organization is valued and appreciated. Once we have completed the organizational chart, we will get it uploaded to our website and shared at future meetings.
- Sean Gibson shared Our Community Salutes will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup> at Skyview High School. He shared that this is a national annual event that honors high school students going into the military. It is a way to support the students and their families. Each year we hold a ceremony with guest speakers and the students are given a coin, flag and a certificate signed by the Governor. Sean will be working on planning the event and will update us at our next meeting.
- Marlene shared she met with Larry Clifton and Aaron Ochoa who will be planning this year's Memorial Day Ceremony. They will update us of their progress at the next meeting.
- Dan shared Heroes Night will take place at the Pearson Hangar on June 24<sup>th</sup> from 3-8pm to honor veterans, 1<sup>st</sup> responders, front line workers, and teachers. Their organizing committee will be meeting once a month and the next meeting is February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Wild Pines on 162<sup>nd</sup>. If you are interested in having a table at the event, please contact Dan Sockle at [dsockle@gmail.com](mailto:dsockle@gmail.com) or Ron Powers at [jrpfamily@aol.com](mailto:jrpfamily@aol.com).
- Jay Williams shared the Veterans Day Open House will take place at the Pearson Hangar on November 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Larry Smith shared the Marshall Awards nominations are open and nomination are due February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023. If you know someone in your community who you would like to nominate for the Adult and/ or Youth Leadership awards, please visit <https://www.thehistorictrust.org/marshall-awards/>

### **Guest Speaker (s)**

- Carolyn Long with WSU introduced her daughter, Tennyson Long who is a student at Columbia River High School. Tennyson is working on a thesis project that will focus on veterans from various generations sharing their stories to be shared with her generation. If you are a veteran and are interested in sharing your story with Tennyson, please contact Stephanie at [cmac11.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cmac11.secretary@gmail.com) and she will connect you with her.

### **Events/Announcements**

'Like us on Facebook'

- Red Cross is looking for volunteers to help installing free smoke detectors in homes in Longview Washington on Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 9am-4pm for their Sound the Alarm Event. Kickoff and volunteer training will be at St. Helens Elementary School at 9am located at 431 27<sup>th</sup> ave, Longview WA 98632. If you are available to help, please contact Michael Drake at [Michael.drake@redcross.org](mailto:Michael.drake@redcross.org) or 360-768-7463
- CCVAC is holding a Hole in the Range Golf Tournament Fundraiser on June 6<sup>th</sup> at Tri Mountain Golf Course starting at 9am. For more information or to sign up, please visit <https://ccvac.net/>
- 2023 Oregon Women Veterans' Biennial Conference. The Oregon Dept. of Veterans' Affairs will host the conference on 20-21 May 2023. It will be held at the Salem Convention Center. The coordinator of the conference is LTC Jessica Bradley, USMC (Ret). The theme of the conference is "Stronger Together - Voices of Service". Early focus will be on Outreach, sponsors, and speakers as the ODVA finalizes the agenda. The website is [wvc.oregondva.com](http://wvc.oregondva.com) or contact Jessica at: [jessica.bradley.odva.oregon.gov](mailto:jessica.bradley.odva.oregon.gov) (copied from an email from Bill Crist).
- The 42nd National Veterans Wheelchair Games will be held in Portland on July 4th to 9th, 2023. It is co-presented by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Paralyzed Veterans of America. It is anticipated that 650 to 700 athletes will attend the games from every state, Puerto Rico and England. The Games serve Veterans with Spinal Cord Injury, Multiple Sclerosis, Amputations, and other central neurological impairments with the goal to increase their independence, healthy activity and quality of life through wheelchair sports and recreation. There are 19 different events in which Veterans can choose to participate. It is anticipated it will take about 3,000 volunteers from the metropolitan community to host the event. If you know of organizations or individuals who could support the event, please contact either Shaun Benson at (503) 309-1980 or [shaun.benson@va.gov](mailto:shaun.benson@va.gov) or Tom Hurt at (503) 362-7998 or [exec.dir@oregonpva.org](mailto:exec.dir@oregonpva.org) (Copied from an email from Bill Crist).
- The Pacific Northwest Gold Star Scholarships are open. The scholarships are available to students who lost a parent that served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Global War on Terrorism (2001-present) and the student has lived in Clark, Skamania or Cowlitz County, WA or the deceased parent had once lived in one of those counties. Award amount: up to \$2500. The scholarship may be used in pursuit of post-secondary education at public or private nonprofit colleges, universities, or vocational schools in the United States. Recipients will be selected based on demonstrated financial need and academic or vocation potential. To apply, please visit: [www.cfsww.org/how-we-grant/scholarships](http://www.cfsww.org/how-we-grant/scholarships) Deadline is: May 1, 2023. For any questions, please email [deanna@cfsww.org](mailto:deanna@cfsww.org)

Like us' on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CommunityMilitaryAppreciationCommittee/](http://www.facebook.com/CommunityMilitaryAppreciationCommittee/)

Or visit us at our website at [www.cmac11.com](http://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](mailto:CMAC11.Secretary@gmail.com)

**CMAC Mailing Address**

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