

Community Military Appreciation Committee (CMAC)
Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2024
40et8 Boxcar and VIA ZOOM

Board of Directors present: Chairperson – Larry Smith, Vice Chairperson– Mike Burton; Director of Operations -Marlene Varga (Excused), Secretary – Stephanie Collazo-Serrano, Treasurer -Bruce Evans, Board Members- Teresa Wheeler, Rod Williams, Dan Sockle, and Samantha Whitley [8]

Members at Large present: Patrick Locke (40et8), Buck Marr (MOAA), Ron Powers (Clark College), Ralph Walker (CMAC), June Lasch (Red Cross), Richard McHugh (CVI), Anne McEnery-Ogle (City of Vancouver), Jack Rosenthal (Altitude), Bill Crist (AUSA), Linda Humason (CMAC), Harry Humason (CMAC), Brian Andrus (Legion of Service), Nelson Collazo (CMAC), Launie O’Leary (CMAC), Tom Barton (Radio Club), Pat Spring (CMAC), Ralph Harris (DAV), Donal Singleton (Buffalo Soldiers), Kristine O’Brien (VA), Geri Stuart (Blue Star Mothers), Judith Johnson (CCVAC), Ray Heller (CMAC), [21]

Meeting called to order by Larry Smith
Pledge of Allegiance: Mike Burton
Words of Inspiration: Donal Singleton

CMAC Upcoming Scheduled Events:

- Our Community Salutes, May 8th, Skyview High School, 6:30pm
- Memorial Day Ceremony, May 27th, Fort Vancouver, 11:00am

CMAC 2023 40 et 8 and ZOOM

Apr 5th 40et8 and Zoom 8:30 AM
Apr 19th 40et8 and Zoom 8:30 AM

CMAC Summary

- Rod Williams went over the Our Community Salutes draft agenda. OCS will take place on May 8th at Skyview High School starting at 6:30pm. They are connecting with recruiters to get the names of all the students that will be attending. The event is to recognize the high school students that are entering the military and to let them and their families know that the community is here to support them. There will be a reception directly following the event. This is a public event, and members are encouraged to invite their families, neighbors, and organizations to attend the event.
- Launie O’Leary shared CMAC member Nelson Collazo will be joining her, Marlene, and Aaron Ochoa with NPS to help coordinate the Memorial Day ceremony that will take place on May 27th at 11am. They will be reaching out to sub-committee members in the coming weeks to work together to plan the event.
- New member Jack Rosenthal with Altitude Tactical shared his personal story with members including his time in the military and his experience working in law enforcement.
- Dan Sockle shared about an upcoming historian project that he and other members of CMAC are putting together. If you have anything that relating to CMAC from over the years, please let Dan know at dsockle@gmail.com. The initial effort will be to tell CMAC’s story. Dan will have updates as the project progresses.

Guest Speaker

Linda Humason introduced her dad, Harry Humason a WWII Veteran who fought in Germany in Patton's Third Army, Fifth Infantry Division. Harry shared about his experience as an engineer in the military. You can learn more about Harry, his experiences, and connect with him on his blog www.happyharryoutofthebox.com.

Events/Announcements

- The Pact Act is a law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances. Starting March 5th, the VA is expanding VA health care to millions of Veterans—years earlier than called for by the PACT Act. If you would like more information or would like to apply or see if you are eligible, please contact your local Veterans Service Officer or visit <https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/> or call [800-698-2411](tel:800-698-2411) for more information.
- The Blue Star Mothers of Oregon have been serving the military since 2008, recently helped the 142nd Airborne Div. at PANG with sixty-four care packages and have additional care packages they are putting together for our military. They have put together an Amazon wish list that you can find here: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/16HHBGEZIYNRX?ref=list_d_wl_lfu_nav_2 They would appreciate any help with getting the word out. If you are interested in donating to help with missing care package items, shipping, or would like more information, please visit their website at <https://bluestarmothersoforegon.org/>.
- Red Cross is hosting free virtual resiliency workshops each Monday at 6:00pm during the month of March for service members, veterans, and their family members and caregivers. For more information, please contact Meghan Hahn with the Red Cross at Meghan.hahn@redcross.org.
- Clark County Veterans Assistance Center is hosting a Veterans Hiring and Resource Fair on April 17th from 10am-1pm at the Armed Forces Reserve Center. For more information on how to register or are an employer or resource provider, please contact Sonja Wood at wood.sonja.etc@gmail.com
- Clark County Veterans Assistance Center (CCVAC) will be holding their Red, White, & Blue Gala at Ilani Casino on Tuesday, July 16th, 2024. More details of the event will be announced as the date gets closer.

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, at CMAC11.Secretary@gmail.com

CMAC Mailing Address

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