

**Community Military Appreciation Committee (CMAC)
Meeting Minutes of April 19, 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: Tom Barton (Radio Club), Ron Powers (Clark College), Ralph Walker (CMAC), June Lasch (Red Cross), Nelson Collazo (CMAC), Buck Marr (MOAA), Richard McHugh (CVI), Flynn Phillips (Post 74), Launie O’Leary (CMAC), Jay Williams (CMAC), Greg Gilbertson (VFW), Pat Spring (CMAC), Terry Ogle (CMAC), Rob Murphy (U of P) Bill Crist (AUSA), Curt Loop (CMAC), Les Lomax (40et8), Sean Kelso (NW Technology), John Toll (U of P), Ashley Logan (Army), Kristine O’Brien (VA), Dave Casteel (MOAA), Sarah Fox (VFW), Megan Anderson (Clark College), Geri Stuart (Blue Star Mothers), Judith Johnson (CCVAC), Duncan Stuart (CMAC), Ray Heller (CMAC), Bill Hauser (Marine Corps League), [29]

Meeting called to order by Larry Smith
Pledge of Allegiance: Larry Smith
Words of Inspiration: Rod Williams

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

May 3rd 40et8 and Zoom 8:30 AM
May 17th 40et8 and Zoom 8:30 AM
May 31st 40et8 and Zoom 8:30 AM
June 14th 40et8 and Zoom 8:30 AM
June 28th 40et8 and Zoom 8:30 AM
July 12th 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. A reception will follow. As a community event, Rod encouraged everyone to attend to help support the high school seniors and their families. A walkthrough will be held at the high school on April 22nd at 12pm. Larry shared Adam Blackwell and Molecular Testing Labs will be this year’s OCS sponsor. Speakers for the evening will include Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, Dr. Jeff Snell, Vancouver Public Schools Superintendent, and the featured speaker will be Vanessa Munson, former Army Sergeant, and current Miss Washington 2023.
- Launie O’Leary and Nelson Collazo will be co-event managers of Memorial Day along with Marlene who will oversee the event. Launie went over details of the Memorial Day

ceremony that will take place at Ft. Vancouver Gazebo starting at 11am. There will be a VIP reception starting at 9:30am at the Marshall House. John Kaiser will be the keynote speaker. Waste Connections and NW Natural will be this year's event sponsors. If your organization has an honor guard and would like to be a part of the event, please contact Nelson at ncserrano37@gmail.com. They are also asking for volunteers to help set up and clean up after the event. If you are interested in helping volunteer, please contact Nelson or Launie at launie.oleary@gmail.com. Launie and Nelson will have additional details at our next regular CMAC meeting on May 3rd.

- Larry Smith shared the Marshall Leadership awards will take place on April 29th and there are 17 adult and 35 youth candidates this year.
- Megan Anderson with Clark College Veterans Center of Excellence shared we will be collaborating with them to store some items for CMAC. Both she and Josh Jones will be redesigning our CMAC trifold brochure to share what we do and use as a tool to bring in new membership.
- Dan Sockle shared he is currently taking orders for CMAC shirts and hats. If you would like to place an order, please contact him at dsocket@gmail.com by Friday, May 3rd. He will also be at the May 3rd regular CMAC meeting collecting orders.
- Dan Sockle shared the War Memorial Cleanup will take place on Saturday, May 18th at 10am. If you are interested in helping, please let Dan know at dsocket@gmail.com
- John Toll shared University of Portland's next Commission will be Saturday, May 4th starting at 11am at the Childs Center in Portland. CMAC members are invited to attend.
- The Redheart Ceremony will take place on Saturday, April 20th at 10am at Fort Vancouver.
- Larry Smith shared the 40et8 will be leasing out the Chateau to the current head Chef who will be opening his own family restaurant that will be open to the public. The 40et8 Boxcar will remain part of the 40et8 and be available for events.

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.
- There will be a Car Show at the 40et8 on Saturday, May 4th from 8am-3pm to raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House. There will be food available for purchase and all types of cars are eligible to register. If you are interested in participating, please contact Earl Edwards at mustangearl@aol.com.
- 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/>. They are

'Like us on Facebook'

also hosting a Meet & Greet and fundraiser at Uptown Barrel Room in Vancouver, WA on May 18th in honor of Armed Forces Day from 1pm-4pm.

- Clark College Veterans Center of Excellence will be celebrating its 10-year anniversary on May 21, 2024, from 1:30-3:30pm in the Gaiser Student Center. This event is free to attend. They would like to say thank you to everyone for the continued support for veteran student success. Come meet fellow veterans, donors, and supporters.
- Clark County Veterans Assistance Center (CCVAC) will be holding their Red, White, & Blue Gala, Salute to Our Veterans at Ilani Casino Jr. Ballroom on Tuesday, July 16th, 2024, from 2pm-6pm. The keynote Speaker will be Daniel Sitterly from the Dept. of Veteran Affairs, Washington D.C. Emcee will be Tim Taylor from KGON Radio. For more information about the event, please visit <https://www.ccvac.net/events-2/gala-fund-raiser>.

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

Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CommunityMilitaryAppreciationCommittee/
Or visit us at our website at www.cmac11.com

CMAC Mailing Address

O.O. Howard House
750 Anderson St. Suite C
Vancouver, WA 98660