

Boxcar Bulletin

www.voiture-99.com

Clark County 40 et 8 Voiture 99 Volume 17, Issue 12 December 2017

From the Chef de Gare

Not available by publishing date.

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Correspondants Notes

I had the opportunity to sit in at a Veterans Roundtable on November 18, 2017 here at the Chateau hosted by Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Beutler. The Congresswoman was accompanied by U. S. Representative Phil Roe, MD., who is Chairman of the U. S. House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Representative Roe talked at length about the VA in general and the changes that have taken place since his association with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. He also addressed many of the problems that are ongoing not only here in SW Washington, but throughout all VA Centers across the Nation.

There were representatives present from just about all of the service organizations located in the Southwest Washington area. While the program was orchestrated to some small degree, each organization, or member of that organization, had a chance to address problems that they personally experienced while dealing with the VA here in SW Washington and at the Portland campus or were told about because of their status as a Service Officer. There were a few things identified which up until now, I don't think anyone ever considered before.

One such item is having those individuals who review claims gain a better understanding of the use of military language as it pertains to the way different military organizations function. This can and has caused confusion which has led to the refusal of claims in the past and continues to do so. Other areas which continue to be a problem are: too many claims still being lost/misplaced in the system and it still takes too long to process a claim or even receive medications.

The general consensus seemed to be that the

overall system is big, slow and cumbersome. Changes are happening, but they too are slow in the process. The good news is that the Service Officers and veterans in the SW Washington area were afforded the opportunity to express their concerns to the Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and to Representative Beutler directly.

For the Voiture; we are entering the last month of the year and there are still many of you who have not renewed your dues for 2018. Why not take a moment and ask yourself one simple question. Why did you join this organization in the first place? Our values and goals have not changed. The programs, services and funding 40/8 provides to Youth Organizations, Veterans and programs like nursing scholarships are still our main objectives. We need your membership, help and participation if we are to succeed. The dues have not changed – they are still only \$25.00 for the year. We can accomplish so much with that \$25.00.

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Mark your calendars for the 9th of December. That is a Saturday (I double checked) and it will be the first time we will have a Promenade on a weekend. We are also having a WRECK that day. It begins at 12 Noon. The Promenade will begin at 2 PM followed by dinner at 5.

Join us on each Thursday AM for coffee. It's only fair that you have a voice in saving the world and solving all its problems.

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2018

It's PARTY TIME!!

December 31st

6:30pm

Packets are \$25 for the first one
\$10 each additional

Paying \$1000

3- **\$1199** blackouts
1 - **\$1000** blackout

Game 23- \$2018

Bonanza & Pick 8 guaranteed \$500

Ham dinner & NYE goodie bag included
with buy-in



Happy New Year from 40 et 8 Bingo

2 sessions ONLY 12:30 pm & 6:30 pm

Chateau Schedule for December 2017

Members and guests allowed on Friday for breakfast. Saturday the Chateau is open to voyageurs and guests.
Thursday morning coffee & doughnuts at the Chateau at 8:30 am.

Voiture 99 Meeting Reminders:

Prom **SATURDAY 12/9/17**

Cheminot **12/19/17**

					1 Member & Guest Breakfast 7:30 am – 9 am	2 Chateau Open 12 pm - 7 pm Grill 12 pm - 3 pm French Dip, veggie & fries North County Cruisers Xmas Party
3	4	5 BNI Networking 6 am - 9 am	6	7 Member & Guest Coffee & Donuts 8:30 am – 10 am	8 Member & Guest Breakfast 7:30 am – 9 am CMAC Xmas Party 5 pm - 8 pm	9 Wreck 12 pm Prom 2 pm Dinner 5 pm Brisket, Red potatoes, salad & roll Mustang Car Club Xmas Party
10	11	12 BNI Networking 6 am - 9 am	13	14 Member & Guest Coffee & Donuts 8:30 am – 10 am	15 Member & Guest Breakfast 7:30 am – 9 am All Hands on Deck for Puerto Rico Fundraiser	16 Chateau Open 12 pm - 7 pm Grill 12-3pm Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed potato & veggie
17	18	19 BNI Networking 6 am - 9 am CHEMINOT Beef Stew	20 Korean War Veterans 9 am	21 Member & Guest Coffee & Donuts 8:30 am – 10 am 361st Recruiting Squad Xmas party	22 Member & Guest Breakfast 7:30 am – 9 am	23 Chateau Open 12 pm -7 pm Grill 12 pm -3 pm Meatballs w/ marinara ravioli & garlic bread
24	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28 Member & Guest Coffee & Donuts 8:30 am – 10 am	29 Member & Guest Breakfast 7:30 am – 9 am	30 Chateau Open 12-7pm Grill 12 pm - 3 pm Meatloaf, Mashed potatoes & veggie
31 New Years Eve Bingo Hall is OPEN! *Big Money*		<p>**All Hands on Deck for Puerto Rico Fundraiser** Friday, December 15, 2017 in the Chateau, 4:30pm</p> <p><u>Chateau Lounge</u> is open 12-7pm---Grill is open for lunch 12-3pm \$6.00 and Dinner 3 - 7pm \$8.00</p> <p><u>Bingo Hours-</u> Thurs- 6:30pm / Friday- 6:30pm & 10:15pm Saturday-2pm, 6:30pm & 10:15pm / Sunday- 2pm & 6:30pm</p>				

La Femmes



Help me welcome the newest dame to Cabane 99, Nancy Frederick to Cabane 99. We initiated her at the November 6 Rendezvous and are greatly pleased she has joined us.

Looking forward to the upcoming holidays, join us for the annual Cabane 99 Christmas party. It will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday December 9 in the Boxcar Room in place of the December Rendezvous. Please bring a \$10.00 wrapped gift (or a pristine re-gift) for our gift exchange. The appetizers and wine will be supplied.

Thanks to good participation and excellent planning, the La Femmes Holiday Craft Bazaar went off without a hitch and was really successful. Thanks to Mary Snyder and Judy Bailey our fund raising committee for putting together yet another successful event. As always thanks to the dames who helped, because without your help it would not have happened. We are looking forward to next year and another successful fund raiser.

The La Femmes Thursday Morning Social meets in the Chateau. Join us and bring a friend. We always have fun and share great conversation. The first dames usually show up around 7:30 a.m. and we carry on until around 9:30 a.m. Attend and have fun.

Plan to attend the Christmas Party on December 9. The next Cheminot will be on December 19 followed by the January 13 Rendezvous. The Christmas Party and the January Rendezvous will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Boxcar Room. The December Cheminot will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Boxcar Room.

If you have questions about La Societe de Femme or are interested in joining the Dames of Cabane 99 contact La Presidente Judy Bailey at 360-798-5166 or La Sous Presidente Betsy Ross at 360-609-7235.

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ATTN: 40et 8 MEMBERS



**The goal is to rebuild the bar area
in your Chateau.**


So in order to do this donations are welcome and needed.


This will help reconstruct the area you visit for all events.

- The goal is to make the bar longer with more seating available.
- Back bar addition would be the length of bar including beer taps.
- Comfortable seating atmosphere that would draw all members back to enjoy their chateau with friends and family.

Any fundraiser ideas are welcome


VA Portland Health Care System
VA  U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



Veterans: Get Your Flu Shot Now!
You have lots of ways to get a flu shot

- 1. In Portland, visit the PVAMC Atrium Walk-in Clinic.**
Monday – Thursday, except holidays
Portland Main Hospital in the Atrium, Bldg. 100
9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. until November 22, 2017
- 2. Ask for a flu shot during your visit today.**
- 3. Visit the VA clinic in the community where you get your care.**
Monday – Friday, except holidays
Walk in during open clinic hours
You may be asked to wait 15-20 minutes

Can't do it today or at a VA clinic?

- 4. Visit your local Walgreens Pharmacy.**

at the corner of happy's healthy

No-cost flu shots for Veterans until March 31, 2018
Show your Veteran's ID card and a second photo ID.

Gone but not forgotten

Jimmy Harter
Past Chef de Gare
40et8 member for 36 years



Loci Schedule

If you see a trip scheduled and are interested in riding along contact the driver listed for that particular event to make sure there is room for you and any guests you have.



Dec	1st	Walnut Grove School - 5:00 pm	Jim
	2nd	Legacy Emanuel Hospital	Jim
	2nd	Open House Ministries	Jim
	16th	Saddle Club	
	16th	American Legion Post 14 Children Christmas Party	Jim/Marc

Voyageur Larry Smith selected as Clark County's 2017 First Citizen

A crowd of more than 200 people gathered at Warehouse '23 to celebrate Clark County's 2017 First Citizen, Larry J. Smith.



Celebrating the honor a day before Veteran's Day, Smith, a veteran himself, couldn't have been fêted on a more fitting evening. His extensive list of service includes more than 25 years in the military and a second career as a public servant to the City of Vancouver.

Jennifer Rhoads, president, Community Foundation for Southwest Washington, acknowledged this honorable service and also pointed out that the First Citizen award is about "recognition of what you do in your spare time, after work, in the evenings and on the weekends."

In Smith's case, his nomination included a long list of organizations that he has supported with his time, talent and treasure. Many of these were featured during a surprise community parade that rolled down the center aisle to kick off the award reception.

Regents Bank is the presenting sponsor for the First Citizen Award and sent Senior Vice President Devin Jackson to award Smith with a commemorative framed print and a contribution of \$1,000 to the nonprofit of his choice. Smith and his grandchildren chose to support Share's backpack program with the gift.

To view the event online, visit www.cvtv.org.

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Christmas Ships

2017 marks the 64th year for the [Christmas Ship Parade](#) on the Columbia and Willamette Rivers in Portland, Oregon. The Christmas Ship Fleet cruises between both rivers offering the Portland area thrilling Christmas time parades. The Portland tradition that started with one decorated boat it a volunteer organization. The privately owned vessels come from Portland, Vancouver, McMinnville, Salem and Hood River areas. Some of the ships owners have been part of Christmas tradition for more than 30 years with many being part of the fleets for over 20 years. Join Portland Spirit to make this your holiday tradition!

VAVS

For Bingo at the VA on November 23rd we had 15 patients with 10 volunteers and we donated \$95.00 in prizes.

Anyone interested in joining them contact John Landahl.

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On November 16., Voyageur's John Landahl, Jim Restleft, Steve Slegers and Frank Falbee traveled to Winlock to pickup 7 blankets and 140 pairs of Christmas socks. They were donated to the VA Hospital to be given to Veterans.

Veterans Day 2017

The 2017 Grand Marshals of the parade, Commander Yvette Brown-Wahler and Ryan Corcilius, were honored for their service to our community and our country.



CIRCLE OF PEACE PRESENTS

CONVERSATIONS WITH MUSLIMS

DECEMBER 10TH FROM 2-5PM AT THE VANCOUVER COMMUNITY LIBRARY - 901 C ST, VANCOUVER, WA

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Want to know more about Muslims, their beliefs and a chance to ask them anything you'd like?

Then Please Join Us!

Brief Presentation on Islam
Presentation - Politics & Islam
Open Question and Answer Session

(You Must RSVP to be guaranteed seating, please RSVP here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/conversations-with-muslims-tickets-39471802223>

Youth 4 Vets has teamed up with Southwest WA LULAC Council 47013 to host a dinner and auction fundraiser to help support the hurricane relief efforts in Corozal, Puerto Rico.

The event will be held at the 40 & 8 Chateau and Boxcar Rooms on Friday, December 15th starting at 5pm. Tickets are \$40.00 each and will be a Puerto Rican Inspired dinner and can be purchased by going to our Facebook page www.facebook.com/youth4vets under events and it will link them directly to the Eventbrite site.

Save the Date

YOUTH 4 VETS PRESENTS

Boots on the ground for Puerto Rico

Friday December 15, 2017
5-9PM

40&8 Boxcar Room

Join us for a dinner and auction to help support the hurricane relief efforts for the residents of Corozal, Puerto Rico.

More details to come

PosterMyWall.com

Happy Veterans Day from The Grotto

We honor and thank all the men and women who served and continue to serve our country.

We hope you will join us

Thursday, Dec. 7, as we celebrate ...

As part of our Military Appreciation Night celebration, all active and former servicemen and women and their families will receive complimentary admission to the Festival. Just show your Military card at the ticket booth to receive your tickets.

The complimentary tickets are good for Thursday, December 7, 2017, only. For all other days of the Festival, The Grotto offers a military discount.

For more information about The Grotto's 30th Annual Christmas Festival of Lights, [click here](#).

MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT

AT

THE GROTTO'S



CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS