MAC Meeting 9.08.23

Chemical Depot: Last month they participated in a blood and food drive that collected over 300lbs of food. Attending a lot of the State Fair events. Currently still looking for a few employees. They do have a few jobs open. One is a mechanic position and the other is an admin position. They do give preference to veterans. They are gearing up for Veteran Day Events. They have been invited to participate in some but if anyone would like them to attend or help with an event please let them know.

Action 22: Annual Meeting on the 5th and 6th El Paso County UCCS Cyber Security Building. On October 5th from 5P-7P will be having their reception, if anyone would like to attend, it will be in Colorado Springs UCCS let Brian know he will make sure he gets you a ticket.

Air and Space Force Association: Had an ice cream social at Oakshire.

American Legion #2: Thank you to all who has responded to the Stand down he has had a lot of good support. However, if someone didn’t get anything back when the emails were sent a lot came back undeliverable. Everything seems to be on track. Finally got notification of the grant and the amount they will be getting back.

American Red Cross: They will be at 2 stand downs up in Wyoming (Sheridan and Cheyenne) 11 standowns in Colorado to include the 2nd annual in Montrose and Grand Junction Pueblo, COS, Boulder, Ft. Collins, Denver and more.

Pueblo Veteran Council: Will be doing a Veteran’s Day Bash. Will include food trucks, music, speeches. If you would like to be involved please let Paul know.

Aveanna: They will be moving from their current location on Bonforte to the Eagle Ridge area. Once they are settled in, they will be having an official ribbon cutting/open house. Once they get closer, they will be sending out invitations.

CAE DOSS: If you are having an event that you would like to have a fly by please contact them sooner than later. Continue to produce military.

Clasp for Life and Veteran Overcoming Obstacles: Visit the website. Always helping people keep their passion and independence. He and two other people climbed the incline recently. Tommy has 1057 jumps. High Sky Adventures will give discounts to veterans.

Veterans Overcoming Obstacles: Tommy was recently named as President of the board. Right now Tommy is training for a 50 mile run/World Toughest Mudder 24hr period up in Dallas on November 5th. Chris is always part of Devil Dawg Gym where veterans will receive discounts if they can they will sponsor veterans so veterans don’t have to pay. They got with Chipotle they raised about 350 dollars. Tommy recently competed in what is called hero wives (sorry not sure if I heard right) honor somebody who has passed away. The team he was on got 1st place and was called C.A.T. with the fastest time.

Co Dept of Military and Veteran Services/State VSO: Can still file for PACT ACT. The deadline that went by was just for the retro payment. Spouses that were denied in the past can still apply. Everyone who deployed to the Middle East, VA has opened the healthcare even if they do not have a service connected. Any questions contact a VSO. Please talk to the elderly population to explain they must understand the burial benefits. If you need Eric to come out and give a class, they will have to pay out of pocket. VA will not bury a veteran for free.

CSUP-will be helping with food distribution in October at Center for American Values. This will be with some new partnerships. Still offering free audits to allow a veteran to try classes for free.

Santa Eddie: Held a 9-11 in Lamar on 9.10.23 with a parade and program was held after at the fairgrounds. 911 remembrance at Center for American Values at 7:58AM. Oct 7, 2023 Avondale will be having their parade but no dinner. If you are having a program and need a bell, Eddie has a train bell.

Gentiva: Hospice they honor veterans and in need of veteran volunteers.

Home Instead: Non-Skilled home health to Pueblo, Freemont, and Custer Counties. 80 percent of clients are veterans. They work with the VA for aid and attendance. November 1, 2023, will be doing an open house (6 months of being open) and because it is Veterans month they will be holding a silent auction where all proceeds will be going to Mt. Carmel Veteran Service Center-Pueblo. Looking for donations if anyone or any business would like to donate their services or donate a basket to the silent auction, Please contact Marlayna.

Marine Corp & Pikes Peak Nat Cemetery: Process of looking for nominations for a new commandant.

Medicare Mentors: Kelly from Medicare Mentors works at Mt Carmel on Mondays from 10:30-1 and Wednesdays from 11-2 helping Veterans with Medicare, TFL, VA, CHAMPVA, and Medicaid. Medicare Mentors will be serving Veterans and the community at the upcoming Convoy of Hope on 9 September. Medicare Mentors along with Mt Carmel Veterans Service Center will be together at the Pueblo Chilies and Frijoles Festival answering Veterans questions. Kelly will be at the Pueblo Veterans Stand Down on 29 September. Starting October 15 until December 6th during Medicare Annual Enrollment, Kelly will be having Medicare Resource meetings helping all (Veterans and civilians) on Wednesdays from 11-2.  Sometimes it will just be education and problem-solving and other times, options that Medicare-eligibles may have.

Mortgage Solutions: Served 1787 veterans in Colorado (1585 new purchases and 202 Re-finance). Can look her up on Facebook to read about a testimonial from a veteran she just helped. (Under her full name Lashawnda) Canon week is coming up go visit Shawna at East for gear. She does have resources to help veterans who is having issues with their mortgage.

Mt. Carmel Veteran Service Center Pueblo: Nove 2, 2023 Quilts of Valor honoring 9 veterans. E-Bikes coming soon. Massage therapy is coming soon. Currently have the Arts program held every Saturday at the Sangr De Cristo Art Center @ 2PM. First total for the last two weeks we had 16. Helping Hands held on 9.06.23 served 245 people. On October 21st We will be having a Southern Colorado food drive at CSU-Pueblo. This will be a voucher process. Now offering Equine therapy from Sept 30th to Nove 18th. On Saturdays from 1p-3p. Trauma focused equine assisted psychotherapy. Acudetox is free to veterans and their families. Next Chapter being offered at our Pueblo Office. In the early stages in works with Colorado DMVA, Pueblo Leadership about bringing in a one source center in Pueblo. (Still in early stages of planning). This will be for all Southern Colorado.

NAMI: Suicide Memory Walk Saturday Sept 30 from 9A to 12P. Free Registration held at Lake Minnequa Veterans Memorial Park 3005 Lakeshore Ave Pueblo, CO 81004, meeting at the basketball pavilion. Not just veterans who we have lost to suicide it is for anyone who we lost to suicide. Partnering up with the VA in Denver to teach a class with Homefront is a 6-week class.

Next Chapter: Will have booth at Frist Presbyterian Church Every Wed from 10A-3P. Offer a one stop shop of resources for veterans. There will be a private room available as well. Sunday 9.10.2023 at the Red Lake Brewing Company.

Pueblo Community College: will be at the Convoy of hope 9/10. Visitor lounge is set up at PCC to provide resources to veterans. AB building first floor on the left. If you have marketing materials, you want to share you can post them in their lab.

Pueblo Chemical Depot:

Pueblo Historical Aircraft Society: Fort Trimotor this weekend and rides available. There is an upcoming special event to be held at the aircraft museum on the 30th, more info to come.

Pueblo Home of Heroes: Podcast not done yet, several in the works. About 30m long. By Oct will have more information. Want to feature veterans and talk about your story. Records at the Pueblo Rawlings Library. 10.07.23 will be having an event the shooting range all proceeds raised go to local high school JROTC. 2000k scholarship for the winner. Breakfast 3rd Saturday at Western Methodist Church. Will have a space at the stand down. Will having undies Sundays ask people to bring new socks, undies, under shirts etc.

Pueblo Plex: Continuing collaborating efforts with the Pueblo Chemical Depot team to complete the transfer of parcel 1 and to finalize the real estate transaction from the surplus property.

Pueblo Wireless Doc: He fixes cell phones. He needs donations of old cell phones except old flip phones. Even if the phone screens are cracked, he will take most of time able to fix. (I Phones 6 and up) Make sure the phone is unlocked. He can provide accountability for the phones he receives. He can also teach classes to those who don’t quite understand how to work with the new technology. He can teach how to use iPhone/Android. He would like to find a place to offer a space so he can offer the classes. He recently went to bible college, and he teaches class on the bible. If someone is interested in working with him to put something together.

Roselawn: Wreaths Across America campaign has started (3weeks ago). Getting sponsors and contributions every day. Averaging about $1000 a week and is expected to increase. Thank you to community partners and clients. Special thank you to Santa Eddie, he was the first partner awarded a mug for his sponsorship.

Sangre De Cristo Community Care: Their annual reflection ceremony and ornament has gone live on their website. It will be virtual this year. The ceremony is where they will honor the people who have impacted our lives. They will recite the names of those remembered. To submit the name of a person you would like to honor please submit your request by 10.02.23. More info at <https://www.sangre.org/reflections-ceremony-2023/> 2023 Silver Queen will be on 9.14.23. They have 27 candidates this year. Narrowed to 8 finalists, the oldest one is 101 years and youngest is 63 years.

Suicide Prevention Coalition PC: Continue to have their Veteran’s Work Group. To find veterans just ask. Will be working with Parkview closely to provide staff training and handing out resources to provide to veterans. Event coming up that is in a planning stage. The most common mode of suicide amongst veterans is guns, and most veterans do now want to give their guns. They are going to plan an event in which they are working out the details hope in Oct or November. They will have weapon lock boxes, weapons trainers and to talk about suicide prevention.

TREA: Introduced Earl Sandman Ret Airforce Retiree.

USAFA Peterson: Military Retiree Appreciation 9.23.23 @ 7:30AM. There will be wellness checks, blood drive and breakfast. At Buckley 9.10.23 they will have their military appreciation day.

US Dept of Veterans Affairs: The newsletter will be monthly he refers to as a living newsletter. It will change from month to month and will be from the 1st to the 15th of each month. He requested everyone’s’ email so if any organization would like to include their information or announcements. Distributed all along the front range from Denver to Alamosa. They will be taking part in the 10.29.23 Standdown. They will have their whole team there from registration, employment, ID’s and they are **working** on getting shots (Flu).

Veteran Upward Bound: Closed out their year, their cycle runs from 9.1.22 to 8.30.23 and did well, and they did meet all their numbers. They have doubled their staff by hiring 2 people and 1 intern. Looking for new veterans interested in going to school or just talking about it. Open to anyone who wants to visit. Office at PCC, CSUP, Pikes Peak. If you’re interested in another campus like UCCS they will provide a ride to the campus and assist in talking to the right people to get the vet started.

Veteran Treatment Court: One participant who was with the program for 2 years and graduated last month, was a Marine, 70 years old passed away. He did not have much family. Once they find out more about the funeral, ask if anyone can attend the services. Determining his burial benefits.

Always looking for new mentors. Next chapter came to visit veterans and treatment court. Josh from Mt. Carmel also came to meet with veterans for employment assistance. If you would like to be a mentor, come out, they start at 2PM on Thursdays. Need to figure out how to get the resources to veterans who do not know they have resources for them.

Visting Angels: Reiterate a lot of benefits to veterans they don’t know they are entitled to. Senior living on KDZA has tripled if you would like to promote a veteran let Brian know.

Volunteers of America: New Care Intake is Nathan Cole; He will be servicing 17 counties. Will be at Mt. Carmel Veteran Service Center Pueblo on Tuesdays.

PCAP: Thank you to all those who celebrated PCAP with 670 people. Thank you to Santa Eddie and Pueblo Virtual Ritual Team.

NEWS FROM THE CHAMBER:

Monday 9.11.23 at 10AM RC at the Pueblo Court House for Colorado Youth awareness.

Thursday 9.14.23 at 11:30A to 1PM BDL Sponsored by Black Hills Energy

Thursday 9.21.23 5P-7P BAH Sponsored by Brian Corsi with Allstae Ins. Held at the Pueblo Country Club 3200 8th Ave.

9.22-24- Chili and Frijole Festival (Volunteers Needed).

Friday 9.29.23 3P to 5:30P RC Naming of 2 bridges, Charles W. Lee & G. Harvey Nuckols Brides & William F. Raper Plaque. Location Nuckolls Bridge off Main and Corona and Charles Lee bridge off 4th and Chapa St. Shuttle will be provided between Bridges.