**Military Affairs Meeting October 13, 2023**

**\*US Senators: Absent**

**\*US Congresswoman Lauren Boebert Office: Absent**

**\*State Senators and Representatives: Absent**

**\*Pueblo Chemical Depot: End of Mission. Still hiring for certain jobs like security and fire. USA Jobs for listings.**

**\*Pueblo Chemical APP: Absent**

**\*DA Jeff Chostner: Thank you to those who came out to the Avondale parade. They substituted the gala the night before for a veteran ceremony at the veteran’s garden by the school.**

**\*Pueblo Veteran’s Council: Absent**

**\*Action 22: Sorry I could not hear very well.**

**\*Air & Space Forces Association: They will be participating in the parade and at the veteran’s bridge. This past month was the national convention. Received the small chapter of the year award. Mike received several awards as well at the national convention.**

**\*American GI Forum Pueblo & CS: Absent**

**\*American Legion Post #2/Riders: Thank you for support from the Stand down. The Stand down was on 9.29.23 and was a success. John is currently working on next year’s stand down. May 2024 is the veteran art show in Denver. They need assistance financially. Please contact Tracy Trujillo for donations or donations can be dropped off at 701 W 9th Street.**

**\*American Red Cross-SE CO Branch: They will attend the standdown on 10.17.2023. at the City Auditorium in Colorado Springs 9A-2P. They will be at the following standdown events:**

**10.21.23 in Montrose**

**10.26.23 Grand Junction**

**10.27.23 Ft. Collins**

**11.16.23 Longmont is the last one.**

**\*Aveanna Healthcare: Absent**

**\*CAE: He will be doing the Veteran’s Day Parade at 10AM, he will be at Veteran’s Bridge at 12PM and CSU Pueblo at 12:33PM.**

**\*Center for American Values: Absent**

**\*Clasp Life: Had a great time speaking with Brian at Action 22, they had 7000 views, talking about Clasp Life. Still is a certified peer visitor with the amputee coalition. World Toughest Mudder, along with Veteran Overcoming Obstacles. My goal is to this year is to do 50 miles in 24 hours and 120 obstacles. They have 5 veterans who got sponsors. They will be in Dallas the 4th and 5th, this is with the Devil Dawg Gym with Chris Carter. Trying to get veterans out like hiking or sky jumping.**

**\*Colorado Army National Guard: Absent**

**\*CO Dept of Mil & Vet Services/State VSO: Absent**

**\*CSU Pueblo: 10.21.23 having a food distribution for veterans with Mt. Carmel Veteran Service Center. 11.10.2023 will be having a Veterans Day Memorial Ceramony at 10AM. On Veteran’s Day 11.11.23 veteran’s and their family will have free admission to the football game.**

**\*ENT: Nothing to add for today’s meeting**

**\*Family Progress CO National Guard/JCF: Absent**

**\*Flags/Santa Eddie: 10.14.23 Vet talk with students at American Legion Post #2 at 11AM, He is invited to talk with students. They will have the Honor Bell there as well. They have girls coming in from all over Colorado that will be lodged and fed. Will have about 8 speakers. This is a state event, AML is the host. This is a classroom setting where they can talk and ask questions. Ages 7-17 years old.**

**\*Grand Avenue Dental: Senior dental clinic that offers dental care low or no cost through funding through the state. They do service veterans as some don’t know veterans do not qualify for dental unless they are 100% disabled.**

**\*Gentiva Hospice: Nothing to add**

**\*HARP: Absent**

**\* Home Instead/Pueblo: Service Pueblo/Freemont/Custer Counties. The open house will be 11.01.23 from 3PM to 5PM at 1319 Court Street. There will be a silent auction and proceeds will be donated to Mt. Carmel Veteran Service Center/Pueblo. If anyone has donations to put to the silent auction, please call 719-867-4030.**

**\*Imperial Funeral Home & Cemetery: Absent**

**\*Marine Corps & Pikes Peak National Cemetery: Bob Flores will continue as Commandant. November 10th will be Marine Corp celebration at post 2., in a planning process. December Christmas party is being planned on the 8th of December. He volunteered to hand out flyers for Toys for Tots. Helps with Toys for Tots. If anyone would like a donation box placed at their office reach out to Vincent Espinoza, Coordinator Pueblo Region at 719-323-5705.**

**\*Medicare Mentors: Absent**

**\*Mortgage Solutions: Mortgage needs specializing helping veterans. 11.04.23 and 11.05.23 miliary weekend at the zoo and admission is free with ID. Theme is Bison Day and Mortgage Solution will be a sponsor.**

**\*Mt. Carmel Veteran Service Center: He handed out a flyer with all the events Mt. Carmel is part of. Serve 250 community members the first Wednesday of each month. Things on the flyer: pueblo Latino Chamber Profiles in Courage Conversation with MS R Linda Urrutia Varhall, Acupuncture, Equine Therapy, Free arts program, National Veterans Small Business Week is coming 10.30-11.03. One Stop Shop for Veterans Resources, Laundry Love, Pueblo Legal Resource Day. Passed around sign up to be in the resource guide.**

**\*NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness SEC: Absent**

**\*Native Thundering Voices/Friendly Harbor: 11.11.23 1P-4P Healing and Honoring Event for Vietnam Era Combat Veterans. Honoring “ Two Feathers” Martinez, and Eagleclaw Victoria. Scholarships Tribute to El Pueblo History Museum’s Childrens Educational Programs. There is a scholarship in “Two Feathers” Martinez Name.**

**\*Next Chapter: Started the Veterans One Stop Shop for Resources. It is every Wednesday at The First Presbyterian Church, 220 W 10th ST, Pueblo, CO 81003/719-365-5162. All veterans and family members are welcome. We invite anyone who would like to join us to come and set up any information about your organization. If you cannot make it and you want your information out there please let Jose know and we can have your information available to hand out.**

**\*Special Guest Chris from Honor Bell: They are a 501C3 nonprofit organization founded in 2014 began operating in 2016 when the honor bell was cast. Is a 1000K pound bronze instrument mounted in a special equipped vehicle so they can be mobile. Added to the bell are artifacts of a dozen deceased veterans ranging from WWII to Iraq and Afghanistan making the bell forged from honor. The primary mission is honoring veterans as they laid to rest” have been operating at he Ft. Logan National Cemetery M-F. In August they honored Colorado Veteran #6000. They Travel to Pikes Peak Cemetery twice a week. Working on casting the second bell. The needs for that is people and money. Cost $325,000 to bring the bell to COS. They are about a 1/3 of the way there. Starting in December, the first Saturday of the month they will be holding meetings you can attend in person or virtual at AML #209 in COS.**

**\*Pueblo Community College: Bring the kids to PCC on 10.27.23 for candy for free from 4p-7p. . The departments will be handing out candy. May 2024 Dr. Patricia Erjavec will be retiring. The lounge is always open for anyone who wants to visit.**

**\*Pueblo Historical Aircraft Society: A couple of events. Little Witches and Wizards walk on 10.29.23, will be handing out candy, art activities, costume contest. Veteran Day admission is free to veterans.**

**\*Pueblo Home of Heroes: Absent**

**\*Pueblo Plex: She mentioned the workforce retention performance evaluation and will be released soon. There are still positions at PCCAP.**

**\*Pueblo Veterans Ritual: This past week they honored a parole officer who lost her life in the line of duty...**

**\*Pueblo Veteran Transportation: Help with transportation on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Looking for volunteers to assist with transportation to and from medical appointments. If you are interested, please call 719-295-7261. Also, Eddie said if we know of a veteran, we can call him to assist. Approval process to be a VA volunteer takes about 8 weeks.**

**\*Pueblo Voter Registration Project: Absent**

**\*Pueblo Wireless Doc: Absent**

**\*Roselawn Cemetery: Absent**

**\*Suicide Prevention: Absent**

**SSG. Fox Suicide Prevention: 11.17.23 International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day. Free event, brings survivors of suicide loss and those who have been affected by suicide together. Event is at the Flo Back Art Gallery 131 Spring St. Pueblo, CO 81003. Food Trucks will be at the event at no cost.**

**\*T-Mobile Fiber Network: Mt. Mangart Film on 11.11.2023, proceeds will allow kids to ski for the 1st time. Nick Donavon from KDZA will be MC for the event. Tiem is 6PM for poster signing and the show is at 7:15PM at Pueblo Memorial Hall. Great veterans’ program and T-Mobile has a mission to hire over 20k veterans.**

**\*TG McCarthy Funeral Home: Absent:**

**\*TREA Chapter #20: Were involved in the Avondale parade. Coming up they will be involved with Flags on graves, TREA puts out about 80 flags on the gravesites. They also support the Warren C. Dockum gravesite.**

**\*Special guest speaker Jerry Carleo: He is interested in Co-sponsoring events. Please reach out to Jerry Carleo at 719-671-5000 or you can text him. Each December the Colorado Italian American foundation in conjunction with one of the local county lodges will sponsor a family or two in need.**

**\*USAFA Peterson: Had a great turn out at their retiree appreciation event as on the 23rd of September. Thank you to Ent, Honor bell and Mt. Carmel. Had over 450 people**

**\*US Dept Of Veterans Affairs: Any veteran who needs a job even if they have been incarcerated, please direct them to Corey, he can help them out. He is at the Dunn Clinic at Eagleridge.**

**\*Veterans Overcoming Obstacles: 5k RUK , Run, Walk at the riverwalk. Can register online and the fee is $22. The $22 symbolizes howe many veterans we lose to suicide every single day.**

**\*Veterans Treatment Court: Going well, always looking for new mentors. He gave a thank you to Tom Monroe for providing free tickets to different events for the veterans. The next event they will be attending the Bulls hockey game. If you need any volunteers let Jacobo know as the veterans in the treatment court can volunteer and hours will go to their community service time as well.**

**\*Veteran Upward Bound: They are expanding their services. SRU (Soldier Recovery Unit) out of Ft. Carson. They are expanding to Freemont County.**

**\*VFW Pueblo Chapter: Food pantry are now Mondays 10A-12P only. They have served over 700 people through their pantry. They had to go to one a day because grants have dwindled. Every 3rd Saturday they have veterans’ coffee from 10A-12P at VFW 724 E 4th Street. If anyone would like to donate to the food bank text only 719-406-5234.**

**\*Visiting Angels: if you know of a veteran who is having a hard time taking care of themselves and is in the care of a VA doctor. Their services are free. The VA covers a lot of things it is worth checking them out. Rick goes to Oakshire next month the Thursday November 2, 2023. Eddie will be going as well as they are not able to get out. They will sing patriotic songs. They want to encourage those to come out of their rooms. The Senior Living Talk Show, if you have an event coming up and would like to promote let Rick know. They are booked through the first of the year. Listening audience has quadrupled. 101.9 KDZA**

**\*Volunteers of America: House homeless veterans or veterans facing homelessness. They will be getting a new business sign for their main street office. Able to acquire a sponsor to make the Helping Hands event on December 6, 2023, special for veterans. More info at the next meeting.**

**\*\*Guest Speaker Ret. Major Gen Linda Urrutia-Varhall. She is the main guest speaker and Center of American Values speaking to students and community members. On 10.14.23 Pueblo Latinos Profile and Veterans Encouragement. She is a native Puebloan. If you would like to contact her Sal and Gloria has her contact information.**

**\*Wells Fargo: Absent**

**Events for October:**

**\*Friday 10.13.23 1:30-2:30PM Cener for American Values Maj Gen Linda R Urrutia Varhall First Latina Graduate of the AFA will be speaker.**

**\*\*10.16.23 to 10.20.23 AVA will be out of the office**

**\*10.16.23 Boss’s Day**

**\*Wednesday 10.18.23 at 3:30PM Chamber Board Meeting**

**\*Thursday 10.19.23 5P-7P Business After hours sponsored by Care and Share food bank, 100 Greenhorn Dr. Please bring frozen Turkeys and or non-perishable food items. RSVP to** **lorettar@pueblochamber.net**

**\*Thursday 10.24.23 RC 10A Pueblo CFE, Cites for Financial Empowerment Fund, location TBD (Bernadett’s Team) They will offer free one on one professional coaching and counseling as a municipal service to Pueblo Residents and has partnered with United Way of Pueblo County.**

**\*Tuesday 10.31.23 Halloween**

**\*\*Next month Saturday 11.11.23 10AM Swire Coca-Cola and Monster Drink presents the 2023 Veteran’s Day Parade.**

**\*\*\*NEXT MEETING FRIDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2023\*\*\*\*\***