**CRMF Update by Dave Casteel**

Can you believe it’s February 2022 already?

For those of you who did not have a chance to join our annual meeting on Thursday, January 20th, I am including a link to our PowerPoint reports which we have put on the website page: <http://www.moaacolumbiariver.org/events-3/> under which you can access these reports:

[2022 Fin Plan Final Approved 01-13-2022](http://www.moaacolumbiariver.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/2022-Fin-Plan-Final-Approved-01-13-2022.pdf)

### [Treasurer’s Report Slides – Annual Meeting FY2021](http://www.moaacolumbiariver.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Treasurers-Report-Slides-Annual-Meeting-FY2021-1.pdf)

These reports summarize how we used your donations in 2021 and what our plans are for 2022.

Coming up soon in April are when Clark College and WSU-V require our payments for the four MOAA Chapter Foundation scholarships they award in the Fall, as well as our first installment that is due in May to the new WSU-V Colonel Paul S. and Ivadell M. Crosby Columbia River MOAA Foundation Scholarship. Which, after we have completed gifts of $10,400, will become endowed. Our spring 2021 outlay for scholarships/ endowments and matching funds (if offered) will, in part, depend on your generous response to the dues letter.

Your CRC and CRMF boards have approved $500 for assistance to the VA Transplant Lodge on the Vancouver campus. We called them to inform them and Program Support Assistant, Michelle Swanson, was ecstatic about our gift. While they have 30 rooms they are only allowed to fill 15 due to COVID restrictions at the present time. As of February 7, they had 13 rooms filled (87% of current capacity). Since this is one of two VA transplant specialty hospitals in the nation for kidneys and livers, many veterans here fly in and do not have access to a car, so their ability to get out and shop for food is more limited. The lodge has three kitchens that are shared by the patients and caregivers--each of which can only be used by one room at a time. Each room has a microwave and a small refrigerator.

While they are unable to accept food donations from individuals, Michele will use our VISA gift card to personally shop to purchase much needed healthy food items for guests and caregivers like cans of chicken or roast beef, cheese, bread, butter, mayonnaise, etc., so they can make sandwiches. She also buys individual salads, two-packs of chicken breasts, and other food items that are perfect for two people. She also purchases items like pasta, small rolls of ground beef, paper plates, as well as laundry detergent, etc.

Some have asked if it would be better to just give them a check rather than a gift card. Michelle said no, because that can’t be used to buy food if it goes into the VA Lodge account. That’s why the gift card is perfect—it directly helps the veteran and their caregiver. Michelle shops with her guests in mind and seeks ideal healthy food items at WinCo, Fred Meyer and Safeway taking advantage of sales when possible.

By the time you read this, she should have our gift card in hand and already be shopping.