**CRMF Foundation End of the Year Update and Look Ahead to 2023** by Dave Casteel

Wow, I can’t believe I’m writing ”2023” on everything. Seems like the last two years were almost a blur.

2022 was a very good year for the foundation--thanks to you, our wonderful members.

In 2022, you collectively donated over $7,400 to our Scholarship fund and over $3,200 to our Support the Troops fund.

With your generosity, we were able to take advantage of a short-notice $1,000 matching gift opportunity at Clark College thereby increasing our endowment corpus. We supported two $1,000 scholarships at Clark College (the third Clark College recipient was not able to accept because he dropped out of college), and one $1,500 scholarship at WSU-V. We also doubled our scheduled annual Gift Use Agreement payment (i.e., to the Col Paul and Ivadell Crosby Columbia River MOAA Foundation Scholarship pre-endowment fund) at WSU-V which, once endowed, will allow the fund to start payouts sooner, thereby reducing our annual scholarship share.

We were just notified that the third 2022-2023 Clark Scholarship recipient has been selected. We will arrange a date that her academic schedule allows her to attend one of our monthly meetings so you can meet her. Her name is **Danielle Hansell** and she is pursuing a career in addiction counselling.

With our Support The Troops fund, we donated $250 to both Prairie and Battleground HS JROTC units for cadet needs. We also donated $500 in the form of WinCo family friendly gifts cards and a $500.00 VISA gift card to the Vancouver VA Transplant Lodge. We also became an annual bronze level sponsor at the Clark County Veterans Assistance Center (CCVAC) at the $750 level. If you go the donate tab on the www.CCVAC.com website, you will see our MOAA logo and if you click on it you will be taken to our website.

New in 2022, we donated $500.00 in the form of WinCo family friendly gifts cards to junior US Coast Guard families in need at the Swan Island Coast Guard Station. The cards were distributed according to need at their "Christmas with Santa” holiday get-together.

We were advised in mid-December that the Manager of the Fisher House was accepting a new position. At that time, she said her position had not been advertised so we don’t know when it will be filled. When I talked with her, she did not have any known major needs, but said they were short staffed. We will keep checking back to learn when there is a new manager and establish a relationship with him/her as well as determine how we might assist them.

Qualified Charitable Donations (QCDs) from members IRA RMD’s increased in number and total dollar amount of gifts in 2022. If you have not used a QCD, we encourage you to look into using it as a donation vehicle in 2023 as it is a win-win for you and our CRMF Foundation.

**Speaking of 2023:** Hopefully 2023 will be a healthy and bountiful year for you. Remember, we have a securities brokerage account at Vanguard if and when you have appreciated securities you might want to donate. There are tax advantages for doing so. If you do, please contact me for account information.

We just learned that Amazon will be ending their “Smile” charitable distributions to charities very soon. If we identity a suitable replacement, we will encourage your participation. Our Fred Meyer Rewards distributions continue to come in to the tune of almost $70.00 a year. If you have not already signed up for their Rewards program, we encourage you to do so. You shop and we receive donations—what could be easier?

We plan to pay off the remaining balance (not quite two years’ worth of payments) on the Col Paul and Ivadell Crosby Columbia River MOAA Foundation Scholarship fund at WSU-V this spring. Once we do, the fund will be endowed. This means we will start seeing small returns from the endowment starting in 2024 which will partially offset future outlays for the WSU-V scholarship.

Of course, we will continue our scholarships at Clark College, and at some future point, with your continued support, we hope to increase the amount or number of scholarships.

We will continue to support the Transplant lodge, CCVAC, Fisher House, our two JROTC units, and continue to seek out veterans in need.

Again, thank you for all you do for our veterans and their families.