

# Agenda for the United Veterans' Groups of Oregon (UVGO) Meeting

**Saturday, 11 January 2020**

**1200-1400, Center 50+ (Salem Senior Center), 2615 Portland Road NE, Salem, OR 97301**

**Vision:** To be the leading organization advocating for rights, benefits, and entitlements on behalf of Oregon veterans and their families.

**Mission:** The United Veterans' Groups of Oregon (UVGO) are a coalition of military, veterans, and uniformed services organizations whose mission is working in joint pursuit (in tandem) to reach shared goals and unified positions on matters concerning the welfare of Oregon's veterans, their dependents, and survivors. As such, the UVGO is an advocate for veterans' rights, benefits, and entitlements. The UVGO takes no political action on legislative issues without the unanimous consent of the voting member organizations

**Regular Members:** Air Force Association; American Legion; Association of the United States Army; Disabled American Veterans; Korean War Veterans' Association; Military Officers Association of America; Military Order of the Purple Heart; National Association of Atomic and Nuclear Veterans, Inc.; Non-Commissioned Officers Association; Paralyzed Veterans of America; Veterans of Foreign Wars, Vietnam Veterans of America; and 40+8.

**Associate Member:** Disabled American Veterans (Auxiliary)

1. **Call Meeting to Order** (Mary J. Mayer)
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** (All)
3. **Invocation** (Jack LaBox)
4. **Officers, Chaplain, and Standing Committee Chairs for 2019-2021**
  - Chair: Mary J. Mayer, AFA
  - First Vice Chair: Tom Coucino, DAV
  - Second Vice Chair: Jack LaBox, American Legion
  - Immediate Past Chair: Wayne Harvey
  - Secretary/Treasurer: Robert Haltiner (NCOA)
  - Chaplain: Jack LaBox, American Legion
  - Legislative Committee: Jim Willis, 40+8
  - Governance Committee: Mary J. Mayer, AFA
5. **Chair's Comments**
  - Strategic Goals for 2019-2020
    - Increase membership in UVGO
    - Increase visibility of UVGO
    - Invite guest speakers and legislators to the meetings to educate the group on various topics and legislative issues.
    - Identify 2 to 3 pieces of Legislation to adopt and champion for the 2020 Legislative Session
6. **Secretary/Treasurer's Report**
  - Review and Approval of October 12, 2019 Minutes and Current Financial Report
  - Collection of Dues for the Upcoming Year (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020)
    - Voting Members - \$55.00
    - Auxiliary/Affiliate Members - \$27.50
    - VVA still owe dues
7. **Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) Update** – Kelly Fitzpatrick, ODVA Director
8. **Legislative Update:** Jenny Donovan, ODVA Senior Policy Advisor and Laurie Skillman

## 9. Unfinished Business:

- **Speakers for Upcoming UVGO Meetings**
  - Veterans' Treatment Courts
  - Tribal Legislative Initiatives (Mitch Sparks)
  - ODVA State-Wide Volunteer Program (Mark Newell)
  - Other:

## 10. New Business:

- **Potential Financial Support for 2020 Oregon Women Veterans' Conference**
  - **Sponsorship Levels:**
    - Contributing Sponsor: \$250 - \$999
    - Bronze Sponsor: \$1,000 - \$1,999
    - Silver Sponsor: \$2,000 - \$3,999
    - Gold Sponsor: \$4,000 - \$5,999
    - Platinum Sponsor: \$6,000 - \$9,999
    - Elite Sponsor: Main Conference Sponsors - \$10,000 and above
  - **UVGO Contribution**
  - **Contributions from Other Veterans' Organizations**
  - To become a sponsor, visit [www.wvc.oregondva.com/sponsors/](http://www.wvc.oregondva.com/sponsors/)
  - Any questions should be addressed to [Martha.Garcia@state.or.us](mailto:Martha.Garcia@state.or.us)
- **Proposed UVGO – ODVA Commanders' Call Third Annual Joint Meeting**
  - Saturday, 11 April 2020 - 1200 to 1400 – ODVA HQ – Salem, OR
- **Other:**

## 11. Items of Interest:

- **2020 Oregon Women Veterans Conference**
  - **Hosted by** the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA)
  - **Date:** 30-31 May 2020
  - **Location:** Riverhouse on the Deschutes, 3075 N Business 97, Bend, OR 97703-7511.
  - **Invitees:** All women who are serving or have served in the military are invited. No conference fee, but individual must pay her own lodging and transportation.
  - **Veterans' Organizations:**
    - should set up Membership Information Tables (no charge for table).
    - become sponsors and provide monetary contribution
  - **Those Military Women who are planning to attend should:**
    - Register to attend the conference on [www.wvc.oregondva.com/registration](http://www.wvc.oregondva.com/registration)
    - Make reservations for their lodging ([www.riverhouse.com](http://www.riverhouse.com)) by calling **866-453-4480**
- **40th National Veterans Wheelchair Games**
  - **Hosts:** The National Veterans Wheelchair Games is co-presented between the Department of Veterans Affairs and Paralyzed Veterans of America. 650 to 700 athletes attend these games from every state, Puerto Rico, and England.
  - **Dates:** 3-8 July 2020
  - **Location:** Oregon Convention Center
  - The Games serve Veterans with Spinal Cord Injury, Multiple Sclerosis, Amputations, and other central neurological impairments with the goal to increase their independence, healthy activity, and quality of life through wheelchair sports and recreation. Veterans are being exposed to wheelchair sports at their home VAMC or PVA Chapters as part of their

rehabilitation to improve function, independence, and getting them active in their home communities in sport and fitness.

- The National Veterans Wheelchair Games has 20 different events in which Veterans can choose to participate. Events such as Wheelchair Basketball, Softball, Swimming, Cycling, Power Lifting, and Trap Shooting are just a few of the events that support this dynamic competition.
- To carry out a successful event, history has shown that it takes upwards of 3,000 volunteers from the community to bring this event together. There will be many opportunities for organizations to sponsor/donate to the general operation or specific events/needs.
- For more information, consult website at [www.wheelchairgames.org/about/portland-2020](http://www.wheelchairgames.org/about/portland-2020)
- Local contacts:

**Shaun D. Benson, CAVS**

Local Organizing Committee Chair

Chief, Voluntary Service

VA Portland Health Care System

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**Tom Hurt**

Executive Director

Oregon Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America

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12. **Next UVGO Meeting:** Saturday, 11 April 2020 January 2020 in Salem, OR

13.. **“For the Good of the Order”**

14. **Adjourn the Meeting**