



PORTLAND VETERANS DAY PARADE



NOVEMBER 11, 2022

SPONSORED IN PART BY



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HEALTH



National Association for Black Veterans, Inc.
"Creating a positive legacy for veterans"
Portland, OR Chapter #0032

2022

GRAND MARSHALS & DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Grand Marshal Roland Whitely served in World War II and turned 100 years old in September. Receiving his draft notice just after high school, he signed up to join the Navy on Oct. 1, 1943, and asked to be assigned to a PT boat. Because of his sharpshooter skills, he was assigned to be a Gunner on Liberty supply ships operated by the Merchant Marines. Whitley left the Navy and returned home just before the U.S. dropped two atomic bombs over Japan on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on Aug. 6 and 9, 1945.

Grand Marshals PFC Golda Fabian & SGT Hattie Kelley are from the first group of women inducted into the US Marine Corps in WWII. The combination of era, branch, and longevity are unique. Both 99-year-young veterans are in great spirits and of the few veterans remaining from that critical period in our nation's history. Golda's significant service involved correspondence with families of battle casualties. Hattie participated in the War Bond drive. Both are life members of Lady Marine Rose OR-1 Chapter of the Women Marines Association, and Golda is also a life member of the 1st Marine Division Association. Both were honored as special guests at the local 2021 Marine Corps Ball.

Grand Marshal Paul Knauls is an Air Force Veteran of the Korean War. SSgt Knauls is affectionately known as 'The Mayor of NE Portland'. He is a long-time local business owner credited with The Cotton Club with Wall to Wall Soul, Paul's Cocktails, Geneva's Restaurant and Lounge, and Geneva's Barber-Beauty Salon. He served six years on the Board of Directors with Urban League of Portland, successfully fundraised for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. statue, and served 13 years as Director for Good In the Hood Parade.

Koreen Lucas has served the community as an Associate of Dignity Memorial for the past 24 years. Starting as an Assistant in Southern California, she saw value and wisdom in planning ahead for cemetery and funeral services, and today Koreen leads the team of Pre-Planning Advisors in the Portland Metro Area. Koreen volunteers with Apple of His Eye Charity, Celebrate Recovery, and was a member of the Portland Veteran's Day Parade Planning Committee for 9 consecutive years; two of those being the Parade Chairperson. Koreen enjoys vacations with family, playing guitar, creative projects, and being in nature.

Napoleon Hodgers is the Commander of Portland Chapter #0032 of the National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS). Napoleon has served in the Army National Guard, the Air Force Reserves, and is a 10-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps.

Dr. Sharon Meieran (she/her) serves as District 1 Commissioner for Multnomah County and practices emergency medicine in the Portland area. She uses her experience on the front line caring for those in crisis to inform her policy and advocacy work. Her key focus areas include behavioral health, housing and homelessness, community safety, and the intersections of these systems. She also volunteers as a physician with Portland Street Medicine, providing care to people living unsheltered. Serving as the Board Liaison to the Multnomah County Veterans Task Force, the Commissioner seeks to support and elevate the veteran experience in all policy.

Valdez Bravo (he/him) has served as Deputy Director of Operations at the Multnomah County Health Department since July 2022. Prior, Valdez served in the Department of Veterans Affairs for 18 years, at the VA Portland Health Care System from 2004-2020, and most recently at the VA Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center & Clinics in White City, Oregon. Following his military service, Valdez graduated from Portland State University with a bachelor's in English and holds a dual master's degree in healthcare administration and MBA from Baylor University. Valdez is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

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CLOSING CEREMONY

PRESENTATION AND POSTING OF THE COLORS Native American Color Guard

NATIONAL ANTHEM Sung by
Captain Mandy Hall

INVOCATION Major Rhonda Lloyd
Executive Director Salvation Army Veterans & Family Residence

MASTER OF CEREMONY Crystal Thornton
FISH Radio

RECOGNITION OF PRISONERS OF WAR AND MISSING IN ACTION

TAPS Scott Napper

INTRODUCTION OF GRAND MARSHALS / DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

KOREEN LUCAS Dignity Memorial

NAPOLEON HODGERS The National Association for Black Veterans
Commander - Portland Chapter 0032

COMMISSIONER DR. SHARON MEIERAN District 1
Multnomah County

VALDEZ BRAVO Veteran and Deputy Director of Operations
Multnomah County Health Department

PATRIOTIC MUSIC The Beat Goes On Marching Band

BENEDICTION Major Ray Dihle

RETIRING OF THE COLORS Cub Scout Pack 999

THE 2022 LINEUP

- 104.1 The Fish Radio Station
- AccentCare
- AFGE Local 2157
- City of Portland Veterans Empowerment Team
- Classic Cars
- Columbia Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol
- Columbia-Willamette Chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division Association
- Cub Scout Pack 100
- Cub Scout Pack 335
- Cub Scout Pack 351
- Cub Scout Pack 598
- Cub Scout Pack 999
- Daimler Truck North America
- Easterseals Oregon
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 3426
- GI Junk Removal
- Jackson Middle School Jaguar Band
- Juneteenth OR
- Lewis and Clark Chapter
- Sons of the American Revolution
- McDaniel High School Drumline
- MCN Systems
- Military Order of the Purple Heart
- Military Vehicle Collectors Club of Oregon
- Milwaukie American Legion Riders Post 180
- Moda Health
- Mrs Northwestern US Classic Beauty International 2022
- Multnomah County Health Department
- Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
- Multnomah County Veterans' Service Office
- Multnomah-Portland Chapter
- Daughters of the American Revolution
- National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 82
- Native American Cultural Association of Oregon
- Nike Military Veterans
- Northwest 25th Division Veterans
- Oregon America Queens by Oregon Pageants, Inc.
- PNW United Miss Pageant
- Portland Fire & Rescue
- Portland Police Highland Guard/
Portland Firefighters Pipes and Drums
- Portland State University
- Providence
- Radio Cab Company
- Redmond High School Marine Corps JROTC
- Robert Gray Middle School Band
- Royal Rosarians
- Sea Scouts
- Slant Six Club
- Sunset Chapter of the Harley Owners Group
- The Beat Goes On Marching Band
- The National Association for Black Veterans, Inc.
Portland Chapter #0032
- The Republic of Vietnam
Veterans of Oregon Association
- The Salvation Army
- Threadgill's Memorial Services
- Town Center Automotive
- U.S. Marine Corps Units
- USA World United
- USAF
- USCG
- Veteran Affairs Portland Health Care System
- Veterans Affairs Police
- VFW Peninsula PEP Post 1325
- WW2 10th Mountain Division Reenactor/Descendants



Portland's only Veterans Day parade was established in 1974 by Vernon E. Ross, proprietor of Ross Hollywood Funeral Chapel. Ross founded the parade to honor all veterans, past and present, living and deceased. Today, the tradition is carried on by Veterans Day Portland, Inc. The Portland Veterans Day Parade is an inclusive, nonpartisan, family-friendly event. The parade would not be possible without our volunteers and generous sponsorships—all of whom are recognized on our website.