



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

APRIL 7, 2011 MEETING SUMMARY

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- APRIL 13 HonorAir Knoxville Flight #9 to Washington, D.C. – Welcome home at 7:30 pm at McGhee Tyson Airport. Free Parking at exit gate for those who come out to welcome our Heroes home. Write “Honor Air” on your parking stub when you exit.
- APRIL 15-16 4th Annual Mountain Man Memorial March – Gatlinburg, TN. For more details, go to <http://www.mountainmanmemorialmarch.com>
- APRIL 22 Tennessee Baseball “Military Appreciation Day” at 6:00 pm, Tennessee vs. Georgia. FREE admission with Military ID, DD214, or any Veterans membership card.
- MAY 2 ETVMA Medal of Honor Evening at The Foundry from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Tickets cost \$75.
- MAY 2 Marine Corps League Dedication of \$40,000 project at the Ben Atchley State Veterans Home. More details to come.
- MAY 3 BYU Young Ambassadors present “Harmony: The Music of Life” at 7 pm at the Clayton Center for the Arts, Maryville. All proceeds go to Honor Air Knoxville.
- MAY 27 Knoxville Remembers Yesterday’s Soldiers, Today’s Veterans program at the New Harvest Park in Knoxville from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. More details to come.
- MAY 28 Tennessee Smokies Salute to Heroes Night. On-Field Memorial Ceremony at 5:00 pm, First Pitch at 6:15 pm. Free Admission for Veterans and active Military.
- MAY 29 Smoky Mountain Thunder Memorial Ride. Ceremony begins at 10:00 in Sevierville, TN. The 60-mile ride begins at 11:00 am and finishes at the Veterans Overlook on Clinch Mountain for the closing ceremony.
- MAY 30 American Legion sponsored Memorial Day Remembrance Event at East Tennessee Veterans Memorial near World’s Fair Park. Events begin at 9:45 am.

STAY CURRENT: WWW.ETMAC.ORG

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, March 3rd, 2011, at the Ben Atchley State Veterans Home, ETMAC President John Dyess presiding. A total of 58 members and guests were present. The March meeting summary was approved as written. The treasurer's report shows a current balance of \$11,824.80.

Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs Commissioner Many-Bears Grinder gave opening remarks and presented an award to ETMAC in appreciation for support to East Tennessee Veterans.

Captain David Brewer of the 844th Engineering Battalion was recognized as the winner of the 2011 MacArthur Award.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Military Appreciation Night – UT Baseball (Kelsey Bacon):** Tennessee vs. Georgia game on April 22, 2011 at 6:00 pm. FREE admission with Military ID, DD214, or any Veterans membership card. Also, \$1 hotdogs.
- **Smoky Mountain Thunder Memorial Ride:** On Sunday, May 29, 2011. Opening Ceremony begins at 10:00 am in Sevierville, TN in front of the Courthouse. The ride leaves at 11:00 am on a 60-mile ride to Veterans Overlook on Clinch Mountain for the closing ceremony. For more info call Ron Giddis 453-6532.
- **Fundraiser for Honor Air at Clayton Center for the Arts (Philip Marlowe):** BYU Young Ambassadors present "Harmony: The Music of Life" on May 3, 2011 at 7 pm at the Clayton Center for the Arts in Maryville. Proceeds go to Honor Air Knoxville. Contact Clayton Center for the Arts to buy tickets.

SENIOR ROTC UNITS

- **UT Air Force ROTC (LtCol Mike Angle):** Will be commissioning 21 cadets in May. Just returned from a Gamma Cup Competition and placed 3rd against 12 other teams. Have the Field Training Exercise coming up and will also be fully supporting the Mountain Man Memorial March. They will be in charge of the Gold Star family ceremony on April 15. Expect to have 70 Gold Star families in attendance. Will be supporting the Tennessee Men's Baseball Military Appreciation Night. LtCol Angle will be transferring to NORTHCOM in Colorado Springs, CO in a few months.
- **UT Army ROTC (MAJ Don Evans):** Just completed a Field Training Exercise in Tullahoma, TN. They will be fully supporting the Mountain Man Memorial March. A special Thank You to ETMAC for a donation to the Mountain Man Memorial March. For more details, go to <http://www.mountainmanmemorialmarch.com/> On May 13, 2011 they will have a Change of Command and LtCol Mike Kelly will replace MAJ Evans. The next assignment for MAJ Evans will be Fort Campbell.

MILITARY UNIT ACTIVITY

- **Military Entrance Processing Station (CAPT Jackson):** The Change of Command will be May 19, 2011 at the MEPS Station at 12:00 pm. Currently they are about 10% less in shipping from last year. The move to the downtown Federal Building as been moved back. The MEPS Station will not shut down if the Government does.
- **119th Command and Control Squadron (Lt McKeen):** Getting ready for a National Level Exercise in May, 2011. Recently won an Air Force Outstanding Unit award. Will be participating with Habitat for Humanity to build some homes.

- **134th ANG Air Refueling Station (John Dyess):** Col Tommy Cauthen has been selected as the next commander for the 134th. He had been the previous vice commander of the unit.
- **228th Combat Communication Squadron (Master Sergeant Kent Vanover):** Will be supporting Habitat for Humanity. They will have personnel for the Honor Air Flight. Assisting the Mountain Man Memorial March. Also supporting the American Legion Post 2 Road March for Warriors during the Mountain Man Memorial March.
- **1-230th Air Calvary Squadron (MAJ Melvin Clawson):** The Army Aviation Association of America is having their annual convention at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN on April 17-20, 2011. The Kiowa Warrior Helicopter Conference will be April 27-29, 2011 in Huntsville, AL. They are having their annual training May 14-28, 2011 in Camp Atterbury, Indiana. Their Air Ambulance Company will be deploying to Afghanistan in January.
- **844th Engineering Battalion (MAJ Lawrence McKiernan):** LTC John Wolfe is currently in Fort Leonard Wood, MO. for ENFORCE training. The 844th has received an Engineer Award for the last three years and this year Josh Richardson will be presented the 2010 Lt. General Morris Outstanding Civilian Leadership Award. Preparing to go to annual training. Will be assisting with the Mountain Man Memorial March. MAJ McKiernan will be transferring to Fort Leavenworth in July. MAJ Alan Floyd will be his replacement.
- **Marines Company D, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion (James Foggin):** May 3, 2011 will be family day.
- **I.G. Brown Training and Education Center (Col Bradley McRee):** The NCO Academy is ranked #1 in the world in production rate. Last week they graduated 220 students. They will be bringing in about 300 new students. Recently merged their “Transformative Education Branch” with the “TV Branch”. It will now be called the “Media and Engagement Division”. They are home of the Warrior Network.
- **Navy Operations Support Center (PO1 Jerri Andrew):** Currently many sailors could be deployed as individual augmentees to relief efforts in Japan, Afghanistan, and a variety of other places. The Seabees just completed their training revolution as they will be rotating to Afghanistan. Family day will be June 4, 2011 and everyone is invited. October 1, 2011 will be the annual Navy Ball.

MILITARY AND VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

- **East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association (Joleen Dewald):** They will be having the First Annual Medal of Honor Evening on May 2, 2011 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at The Foundry. This will mark the 101st anniversary of the birth of Sandy Bonnyman. His grandson, Clay Bonnyman Evans, will highlight his life. This program will be followed by a short military service and wreath laying at the memorial. Cost is \$75 or \$150 to become a member of the host committee. For more info email Joleen at joleen@etvma.org Anyone interested in donating to the memorial go to <http://www.etvma.org> On Memorial Day, they have a dedication ceremony for 5 new names that are engraved on the memorial. The American Legion Post 2 will have the Memorial Day program starting at 9:45 am. Following the program they will have the dedication ceremony and a reading of the names.
- **Honor Air (Bob Dewald):** Flight # 9 will be Wednesday, April 13th and it will include Korean War Veterans. Everyone is invited to their “Welcome Home” at McGhee-Tyson Airport at 7:30 pm that same evening. To support Honor Air Knoxville, please go to <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/>
- **Ben Atchley State Veterans Home (Ed Harries and Doug Ottinger):** The Tennessee State Veterans Board recognizes ETMAC for meritorious, distinguished service to the Tennessee State Veterans Home. The home is currently full with 140 residents. Visit their homepage at <http://www.tsvh.org/knoxville/index.html> They are always looking for organizations to spend time with the residents. If you’re interested, please call 862-8100.

- **Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (John Dyess):** As of April 5, 2011, there are 90,211 National Guard and Reserve personnel on active duty. There will be an “Employment Assistance Workshop” at the Armed Forces Club at McGhee Tyson on April 19-21, 2011. This workshop will help soldiers and their spouses with writing resumes and interviews as they look for employment. John Dyess will be in Camp Shelby, MS on May 4-6, 2011 hosting 35 area employers about the Guard and Reserve. The trip will also include a refueling mission with a KC-135 refueling a C-5. The 253rd MP Company out of Lenoir City will be deploying soon and there will be a yellow ribbon program on May 21, 2011 and June 11, 2011.
- **American Legion Post 2 (Gene Bayless):** Will be presenting awards to ROTC and JROTC units. On Memorial Day, they will have a ceremony at the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial at the World’s Fair Park on May 30, 2011. Major General Terry “Max” Haston, The Adjutant General, Tennessee National Guard will be the guest speaker. Bob Dewald has been nominated as the next commander of Post 2. At the Mountain Man Memorial March the American Legion Riders will be escorting the runners at 9:00 am. There will also be a FREE pancake breakfast at the American Legion Post #202 in Gatlinburg, TN on April 16, 2011 from 9:30 am until 11:30 am.
- **Tennessee Veterans Business Association (John Dyess):** Veterans and service members looking for a job can send their resumes to resumes@jointvba.org On April 11, 2011 they are hosting a private dinner with Congressman John Duncan. They will be assisting with the Habitat for Humanity on April 9, 2011.
- **Marine Corps League (Virgil Young):** The Marine Corps League recently completed a \$40,000 project at the Ben Atchley State Veterans Home and will have a dedication on May 2, 2011. The Marine Mud Run will be held on September 10, 2011. Hoping to have 2,000 runners this year. The Young Marines have 64 kids that will graduate on May 7, 2011 and they currently have around 130 kids in the program.
- **Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1733 (Tom DeHoog):** Recognized Commander Phil Duncan and the post as they have been nominated for an All American award from the National Command. Mike Testerman will become the new post commander. Thanks to the Naval Support Command and the Sea Cadets for their support of the K-9 Memorial Day. Presented a \$1500 grant towards the Mountain Man Memorial March to feed all the participants.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nathan Weinbaum, Secretary
 East Tennessee Military Affairs Council
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