



## EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

### April 5, 2012 MEETING SUMMARY

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

MAY 5	K-9 Veterans Day at the War Dog Memorial on the UT Campus
MAY 7	East TN Veterans Memorial Association 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Medal of Honor Evening to honor Medal of Honor recipient Mitchell Stout
JUNE 30	Tennessee Smokies Salute to Heroes night
NOVEMBER 9	Veterans Day Parade and Veterans Day Luncheon
NOVEMBER 9-10	Stand-Down

**STAY CURRENT:**     [WWW.ETMAC.ORG](http://WWW.ETMAC.ORG)

#### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the Knoxville Chamber, ETMAC President John Dyess presiding. A total of 60 members and guests were present. The March meeting summary was approved as written. There was not a treasurer's report available.

A special check presentation by Clyde Luttrell of U.S.C.A.V. to Joe Sutter of HonorAir Knoxville. They presented a check for \$1,500.00.

This is Nathan Weinbaum's last meeting as Secretary.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **ETMAC Webpage:** Please send anything to be added to the calendar to [webmaster@godel.com](mailto:webmaster@godel.com)
- **Rally Point (Rhonda Smithson and Catherine Catani):** Senator Corker, Mayor Burchett, and Mayor Rogero sponsored a free event to help Veterans. Over 600 Veterans attended this event. It was held at The Jacob Building at Chilhowee Park on April 4<sup>th</sup>. This event was to connect Veterans and their dependents with organizations and opportunities that are available to assist them. Thanks to everyone who participated, volunteered and helped with this event.
- **Mountain Man Memorial March (CAPT Mark Farley):** A short video presentation promoting the MMMM was shown to ETMAC. This year they plan to have over 60 Gold Star Families. Go to [www.mountainmanmemorialmarch.com](http://www.mountainmanmemorialmarch.com) to register.
- **Stand-Down (Clyde Vincent):** They are looking for support and volunteers to help with this year's Stand-down. It will take place on November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. If you're interested in helping please call Clyde at 546-4813.

#### SENIOR ROTC UNITS

- **UT Air Force ROTC (LTC Brian Delamater):** They are preparing for the Mountain Man Memorial March. They will be temporarily moving to Hoskins Library on the UT Campus for 12 to 18 months. In April they will have a ROTC competition in Kentucky. They're commissioning ceremony is on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

### MILITARY UNIT ACTIVITY

- **US Army Recruiting Company (CPT Scott Glidden):** They continue to push "Staying Qualified for Life" with the high schools. Recently had a small leadership reaction team that visited Heritage, Sevier County, Farragut, Central, and Roane County high schools. On April 14<sup>th</sup>, they are having a "Future Soldiers Event" at Holston Hills Park.
- **Military Entrance Processing Station (1SG Steven Schaffner):** They exceeded their student testing goal this year. They tested 2,137 students at 147 schools. They processed over 2,000 applicants which included 147 Army, 532 National Guard, 266 Navy, 37 Navy Reserves, 291 Air Force, 4 Air Force Reserves, 55 Air Guard, 210 Marines, and 22 Marines Reserves. Also shipped 1,053 recruits to boot camp. They recently had 2 civilians retire from MEPS. They are looking for volunteers for the Honor Guard for the upcoming HonorAir flight.
- **119<sup>th</sup> Command and Control (MAJ Jeremy Huffaker):** Lt. Col. Vince Franklin is now onboard as they had a change of command last month. They have lots of construction going on base.
- **134<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing (Chaplin Giles):** The unit will be losing two airplanes and this will have an impact on manning. They have many members deployed around the world and thanks to everyone for the support of those deployed.
- **1/230 Air Cavalry Squadron (CAPT Jessie Belk):** They will be having their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fallen Aviator Memorial Bass Tournament on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to raise money for the fallen aviator scholarship fund. They are working on a Wounded Warrior Turkey Hunt. They will be AT at Fort Knox, KY.
- **489<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion (MAJ James Rivenbark):** In the next two months the soldiers should return from Afghanistan. They have had 3 wounded soldiers including Master Sgt Michael Trost, who was wounded by receiving 4 gunshots and is at Walter Reed recovering. The other two soldiers are doing well. Michael Trost's wife Stephanie works at Suntrust bank and they have supported her while she has been at Michael's side recovering.
- **844<sup>th</sup> Engineering Battalion (MAJ Al Floyd):** In September the Battalion Commander will be transferring. In June they will be losing two company commanders from the 733<sup>rd</sup> in Greeneville and the 390<sup>th</sup> in Chattanooga. Recently 15 soldiers were identified to be cross leveled to the 449<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company out of Fort Thomas, KY. Will be supporting the Mountain Man Memorial March with soldiers and equipment. They are preparing for their training in Hawaii, Germany, and Honduras.
- **Co D, 4<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer Battalion (Chief Todd Johnson):** They still need volunteers to help with remodeling the home of injured Marine Cody Evans.
- **I.G. Brown Training and Education Center (COL Timothy Cathcart):** They broadcast curriculum to 15 different sites at a time which reaches 150 to 165 students at a time, 4 nights a week, 4 hours a night for 4 months. Tech Sgt Westfall was selected as the ANG Readiness Center NCO of the year for 2011.
- **Naval Operations Support Center (Chief Todd Johnson):** H&R Block offered to do their taxes at a discount. Recently Commander Grand and Chief Johnson were guest inspectors to the Cocke County High School Navy JROTC. They are the state of Tennessee #1 Navy JROTC unit. Their family day and health fair will be in June. If anyone has any info on the July 4<sup>th</sup> midnight parade in Gatlinburg please contact Chief Johnson.
- **Civil Air Patrol (LtCol Dent Young):** They are preparing for their annual compliance inspection. The Southeast Region Civil Air Patrol is gearing up their annual Region Staff College. They have 1,100 people active in the Civil Air Patrol in Tennessee.

### MILITARY AND VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

- **East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association (Joleen Dewald):** On May 7<sup>th</sup>, they will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Medal of Honor at the Foundry to honor Medal of Honor recipient Mitchell Stout. Tickets are \$75 per person or \$500 per table. All proceeds go to the memorial. Mitchell was from Lenoir City, TN. They will be engraving 5 new names this year. They will again be needing volunteers for the reading of the names on Memorial Day.
- **American Legion (Bob Dewald):** First time in the history of the post they have passed over 650 members. Sam Hardman is no longer the post's oldest member. They recently signed up a Veteran that is 98 years old. They were recently put in for a National Post Excellence award. The Sons of the American Legion are having a golf tournament on June 16<sup>th</sup> at Three Rivers Golf Course. They will be having a Turkey Shoot on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Recently the American Legion Riders supported injured Marine Cody Evans. More details to come about the Turkey Shoot. Also, last month the Auxiliary and Woodmen of the World held a Flag Education Event. They are preparing for this year's Memorial Day event.
- **HonorAir (Eddie Mannis):** HonorAir Flight #12 will be on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited to be at the airport that evening before 8:00 pm for a huge "Welcome Home" celebration. You can purchase a HonorAir watch and cookbook at the HonorAir webpage. To support Honor Air Knoxville, please go to <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/>.
- **The Congressional Medal of Honor Society (Chris Coyne):** Thanks for so much effort and support to bring the 2014 MOH Convention to Knoxville. They were selected after an official presentation recently in New York. They will continue to work hard in the planning of this convention. On April 18<sup>th</sup>, MOH recipient Sammy Davis will be in town for some events.
- **Ben Atchley Veteran's Home (Doug Ottinger and Gene Bayless):** They are again deficiency free after their recent survey. They recently held a cookout and Easter Egg Hunt. There has been approval by the legislature for a license plate honoring the states Veterans Homes. They need 1,000 names to buy the plates before the state will officially issue them.
- **Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (John Dyess):** There are currently 72,000 reservists and guardsmen on active duty, which is down from the high level of 193,000 it was months ago.
- **Tennessee Veterans Business Association (Dustin Hicks):** On June 16<sup>th</sup>, they are having a fundraiser and bike ride called "Red, Ride, and Blue" which will be held at Vernon's Bar and Grill (9670 Country Side Center Lane). More details to come.
- **American Red Cross Blount County (Jess Hernandez):** The Blount County Chapter still has a SAF grant with funds that will run out on June 30<sup>th</sup>. On April 14<sup>th</sup> they are partnering with Bruster's Ice Cream with an event called "Treat for the Troops" from 1:00 pm to 10:00 pm at the Rocky Hill, Middlebrook Pike, and Emory Rd. The entire day they will honor our local military. They are looking for units that can offer any kind of support for this event.
- **Knox County Veterans Affairs Office (Richard Julian):** Recently Chuck Jones retired and Richard Julian moved to Human Resources. The office is currently vacant. On May 25<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Burchett is having his 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Veterans Picnic at the Knoxville Expo located on Clinton Highway.
- **Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs (Don Smith):** Recently hired Yvette Martinez as Assistant Commissioner for Outreach and Communications. Yvette was previously a weekend anchor for WBIR and she served in the USMC. They recently held their annual Easter Sunrise Service at the East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery on Lyons View Pike. No date has been set for the new cemetery dedication ceremony.
- **Marine Corps League (Eric Nash):** They are planning for the next Mud Run. A couple members of the MCL recently visited injured Marine Cody Evans in Washington, D.C.
- **The Military Order of the World Wars (Joe Eddlemon):** They meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at Rothchild's. Lunch is \$12 and begins at 11:00 am and the meeting starts at 12:00 noon. On April 21<sup>st</sup> they will present the "Massing of the Colors" at 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church (2829 Kingston Pike) at 10:00 am.
- **K-9 Veterans Day (Tom DeHoog):** This ceremony will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at the War Dog Memorial at the UT College of Veterinary Medicine (2407 River Drive)

- **U.S.C.A.V. (Clyde Luttrell):** On May 23 the “Run for the Wall” will be coming through town. This will bring over 700 motorcycles through Knoxville. They will stop at the Truckstop of America on Watt Road from 9:45 am till 11:00 am.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, May 3rd at Virginia College (Fountain City) – 8:30 am**

Respectfully Submitted,

Nathan Weinbaum, Secretary  
East Tennessee Military Affairs Council  
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