



**EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL**  
**April 7, 2022, at the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce**  
**with 57 attending**

**Upcoming Events**

ONGOING Fundraiser for Operation Honor Guard Info at <https://www.wate.com/operation-honor-guard/> Donate [at Donate today to Operation Honor Guard](#)

- 1st Sat Breakfast at the Elks Club #160 5600 Lonas Rd, Knoxville - 8:00 - 9:30am
- 2nd Sat Breakfast at Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 1615 Price Ave, Knoxville - 8:00-9:30am
- 3rd Sat Breakfast at the Community Center in Powell, 1708 W. Emory Rd, Powell – 8:00-10:00am
- Last Sat: Three Breakfasts throughout our area: 8:00 am – 9:30 am at all three locations below:  
- DAV Chapter #24, 2600 Holbrook Dr., Knoxville,  
- VFW Post 5154 in Blount County, 2561 Hobbs Rd., Louisville  
- DAV Chapter #26, 530 Kingston Ave, Oliver Springs
- 2 APR UT Army Alumni Annual General Robert Neyland Golf Outing at Egwani Farms
- 9 APR Women Veterans Hike in the GSM Greenbrier Area [Information](#)
- 16 APR Easter Egg Eggstravaganza at 5700 Old Rutledge Pike Knoxville from 1-3pm. 12-
- 24 APR The Wall that Heals at Lynnhurst Cemetery 2300 West Adair [The Wall that Heals](#)
- 23-24 Apr Katerpillar Kids Camp Contact Cindy Winterberger for [details.cwinterb@covhlth.com](mailto:details.cwinterb@covhlth.com)
- 23 APR Mountain Man Memorial March [MMMM Signup](#)
- 7 MAY USA Patriots Veterans Charity Softball game. Smokies stadium at 1pm. Youth clinic at 10am. Contact [Matthew.gordon@benchmark.us](mailto:Matthew.gordon@benchmark.us) for details.
- 14 MAY Lt Alexander Bonnyman Young Marines Mud Run 5K @ 1722 Ellejoy Rd, Seymour TN [youngmarinesbonnyman@gmail.com](mailto:youngmarinesbonnyman@gmail.com) for more information.
- 21 MAY Rods N Hogs Car Show
- 21 MAY To shave or Not to Shave For details, contact Rob Watkins at 423/721-8918 or [viewfromthebunker@yahoo.com](mailto:viewfromthebunker@yahoo.com)

**For a complete listing of events, visit <http://www.etmac.org> and click events**

## ***ETMAC BUSINESS SESSION***

### **Treasurer's Report: Derren Burrell**

Beginning Balance	\$19,057.55
Deposits	1,266.02
Expenses	90.00
Ending Balance	\$20,233.57

- **Membership dues may be paid online**  
<https://www.etmac.org/resources/etmacresources/membership-application/> or mail a check payable to ETMAC to Patrice Collins at the Knoxville Chamber: 17 Market Square, #201, Knoxville, TN 37902. Donations on our website are also appreciated
- **President Report** – Jim Mungenast – 29 March was Vietnam Veterans Day, and Jim recognized the VVA for all the work they do in our community helping veterans.
- **Webmaster's Report** – Dent Young – 512 visitors from 18 countries. 468 from the US, 61 from China (11.9%), less than 1% each from the remaining countries. The most popular pages were Local Resources, Veterans Services and Veterans Groups
- **2022 Medal of Honor Convention** – Joleen Dewald. – September 6-11. It's still happening! No book signing this year. They will need volunteers, but not until the beginning of August. We are one of only 2 cities that have hosted more than once.
- **Other ETMAC Announcements** - Patrice Collins – Welcome back to in person meetings! 9 November will be the ETMAC Veterans Appreciation and Awards Luncheon at the Airport Hilton. ETMAC will be honoring the Marines this year.
- **First Time Attendees**
  - Andrew Sepulveda with ETSU ROTC
  - Christian Castillo with A.CO RRB, TNARNG
  - Daryl E Jackson with TN Natl Guard Recruiting 4 Retention
  - Shannon Gibson with Tennova Hospice
  - Dr. J. D. Faulkner with Knox County Schools
  - John Gearhart with ORNL
  - Ginger Maples with UT Hospice
  - Lacey Johnston with MMMM

### **MILITARY UNIT UPDATES**

- **3rd Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard** – LTC Joseph Westfall- no report
- **119th Cyberspace Operations Squadron** – Maj Willie Posey – Troops in motion. Conducting vulnerability studies on civilian networks.
- **1-230 Assault Helicopter Battalion** – CPT Phillip Webster – Helping fight the Sevierville fires.
- **134th Air Refueling Wing** – Lt Col Travers Hurst - Nuclear Operations Readiness assessment. Gen Hughes is on base conducting. 4 May will be the announcement of acts for the Airshow in September. 9 June ESGR Boss Lift flight.

- 278th Armored Cavalry Unit – LTC Tim Shubert – 278th will be representing the entire Army National Guard at the Sullivan Cup Competition at Fort Benning, Ga. This competition brings together tank crews to test their mastery of a variety of skills, including gunnery and maneuver, over a period of two weeks. The unit of the 278th representing the Army National Guard is the Q-4278 out of Rockwood. The 278th has upgraded much of their equipment including new M1A2 Abrams Tanks, M2A2 Bradley IFV, and Paladin SPA. The renovations continue at their Sutherland location. Offered protection for the Army helicopter that went down while fighting the recent Gatlinburg fires.
- 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – LT Col Bryan Ewing – no report
- 489<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion – CPT Jacqueline Bradford -
- 844th Engineering Battalion – MAJ Justin Warrick – not in attendance
- D Co 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – Capt Shawn Balent – Training ongoing. Rebuilding
- ETSU Army ROTC. – 1LT Andrew J. Sepulveda – Getting cadets ready for commissioning. Busy with training, participating in MMMM.
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center -Lt Col John Capra – 96 in residence currently, 70 virtual. 3 International students. Tech U – offering more leadership courses, 308 enrolled. Mission Defense will have 18 on board for that. Remodeling facilities on base. New Commander coming on 1 June.
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) – CPT Mary Bustamante – no report
- Military Entrance Processing Station – LCDR Justin Bergman introduced CPT Joseph Williams who is replacing CPT Calvin Wu – supporting upcoming events.
- National Guard Recruiting and Retention BN – 1LT Daryl Jackson – Continuing to push the Governor’s initiative of Drive to 55.
- Naval Reserve Center Knoxville – CDR Trier Kissell – They are responsible for the training readiness of 200 local Navy Reservists. Drill this weekend. Wanting to contact local law enforcement for backup if needed.
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – Col Dent Young – no report
- USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – Ron Boneau – no report
- UT Air Force ROTC – Lt Col Tony Estep -They had 76% of their rising juniors selected to continue in the program. Recently had Spring Field Training in Cosby. Taking 30 cadets to Louisville for Field Day Competition between several Dets. 22 Apr will be the Military Ball. 30 Apr will be the Gamma Cup which Det 800 is hosting. They will have about 127 cadets on campus for the competition. 10 May will be the Awards Ceremony at 1450 in the Cox Auditorium. 21 May is Commissioning at noon in the Student Union. Lt Col Estep is leaving on 16 May for Montgomery, Al where he will be the Mission Support Group Commander for summer field training.
- UT Army ROTC – LTC Justin Howe – The bill to allow out of state students that are affiliated with college ROTC programs to receive in-state tuition is looking good. 300 cadets for FTX representing several Dets. 21 Apr will be their Awards Ceremony at Cox Auditorium. 20 May is Commissioning Ceremony for 23 cadets at 1600, also at Cox Auditorium. Cadets attending various field training programs this summer.
- VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES
- Air Force Association – Dick Webber – Travelling to GA to visit a Star Base Program. Planning has begun for the Air Force’s 75th Anniversary. They are looking at dates after the Air Show.

- American Job Center / State of TN Department of Labor – Richard Bennett – Several hiring events going on currently including several out of Knox County. Veterans Advantage Ride across the country. 18 April they will be stopping in Knoxville. Job Fair will be associated with the stop here. Looking for an XO to speak at that event.
- American Legion Post 2 – Mike Testerman – no report
- American Red Cross – Jamie Buck – no report
- Ben Atchley Veteran's Home – Doug Ottinger – no report
- Bunker Labs – Derren Burrell – Next event 28 April, details to follow but it will include a goat.
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078 - Pat Polis – The Wall that Heals is coming in April. Opens on 21 April with opening ceremony at 10:00 am. It will open 24 hours a day until 24 April. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! Still working on the new Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Worlds Fair Park. Hoping to have it completed soon.
- Y12 Serving Our Service Members (SOS) – CMSgt Christine Shawhan – Planning a Silkie Hike, veteran only. 30 April at Blackhorse they are hosting a Zero K hike...no hiking involved and families are included.
- Covenant Health Military Recognition Program – Cindy Winterberger – Katerpillar Kids Camp will be April 23-24. This is a free grief camp for any child, 1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade that has lost a loved one. Contact Cindy for [details. cwinterb@covhlth.com](mailto:details.cwinterb@covhlth.com).
- Disabled Veterans Chapter #24 – Garrett Hanas – Veterans Breakfast happening last Saturday of the month.
- East Tennessee Veteran's Honor Guard – Jim Mungenast – 6 Honor Guards in the area. Helping with the Wall that Heals.
- East Tennessee Veteran's Memorial Association - Joleen Dewald – Medal of Honor dinner on May 2nd at the Foundry is sold out and Sgt Troy McGill will be honored. John McMannis will be speaker. There will be 17 names to be added to the Memorial this year, and all the names will be read this year, as always. 24 May, Run for the Wall and will stop in Knoxville.
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) - Jim Mungenast – 50th anniversary of ESGR. The Guard and Reserve force comprises 40% of our military. ORNL is a finalist for the Freedom Award, only 15 are awarded nationally. Boss Lift upcoming in June. ESGR volunteers brief all military organizations each year.
- Female Veterans of East TN – no report
- Enlisted Association of National Guard of Tennessee - SMSgt Christopher Gragg – no report
- Frontline Gardens – Stephanie Trost – they build gardens for veterans as a treatment for PTSD. They have built 19 gardens so far. Their website has more details. Stephanie can come speak at your event to help spread the word.
- Honor Air - Joe Sutter – Flight 30 on 13 April. 121 veterans from Vietnam, 10 from Korea and 1 from WW2 that will be participating in the flight. Return will be around 7:45 that evening. The flight for women will be in October.
- James H Quillen VA Medical Center – Billy Key – no report

- Knights of Columbus, Monsignor Francis D. Grady Assembly 1083 - Henry Usey – no report
- Knoxville Habitat for Heroes – Rick Garner – no report
- Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council – Emily Hager- Continuing to collaborate to ensure veterans receive mental health services.
- Knox County Veteran Services Office – Tom Humphries. – They are changing the way they rate certain disabilities such as sleep apnea and hearing loss.
- Knoxville Vet Center – Lyle Allen –no report
- Marine Corps League – Ken DeBoer – no report
- Military Order of the Purple Hearts – Chapter 356- Thomas Booker – no report
- MOAA – Bill Potter – National has gone through a restructuring on their awards. Should have them in hand in the next couple of days.
- Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW)/ Reserve Officers Assoc.– Bill Potter – Looking for members. Does a lot of legislative work at the Capital.
- Mountain Man Memorial March – The event is on 23 April at 0800. There are 5k, 10k, half marathon or full marathon available. Still need volunteers. Currently have 400 registered.
- ORNL Veterans Group – John Gearhart – Glad to be here in East Tennessee and appreciates all the support. Helping with the Wall that Heals.
- Rolling Thunder –Carlos Hollifield – no report
- STAR – Horses & Heroes Program –Chelsea Taylor – Thanks to SOS for their support. There will be a craft show on 26 March from 11-2.
- Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network – Emily Hager- no report.
- Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless - Brandon Harris – We still have openings in our Veteran PSH Program and are working to house homeless individuals in our ESG Rapid Rehousing Program through June 2022
- United Veterans Council – Natalie Donahue – Helping with the Wall that Heals. Also, the weekly veteran breakfasts are ongoing. Donations welcome to help with costs.
- UT Army ROTC Alumni Council – Geoff Freeman – no report
- Veterans Appreciation Program – Larry Sharp – no report
- Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – Marilyn Childress–hosting a Women’s Veteran Hike on 9 April. 11 June Honor our Smoky Mountain Veterans at the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center. Looking for volunteers to help place flags in the National Park for Memorial Day. There are 223 veteran graves inside the park. Will also need help picking the flags back up.
- VFW Post 5154 in Maryville – Doug Burt – Kerry Lovely, former commander of the IG Brown TEC is providing yoga classes on Wednesdays at 3pm beginning on 2.9.2022. For details, email [2016bcsurvivor@gmail.com](mailto:2016bcsurvivor@gmail.com).

- VVA Chapter 1073 (Morristown) & VFW Post 3380 (Dandridge) & Walter J. ‘Bud’ Bacon Chapter Distinguished Flying Cross Society, East TN Region- W. E. ‘Whit’ Whitworth/ Bill Potter – Looking for additional Flying Cross awardees. Bill’s number is 865/254-9218.

• **Next meeting: Thursday May 5, 2022, at the Chamber.**

**For input or corrections, please contact Kim Spencer 865/661 9856 or [kim@yourplacetoflourish.com](mailto:kim@yourplacetoflourish.com)**

**ETMAC Board of Directors:**

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Dent Young, Webmaster, C: 865/604-8621 W: 865/483-7467 [387543@tncap.us](mailto:387543@tncap.us)

**Unit and Veteran Organization Contact Information**

ETMAC  
[www.ETMAC.org](http://www.ETMAC.org)

American Job Center/State of TN Dept of Labor  
<https://www.tn.gov/workforce/jobs-and-education/services-by-group/services-by-group-redirect/job-placement-for-veterans.html>

American Legion  
[legionknox.com](http://legionknox.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/Post2Knoxville/>

American Red Cross  
<http://www.redcross.org/local/tennessee/local-chapters/east-tennessee>  
<https://www.facebook.com/RedCrossTN/>

Ben Atchley

<http://www.tsvh.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TNStateVetreans/>

Bunker Labs Knoxville

<https://chapters.bunkerlabs.org/knoxville/>

Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078

<http://www.vva1078.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/vvachapter1078knoxville/>

Combat Veterans Motorcycle Assoc 18-12

<https://www.cvma18-12.com/upcoming-gatherings.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/481217796399085>

Disabled Veterans Chapter 24

<https://www.dav.org>

East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association <https://etvma.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ETVMA/>

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)

<https://www.esgr.mil/About-ESGR/Contact/Local-State-Pages/Tennessee> [https://www.facebook.com/Tennessee-](https://www.facebook.com/Tennessee-ESGR-171685266196286/)

[ESGR-171685266196286/](https://www.facebook.com/Tennessee-ESGR-171685266196286/)

Honor Air

<http://www.honairknoxville.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/honair/>

Knoxville Habitat for Heroes

<https://knoxvillehabitatforhumanity.com/habitat-for-heroes/>

<https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleHabitatforHumanity/>

Knights of Columbus Henry Usey 865-246-4413

Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council <http://tnvhc.org/>

Knox County Veteran Services Office <https://www.knoxcounty.org/veterans/> [thomas.humphries@knoxcounty.org](mailto:thomas.humphries@knoxcounty.org)

Knoxville Vet Center - <https://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>

Marine Corps League - <http://www.mclknox.org/> Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

[www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

Military Order of Purple Heart (MOPH) Chapter 356 - Charlie Caldwell 865-368-7289

[www.moph356.org](http://www.moph356.org) or [cdcardwell49@gmail.com](mailto:cdcardwell49@gmail.com)

Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) - [www.moww.org](http://www.moww.org)

Mountain Man Memorial March

<http://mountainmanmemorialmarch.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheMountainManMemorialMarch/>

Project Healing Waters [FishingJoe.noe@projecthealingwaters.org](mailto:FishingJoe.noe@projecthealingwaters.org) 629-213-9707

Rolling Thunder <http://www.rollingthundertn3.com/index.php/about-tn3/>

Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless - <https://tvhomeless.org/>

United Veterans Council of East Tennessee, Inc.

<https://m.facebook.com/pages/category/Nonprofit-Organization/The-United-Veterans-Council-of-East-Tennessee-Inc-1912897478820375/>

UT Army ROTC Alumni Council

[http://alumni.utk.edu/s/1341/alumni/interior\\_alumni.aspx?sid=1341&gid=2&pgid=7955](http://alumni.utk.edu/s/1341/alumni/interior_alumni.aspx?sid=1341&gid=2&pgid=7955)

<https://www.facebook.com/UTKAmyROTC/>

Veteran Heritage Site Foundation <http://veteransheritagesite.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/VeteransHeritageSiteFoundation>

Volunteer State Honor Guard <http://www.milhonors.com>



