



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

APRIL 5, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

UPCOMING EVENTS

- APR 21 Rolling Thunder Memorial Ride and Poker Run, Powell Community Center, 1708 Emory Road, Knoxville, TN. Sign up 10am. Last ride @ 4pm. Fee \$20.
- APR 26 Karns H.S. Baseball Veterans Appreciation Night 2710 Byington Solway Road @ 5:30
- APR 28 Smoke Alarm Installment Project of Red Cross, 9a – 3p. Meeting at Chilhowee Baptist Church, 4614 Asheville Hwy <http://redcross.org/STAKnoxville>
- APR 28 Marine Corps League Jack McGivney Memorial Pistol Match, Camp Bonnyman Pistol Range 1010 Boling Road, Seymour, TN. Jay Holmes, 404-414-4225 or jaysholmes@gmail.com
- APR 28-29 American Legion Turkey Shoot, 9435 College Street, Strawberry Plains, TN 37871. Call for info - Josh Plane 865-805-8781 or Dan Chipman 865-719-1207
- MAY 7 Medal of Honor Dinner at The Foundry, 747 World's Fair Park Drive @ 5:30pm - \$500 table of 8. Contact Joleen Dewald 571-332-3100 for info. <https://etvma.org/moheve/>
- MAY 9 Veteran's Council Meeting @ Red Cross, 6pm. Contact Don Smith for information.
- MAY 19 Veterans Heritage Ridge Run 5k, Lincoln Park Baptist Church 9am
<https://runsignup.com/Race/Events/TN/Knoxville/TheVeteransHeritageRidgeRun5K>
- MAY 26 Memorial Day Flag Placement @ BOTH Lyons View and John Sevier Veteran's Cemetery @ 8:30am
- MAY 28 Annual Memorial Day Service, 2200 East Governor John Sevier Hwy Cemetery @ 2pm
NOTE: Change of location from last year, NOT at Lyons View Cemetery
- JUN 16 American Legion Golf Tournament
- JUN 21-23 Marine Corps League Dept of TN 37th Annual Convention
Hilton Knoxville Airport <https://www.mclknoxville.org/>
- SEP 15 Marine Corps League Mud Run <https://www.mclknoxville.org/>

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

ETMAC BUSINESS SESSION

- **Welcome and Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, April 5th, 2018, 8:30am at the Knoxville Chamber. President **Owen Ragland** presided over the meeting. A total number of 72 were present.

- Pledge of Allegiance: Led by President Owen Ragland The pledge was followed by a moment of silence and remembrance for two deceased veterans, Freddie Owens and Col Tim Dearing.
- **Introduction of new Attendees:**
 - **Lisa Wilkerson, Military Services, Helen Ross McNabb**
 - **MSGT Allen Pickler –TVC**
 - **Colt Messer – American Legion, Retired Air Force, Loan Officer Regions Bank**
 - **Jeff McCormick – Realty 360**
 - **Jess Shepherd – Keller Williams Realty**
- **Treasurer's Report: Derren Burrell –**
 - Started month with 15k in bank.
 - Deposits of \$ 200 and expenses a little over \$ 200.
 - Finished up little over 15k for the month.

Membership dues can be paid online <https://www.etmac.org/resources/etmac-resources/membership-application/> or bring check to Patrice Collins at the next meeting.
- **President's Report – Owen Ragland –** Looking for a webmaster.
 Veteran's Day Event is in November and this is the year of the Air Force. Maj Gen Stephen Clark is the guest speaker at the luncheon and the reviewing officer for the parade. Read his Bio <http://www.af.mil/About-Us/Biographies/Display/Article/108737/major-general-stephen-a-clark/>
- **ETMAC Announcements: Patrice Collins**
 - Vietnam update – An amazing trip, healing trip for many Veterans.
 - Literature table in back – Available for all to lay out information, but materials must be taken with you after meeting. Any remaining papers, literature, etc. will be thrown away.
 - Sponsors for coffee and refreshments are appreciated. If interested, contact Patrice.
 - Veterans luncheon confirmed at Marriott on Thursday, November 8.

MILITARY UNIT UPDATES

- 3rd Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard – MAJ Joseph Westfall - successful training with no injuries in March. Group training completed; if you need volunteers to participate in your event please give call us. Recumbent bicycle available for a Veteran if someone has a need.
- 119th Cyberspace Operations Squadron – Captain Willie Posey *nothing to report*
- 1-230 Assault Helicopter Battalion – LTC Pat Wade *unable to attend*
- 134th Air Refueling Wing – Col Lee Hartley – Drill this weekend, mountain man teams coming up. Tragic news. Last Thursday evening, former commander Col Tim Dearing 2004 – 2011 passed away suddenly. His funeral services, Saturday April 7 at Central United Methodist in Lenoir City.
- 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment – CW3 Brian Culberson – Loading up for National Training Center and looking forward to ESGR coming out. Appreciation expressed for ETMAC.
- 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – SSgt Howard Kitter – *unable to attend*
- 489th Civil Affairs Battalion – *unable to attend*
- 844th Engineering Battalion – Dennis McVey – *unable to attend*
- Coast Guard Recruiting – East TN Region – AET1 Christopher Rapp – *unable to attend*
- Co D 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – Capt Cullen Tores / 1st Sgt Gabe Burns – Weekend to Tullahoma for rifle range qualifications and go to annual training in Michigan this summer
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center – Col Kerry Lovely – celebrating 50th anniversary on July 20. Invitations just went out so if you are interested in details please contact the unit.
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) - *unable to attend*
- Military Entrance Processing Station – MAJ Allison Lombardo – last month processed 200 new accessions, 340 medical exams and shipped 175 new recruits to basic. Knoxville MEPS won the Excellence Award for most outstanding medium-sized MEPS out of 65 units. MOWW and I G Brown are coordinating an aviation day for Girl Scouts of Southern Appalachian. Looking to hold it at McGhee Tyson National Guard base in late September and inviting all organizations and units to participate to expose girl scouts to careers in military aviation.
- Navy Operational Support Center – AEC (AW) Charles J. Hejnal – only 2nd time here. Last drill had our triannual command assessment. Drill this weekend and doing the Semiannual physical fitness test.
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – Lt Col Ande Boyer – Nothing to report

- USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – Div CDR Ron Boneau - Attended the boat show for 4 days and able to talk to a lot of boaters about life jackets, safe boating and TN state laws. Water temps too cool for patrols. We started public education classes and in May will start patrols on waterways.
- UT Air Force ROTC – Lt Col Matt “Ocho” Castillo – Capt. Farley reporting for Castillo. Presently have around 100 cadets, commissioning 12. 20+ going to field training this summer. 6 new cadets selected for scholarship. FTX with Knox County Sheriffs dept went well. Participating in Mountain Man March and we have 80 cadets with PT scores up 5 pts in 4 months. Thanks to 134th scheduled for incentive flight to see refueling. Medical and Engineering cadets to shadow in other units and get hands on experience.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- Air Force Association – Paula Penson – https://secure.afa.org/contact_links.asp?searchby=state&stabbr=TN&ent=chapter – Competing for Annual Awards with the National Air Force Association. East Tennessee Region has won 3 of the awards.
- American Legion – Joleen DeWald - legionknox.com - closing on property on April 16 off Rutledge Pike and will be raising funds to build our new property. Mountain Man coming up in 2 weeks and still need coolers and pop ups and volunteers.
2 events coming up.
- April 28-29, Spring Turkey Shoot, 10am – 2pm
- June 16, Golf Tournament
- American Red Cross – Tom DeHoog - <http://www.redcross.org/local/tennessee/local-chapters/east-tennessee> - April 28 will kick off Sound the Alarm, Smoke Alarms Save Lives program meeting at the Chillhowee Hills Baptist Church, 4614 Asheville Hwy, Knoxville at 9am – 3pm. Fliers went out through Patrice and on back table. We need as many volunteers as we can get. Also, we offer 30% off CPR training. April 21 Military Kids Serve Too program will be held at the University of Tennessee at Neyland Stadium. Children of military families will receive a coin to acknowledge their service in support of their military parent.
- Ben Atchley Veteran’s Home – Terry Payne – <http://www.tsvh.org/> - Just went through our VA survey process and had no deficiencies. Appreciate our volunteers who come out to spend time with our military veterans. All are invited to come over and spend time with them.
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078 – Don Smith <https://vva.org/chapter/vva-chapter-1078/> - April 11 will be funeral for unclaimed remains of 3 veterans at John Sevier State Cemetery thanks to Berry Funeral Home. April 21 Veteran Breakfast at Powell. 27 & 28 will hold annual fundraiser at Walmart at Turkey Creek. A lot of Veterans eligible for commemorative pins and want to present them. Held 2nd meeting of Veteran Council. Next meeting in May and will have officers selected and bylaws completed. An organization to work with all veteran organizations to plan and execute events. Next meeting is May 9 at 6pm
- Disabled Veterans – Chapter #24 – Garrett Hanas <https://www.dav.org/> - *unable to attend*
- East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association - Joleen DeWald –<https://etvma.org/>– Reading of the names will happen again on Memorial Day. We are looking for volunteers.
The East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association presents the **8th Annual Medal of Honor Evening**, Honoring World War I Medal of Honor Recipient **Sgt. Alvin C. York**, United States Army. The event will be held **Monday, May 7th, 2018** at The Historic Foundry Building at 747 World’s Fair Park Drive, Knoxville TN. Tickets are \$75. Special guest Dr. Edward Lengel, Chief Historian, The White House Historical Society. Social hour begins at 5:30pm, followed by dinner & presentation at 6:30pm. Purchase tickets at <https://etvma.org/moheve/#purchase>
- East Tennessee Veterans Honor Guard –Reid Gerhardt - <https://www.facebook.com/East-Tennessee-Veterans-Honor-Guard-109780775701142/> - *unable to attend*
- Habitat for Heroes – Rick Garner <https://knoxvillehabitatforhumanity.com/habitat-for-heroes/> - We had one veteran move into home with his family. Another will move into their home next month. Flexible on mortgages 25 – 30 years and interest free for the entire period. All payments are \$500 or less. Home available now for a Veteran. It is a 4 bedroom 2 bath, so if you know of someone who may qualify let them know. Income range \$18 – 48k.
- Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council –Ed Junod <http://tnvhc.org/> - Freddie Owens passed away on Good Friday. In his honor have a Female Veterans summit coming up in September.

Purpose is to identify and recognize female veterans in the community. Freddie's funeral services next Monday, April 16. Will miss him but his legacy will continue. Gary Corea will continue his work. Will be joining with Habitat for Humanities to offer home repairs and on April 21 will hold a free expungement clinic, register by April 10.

Gary Corea on 29 April will hold a Repair for Heroes events to provide home repairs and to help repair the spirit, mind and body of those who served.

- **ESGR – Jack D'Araujo** <https://www.esgr.mil/> - over 33,000 guardsmen and reservists on federal active duty. 5,500 on state active duty and counter drug operations. We supported the Marine Corps for their family day. On March 10th we supported the Yellow Ribbon program and on March 31 for the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Annual planning meeting 13-14 April in Franklin, Gen McKinley, national chair will address group. 2-4 May, hosting a visit by 35 employers and flying out of McGhee Tyson to Barstow CA and observe their employees at the National Training Center. Orientation flight schedule on 17 May. About 20 employers and news media will be attending.

- **Honor Air – Joe Sutter** - <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/> - flight coming up next Wed, April 11. All invited to come to the welcome home. Virtual flight is on 16 June and have 21 registered. If you know of anyone interested, we are still registering people for this event.

Ed Junod will hold a free luncheon for Korean War Vets on June 25th with Knoxville Korean Association. If you know of anyone who is eligible, would like to get them to the event and be awarded the Ambassador for Peace Medal.

- **Knoxville Career Center – David Webb – Nothing to Report**
- **Knox County Veteran Services Office – Tom Humphries** <https://www.knoxcounty.org/veterans/> - VA has reopened the application for veteran ID cards. Go to VETS.Gov and click on the link at the bottom of the page. Call 865-215-5645 for more information.
- **Knoxville Vet Center – Lyle Allen** –(865) 545-4592 ext. 4400 – *unable to attend*
- **Marine Corps League – Eric Nash** <http://www.mclknox.org/> - the 72nd Annual Southeast Convention will be held at the Smoky Mountain Resort in Pigeon Forge in March. The 37th Annual State Convention will be held at the Airport Hilton on June 21-23. Lots of Marines will be coming into the area. We will have great speakers and is open to all. Will get info out to Patrice. We are taking applications for the 2018 scholarship program open to qualified applicants. Click on this link to see the eligibility and requirements for application:

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/5ddda4_cbbd4c14f4be48b0891c9f1faa3e2296.pdf

September 17th is the date for the Mud Run.

- **Mountain Man Memorial March- Joleen DeWald** –<http://mountainmanmemorialmarch.com/> - 11th annual MMM scheduled for April 13-14 in Gatlinburg. Need volunteers to staff water stations and to help with clean up. The start and finish line will be in the same parking lot location. Online registration is now open. Need volunteers for water, Gatorade, medical volunteers and supplies. Need big, long coolers, water and snacks. Looking for someone to donate a golf cart or gator/ 4 wheeler. Some parts inaccessible and we need a vehicle like this to access those areas. Would like more teams to participate in the 10k, half marathon and full marathon.

Medal of Honor recipient from WWII, Woody Williams will be our speaker. Anticipate 145 members of Gold Star families coming to the event. We especially need volunteers for breakdown on Saturday.

- **MOWW – Bill Grieve** <http://mowwregionv.org/posts.html> –Meet every 2nd Wed of month at Rothchild's at 11am - 1. Preparing to present awards to ROTC and JROTC around the area.
- **Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing – Dan Money maker** <http://www.projecthealingwaters.org/> - *unable to attend*

- **REBOOT – Mike Simpson** – Finished last class this past Tuesday. Started on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. Graduating 8 participants. Next session starting in June and completely free. ReBoot is a Faith-Based Combat Trauma Recovery 12-week Program focuses on the Spiritual Aspects of Combat and is a course, not a support group, that provides practical help for service members and families dealing with the after effects of combat. Classes will be held Tuesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Farragut Church of Christ, 136 Smith Road, Farragut, TN. Dinner and childcare are provided. Contact Stacey Nichols at snich@tds.net or 865-582-5330 or Michael Simpson at mike@visionaryhorizons.com

- **Rolling Thunder – Carlos Hollifield** - <http://www.rollingthundertn3.com/index.php/about-tn3/> - we have moved location of meeting to Powell Community Center 1708 West Emory Road, Powell TN, 3:30 on the 2nd Sunday of every month. Chartered a new chapter in Cookeville.

We are a Veteran service organization and not a motorcycle club. We have an event on April 7, riding up to New Freedom Farm in VA for a dedication. 100 veterans expected to attend. Location that will offer retreats to those suffering from PTSD. We have a fundraiser coming up, a poker run on April 21 at the Powell Community Center. Registration 10 – 11am. Need sponsorship and riders to participate - \$20 entry fee. Call Chapter President Cindy (865) 556-4645 or Chaplain (865) 919-1368. Looking ahead, we will be attending the Memorial Day event in Washington D.C. If anyone knows of someone in need, who just needs someone to talk to and listen, call the Chaplain's number at (865) 919-1368 anytime, will be available.

- **STAR – Horses & Hero's Program – Cathy Dolson** - <https://www.rideatstar.org/heroes--horses.html> - Invitation to annual fundraiser on Sat April 28. If we build it, they will ride and all funds go to renovation for property in south Knoxville location. We have a need for volunteers to set up on Friday and Saturday and tear down on 29th. Volunteer@rideatstar
- **Veteran Appreciation Program- Larry Sharp** -<http://www.veteransappreciationprogram.com/> - *unable to attend.*
- **Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – Patty McGrew** -<http://veteransheritagesite.org/> - Meet 4th Wed at the Red Cross office at 6:30. May 19, Veteran Heritage trail run and walk at 9am at Sharp's Ridge. Need Volunteers for lots of positions. Sign up at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/Events/TN/Knoxville/TheVeteransHeritageRidgeRun5K> Clean up on May 5 at Sharps Ridge park. Trying to improve and preserve various veteran sites. Right now, working on Sharp's Ridge. Looking for sponsors. Flyers in the back.
- **Volunteers of America/Supportive Services for Veterans Families/Stand Down – Clyde Vincent** <https://www.voamid.org/ssvftn> - *unable to attend*
- **Women Marines Association – Lindsay Long** <https://www.womenmarines.org/> - *unable to attend*
- **Yellow Ribbon Fund Veteran Caregivers Support Group – Stephanie Trost** <http://www.yellowribbonfund.org/> - *unable to attend*
- Erin Cooper, Keller Williams planning a gravestone clean up on May 10, 8am – noon.
- **Bill Potter MOAA** – Thank MOWW for joint meetings. April is busiest month making presentations to college ROTC of \$500 stipend presentations for rising Senior ROTC. Also making presentation to High School JROTC members.
- **Closing comments by Owen Ragland** – Appreciate the 278th for detailed unit information so that we can provide support. Pick up any literature information on the back table. A lot of activities going on in the Veteran community, programs like REBOOT and Vet2Vet supporting so many hurting in the community. We have a unique opportunity to help those hurting by helping them to get involved in service to others. Our community has the tools and services to help people so we just have to get them plugged in to the resources available to help them do that. Thank you for your involvement and for being active and for volunteering to make these programs successful.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 3, 2018
@ Knoxville Chamber of Commerce

For input or corrections, contact:



Bonnie Harlow
(865) 406-4237
Secretary



www.ETMAC.org
East Tennessee Military Affairs Council