



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

AUGUST 4, 2011 MEETING SUMMARY

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 11	Tennessee Valley Fair Hometown Heroes Celebration
OCTOBER 5	HonorAir Flight #11
OCTOBER 10	Bud Bacon Memorial Golf Tournament
OCTOBER 21	Kerbela Shrine Circus "Honor Our Troops" Night. Free admission to all Active Duty and Reserve Soldiers and their families. More information will be provided at a later date.
NOVEMBER 11	Veterans Day Parade Veterans Day Luncheon – NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE – TO BE HELD AT THE KNOXVILLE CONVENTION CENTER – NOT THE FOUNDRY!
DECEMBER 10	"Wreaths Across America" placement of wreaths on Veterans graves. More info to follow in the future.

STAY CURRENT: WWW.ETMAC.ORG

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, August 4th, 2011, at the Knoxville Chamber, ETMAC President John Dyess presiding. A total of 46 members and guests were present. The July meeting summary was approved as written. The treasurer's report shows a current balance of \$12,102.60.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The 2011 ETMAC Veterans Day Luncheon will be held at the Knoxville Convention Center on November 11. The change was due to being overcrowded at the Foundry. The price for the luncheon will be \$27.
- The American Legion Post 2 will be sponsoring the 2011 Knoxville Veterans Day Parade. To participate, complete a parade application at www.legionknox.org. The application and parade rules should be posted no later than August 31st.
- The West High School Navy JROTC program is in danger of being eliminated. ETMAC is asking those in support of the program not use ETMAC's name when contacting school officials.

- ETMAC needs someone to volunteer to run the webpage www.ETMAC.org please contact John Dyess is your interested.

SENIOR ROTC UNITS

- **UT Air Force ROTC (LTC Brian Delamater):** Cadets are currently at field training. Only 60% of cadets were selected to attend field training. During the first weekend in October, Cadets will compete against other detachments at the University of Kentucky. Other events planned are white water tubing and their “dining out”.
- **UT Army ROTC (LTC Danny Kelley):** Next year’s Mountain Man Memorial March will be on April 20-21, 2012. Asking ETMAC to sponsor MMMM for the purpose of having 501 (c) (3) status. LTC Kelley recently returned from a Pre-Command Course. Goal is to commission 28 cadets this year. Future goals will be to commission 22 as the Army reduces man-power.

MILITARY UNIT ACTIVITY

- **US Army Recruiting Company (CPT Scott Glidden):** They will be closing out their year on September 16, 2011. The date for the “Future Soldier Event” (originally scheduled for August 13) has changed. CPT Glidden will update ETMAC once a new date is selected.
- **Military Entrance Processing Station (LCDR Lester Isaac):** MEPS attended and provided the Honor Guard for the Honor Air flight held on August 3, 2011. MEPS will be moving to the Federal Building in Downtown Knoxville around early spring of 2012. They currently have a “Chief Medical Officer” position available that pays at the GS-13 level. Please contact LCDR Isaac if you know of anyone that would be interested.
- **119th Command and Control Squadron (1stLt Stephanie McKeen):** Col Evans and Col Haynes are currently in Washington, D.C. securing additional funds and additional full-time jobs. They helped with the Habitat for Humanity homebuild recently are looking for other projects for their unit. Please contact 1st LT McKeen if you know of any upcoming projects or events.
- **228th Combat Communications Squadron (1stLt Jeremy Harris):** The 228th and 119th are going through a merger and are sharing the same building. Additional funding for manning and equipment is needed for the merger.
- **489th Civil Affairs Battalion (MAJ James Rivenbark):** Most of the soldiers from the unit are now in Afghanistan. They will return in about a year. Recently held a Yellow Ribbon program for the families and that was a great success. The next Yellow Ribbon program will be held in March.
- **844th Engineering Battalion (MAJ Al Floyd):** They recently returned from training at Fort Dix, NJ. They also recently built ball fields in Cosby, TN. Next year’s training will be in Hawaii. A unit will be going to Germany. Prior to training in Fort Dix, NJ they recognized ETMAC, the American Red Cross, and the VFW for its support to help accomplish goals. They will be having a family day on August 13 at Cove Park in Farragut at 12:00 noon
- **I.G. Brown Training and Education Center (CMSgt Sergeant Don Felch):** Currently has the largest NCO academy in the world. Recently they graduated 205 NCO’s. Prior to that they graduated 53 Air Leadership School students. They have 286 inbound students to begin on August 15. They will be broadcasting to 103 NCO’s at home stations across the country starting on August 29.
- **Naval Operations Support Center (CDR Grant):** The Knoxville Navy League is sponsoring the Navy Ball. It will be held on October 1, 2011 and it open to everyone to attend. Check out the website at knoxvillenavyball.org
- **Civil Air Patrol (Dent Young):** They will have 23 students to the Civil Air Patrol equivalent to the Command Staff at the College of the Air Force.

MILITARY AND VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

- **Tennessee Veterans Business Association (Jonathan Williams):** Completed a Habitat for Humanity homebuild in April. Thanks to all units and organizations that participated. Recently held a “Meet and Greet” for Veterans with local elected officials at the Navy Operation Support Center. Veterans and service members looking for a job can send their resumes to resumes@jointvba.org
- **East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association (Joleen Dewald):** They continue to receive memorial donations in honor of founder Bill Felton. This year they will not do a formal service at the Memorial on Veterans Day.
- **Honor Air (Joe Sutter):** Flight #10 was on August 3rd and they had 130 WWII and Korean War Veterans visit the memorials made in their honor. Flight #11 is scheduled for October 5th. On August 19, 2011 they are having a radio thon starting at 6 a.m. More details to come. To support Honor Air Knoxville, please go to <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/>.
- **Ben Atchley State Veterans Home:** 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.
- **American Red Cross (Janice Campbell):** They have had a lot of changes due to budget cuts. Recently they implemented a 1-800 number and they have had some technical difficulties. If you experience any difficulties please contact Janice or anyone at the American Red Cross.
- **Knox County Veterans Affairs Office (Richard Julian):** They are located at 1000 North Central Street in Knoxville. They hope to make the office more handicap accessible in the near future.
- **Blount County Veterans Affairs Office (Nathan Weinbaum):** They are located at 305 Court Street in Maryville. If you have never filed a claim you may want to visit the office and see if you qualify for any VA benefits. If you are still wearing the uniform, please get any medical condition documented.
- **Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (John Dyess):** There are currently around 92,504 mobilized from the guard and reserve.
- **WBIR Service and Sacrifice (John Becker):** Recently had a story about ALS and how common it is in the military. Also, watch around September 11 about a story about a Veteran who joined because of 9/11.
- **Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs (Assistant Commissioner Don Smith):** If you have served in the military and never talked with a Veterans Service Officer, then you need to. In regards to ALS, if you know anyone that is a survivor of a Veteran that passed away from ALS then they need to visit a Veterans Service Officer. Last year, with the fiscal year ending June 30, the TDVA along with county Veterans Service Officers secured \$840 million dollars in benefits for Tennessee Veterans. Currently completing the turnover for the new Veterans Cemetery in Knoxville. First burial is scheduled for either September 14th or 15th.
- **Yellow Ribbon Program (Bon Humphrey):** Recently in Smyrna, TN they did a Employment Assistance Workshop for ESGR along with a job fair.
- **Military Order of the World Wars (Joe Eddlemon):** Currently meet at Rothchilds on 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11:00 am followed by lunch. Lunch costs \$12.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 1st at the Knoxville Chamber – 8:30 am

Respectfully Submitted,

Nathan Weinbaum, Secretary
East Tennessee Military Affairs Council
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