



December 1, 2022 – Meeting Minutes
Meeting Location: Knoxville Chamber
65 Attendees

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 Free Breakfast for Veterans & Guests at the Elks Club #160 5600 Lonas Rd, Knoxville – 8:00 - 9:30am
- 2nd Sat Free Breakfast for Veterans & Guests at:
- Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 1615 Price Ave, Knoxville - 8:00-9:30am.
 - Kodak UMC 2923 Bryan Rd Kodak - 8-9:30am
- 3rd Sat Free Breakfast for Veterans & Guests at the Community Center in Powell, 1708 W. Emory Rd, Powell - 8:00-10:00am
- Last Sat: Free Breakfast for Veterans & Guests 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
- 2nd Tuesday Project Healing Waters meets at Central Bearden Baptist Church 6300 Deane Hill Dr Knoxville from 1800-2000
- 16 DEC Southeast Veteran Ball 2021 Main St, Niota from 6pm until midnight. Contact daryl.e.jackson12.mil@army.mil for details.
- 17 DEC Chilhowee Club honoring veterans at a ceremony at 2pm. Laying of wreaths at 2:15 with reception to follow. Corner of Cates St and Clarion Ave.
- 17 DEC Laying of wreaths at all Veteran Cemeteries in Knoxville
- 16-19 DEC Laying of wreaths in the GSMNP. Contact Marilyn Childress 678/920-1989 for details.

For a complete listing of events, [visit http://www.etmac.org](http://www.etmac.org) and click events

ETMAC BUSINESS SESSION

Treasurer's Report: Derren Burrell

<i>Beginning Balance</i>	\$28,731.82
<i>Deposits</i>	3,488.62
<i>Expenses</i>	19,755.67
<i>Ending Balance</i>	\$12,464.77

- **Membership dues may be paid online**

[https://www.etmac.org/resources/etmacresources/membership- application/](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** –Leslie Purser – Thank you to the following for their service to the board, Derren Burrell as Treasurer, Rick Garner as Director at large, and Tom Humphries as Director at Large. Election of officers with the presented slate approved unanimously. The officers for 2023 elected were Leslie Purser second term as president, Jim Mungenast second term as Vice President, Tim Thurston as Treasurer, Christine Shawhan and Justin Howe as Director at Large. The By Laws are being revised to remove the provision that a person on active duty cannot serve on the board. We are also adding the new position of Communication Director, which Tom Humphries is filling currently. There is now a 2-minute bell presiding over the meeting. Minuteman scholarships are available, contact Leslie.
- **Webmaster's Report** – Dent Young – 521 users, 505 of them were new. The Philippines, Cote d'Ivoire and China were some of the unusual locations of visitors.
- **Other ETMAC Announcements** - Patrice Collins – Veteran Luncheon was a great success. It will be held on November 9 again next year at the Airport Hilton.

First Time Attendees

- **Ken Williams with Western Governors' University**
- **Melissa Gunter with Covenant Health Hospice**
- **Christine Horwege**
- **Michael Scott with the TEC**
- **Billie Jo McCarley with MCL 924**

MILITARY UNIT UPDATES

- **3rd Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard** – LTC Joseph Westfall- They will be participating in Wreaths Across America in Johnson City.
- **1-100th Engineer Battalion** – MAJ Matt Marshall – *unable to attend*
- **119th Cyberspace Operations Squadron** – Maj Willie Posey – Maj Posey is transitioning to Chattanooga and there will be new leadership at the 119th.
- **1-230 Assault Helicopter Battalion** – CPT Hulon Holmes – *unable to attend*
- **134th Air Refueling Wing** – Col Art Douglass – Christmas parties coming up this weekend.

- 278th Armored Cavalry Unit – LTC Colby Tippens – Cav Ball. 700 attending.
- 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – LT Col Bryan Ewing – *unable to attend*
- 489th Civil Affairs Battalion – CPT Jacqueline Bradford – *unable to attend*
- 844th Engineering Battalion - CAPT Brett Dehanas – soldiers in motion. Dining Out is 10 December.
- D Co 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – Capt Shawn Balent – *unable to attend*
- Coast Guard Recruiting – ME1 Steven Bradshear – *unable to attend*
- Coast Guard Auxiliary – Kevin Lindsay – *unable to attend*
- ETSU Army ROTC. – 1LT Andrew J. Sepulveda – commissioning 3 new cadets.
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center – Col Roxanne Toy – On break and will start back in January.
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) – CPT Mary Bustamante – *unable to attend*
- Military Entrance Processing Station – LCDR Justin Bergman – Completed inspection. Thanks to the Naval Reserve Center for help with staffing.
- National Guard Recruiting and Retention BN – 1LT Daryl Jackson – *unable to attend*
- Naval Reserve Center Knoxville – CDR Trier Kissell – *unable to attend*
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – Col Dent Young – no report
- USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – Ron Boneau – *unable to attend*
- UT Air Force ROTC – Lt Col Tony Estep – 3 commissioning on 16 December. Cadet Change of Command coming up as well.
- UT Army ROTC – LTC Justin Howe – 2 December weapons training. 16 December 7 are commissioning. 36 will be commissioned this school year. They have received their branching assignments.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- Air and Space Force Association – Dick Webber – 17 November was the STEM fair at Prospect Elementary.
- Air Force Sargent's Association – Jamie Prince – *unable to attend*
- American Job Center / State of TN Department of Labor – Rich Meadows – *unable to attend*
- American Legion Post 2 – Tom Humphries – Appreciate patience for Veterans Day Parade. Logistics were a challenge.
- American Red Cross – Travis Burchett – *unable to attend*
- Ben Atchley Veteran's Home – Doug Ottinger - *unable to attend*
- Bunker Labs – Derren Burrell – Veteran Showcase coming up.
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078- Pat Polis – *unable to attend*
- CNY/Y12 Serving our Service Members – CMSgt Christine Shawhan - We spent November supporting our Angel Tree and Compassion Closet drives; providing holiday cheer to foster kids across east Tennessee. Welcoming new SOS leadership in January: Oneta Fioravanti (Chair), Jeremiah Marcoe (Co-Chair), and Kristen Rawson (Secretary)
- Caris Health Care – Brenda Palmatier *unable to attend*
- Covenant Health Military Recognition Program – Cindy Winterberger – *unable to attend*

- Disabled Veterans Chapter #24 – Dave Swanson – Please send any disabled veterans to their chapter. Always looking for drivers to take veterans to Johnson City.
- East Tennessee Veteran’s Honor Guard – Jim Mungenast – Need additional volunteers
- East Tennessee Veteran’s Memorial Association - Joleen Dewald – Dinner will be on 1 May, and table sales will begin first. Prices will be going up this year.
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) - Jim Mungenast / Leslie Purser – ORNL did a great job with their Veterans Day Celebration. A new cycle of briefings is beginning. Freedom Award season is upon us. We are participating in the 134th Christmas Party. Thank you to Bearden NJROTC for their help with the craft.
- Enlisted Association of National Guard of Tennessee - SMSgt Christopher Gragg – *unable to attend*
- Female Veterans of Est TN – Bonnie Bonner – *unable to attend*
- Fleet Reserve Association – Eric Nash – Offering their float to other groups in the area for their celebrations.
- Frontline Gardens – Stephanie Trost – *unable to attend*
- Greater Knoxville Women Veterans Network – Jessica Hodge – 216 women veterans are members. Get together once a month. They had 37 women in the parade this year.
- Helen Ross McNabb Veterans Services – Lou Danner – *unable to attend*
- Honor Air - Joe Sutter – *unable to attend*
- Irreverent Warriors – Christine Shawhan – Successful premiere for The Hike Back documentary – has won four major awards at the independent film festivals (public showing coming this spring). Dec 18 at the Barrelhouse by Gypsy Circus – Silkies and Sweaters holiday gathering: details on our IW Knoxville Facebook page. Starting to plan for our annual urban silkies hike for early May 2022
- James H Quillen VA Medical Center – Billy Key – Outreach for veterans that aren’t enrolled. If you know any, send them to the website.
- Knights of Columbus, Monsignor Francis D. Grady Assembly 1083 – Jeff Brown – *unable to attend*
- Knoxville Habitat for Heroes – Rick Garner – Had their 4th annual Playhouse build. Great fun and the playhouse was donated to the children of an active-duty soldier.
- Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council – Cindy Winterberger *unable to attend*
- Knox County Veteran Services Office – Tom Humphries – *unable to attend*
- Knoxville Vet Center – Lyle Allen – Can assist with any branch of the military. Still working on suicide prevention. Let Lyle know if they can present to your group.
- Lost Vets Rescue – Alvin Wagner – *unable to attend*
- Marine Corps League – Billie Jo McCarley – Toys for Tots Season. Boxes around the area.
- 194 Fleet Reserve Association – Eric Nash - *unable to attend*
- Military Order of the Purple Hearts Chapter 356- Thomas Booker – *unable to attend*
- MOAA – Bill Potter - *unable to attend*
- Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW)/ Reserve Officers Assoc.– Bill Grieve – no report
- Mountain Man Memorial March – Justin Howe – The event will be held on 21-22 April 2023. There will be different length walks/hikes.
- Navy League – Joe Holloway – *unable to attend*
- ORNL Veterans Group – John Gearhart – *unable to attend*

- Pets for Vets – Heinz Lauer – *unable to attend*
- Rolling Thunder – Carlos Hollifield – *unable to attend*
- STAR – Horses & Heroes Program – Chelsea Taylor – *unable to attend*
- TN Department of Veteran Services – Knoxville Field Office – Charles McGhee – Help veterans file claims for disability. For any ROTC cadet that is injured, please make sure there is documentation on that injury for possible future disability.
- Team RWB - Christian Koshaba – *unable to attend*.
- Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network – Emily Hager- *unable to attend*
- Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless - Brandon Harris - *unable to attend*
- United Veterans Council – Natalie Donahue – 17 December will be wreath placement. There will be a wreath for every grave.
- UT Army ROTC Alumni Council - Geoff Freeman – Hall of Fame induction ceremony went well. All were recognized at the UT/Missouri game the following day.
- Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – Marilyn Childress – War Dog March was a success; everyone had a good time. They have scholarship opportunities. Contact Marilyn for details. 18 Dec at 10am at the Visitor Center will be the ceremony for the placing of wreaths. They have 68 veteran sites to place wreaths on across the area, and they need assistance to place all of them. There are now 240 documented graves inside the park. There are 150 Revolutionary War veteran graves in the Knoxville Metro area. Contact Marilyn if interested in helping with the wreaths. They will be placing wreaths on different days in different areas.
- Veterans Mental Health Council – Cindy Winterberger – *unable to attend*
- VFW Post 5154 in Maryville – Neal Whetsel – Progress is going well on the rebuild from the damage to their building.
- Volunteers for Veterans - Noah Rempfer – *unable to attend*
- Volunteers of America – Amanda Millsaps- They have a goal of housing 209 veterans and are at 86 housed currently. They must be a veteran, be homeless and be below \$28,600 in income.

Next ETMAC meeting is Thursday, January 5, 2023, at the Knoxville Chamber

- **Any input or corrections, please contact Kim Spencer 865/661 9856 or kim@yourplacetoflourish.com**

ETMAC Board of Directors:

Leslie Purser, President C: 757/537-0734 purserjl@verizon.net

Geoff Freeman, Immediate Past President C: 843/743-5661 gafreeman@comcast.net

Jim Mungenast, Vice President C: 865/386-5859 bamaforce@aol.com

Tim Thurston, Treasurer/Membership C: 210/540-4531 timthurston1972@gmail.com

Kim Spencer, Secretary C: 865/661-9856 kim@yourplacetoflourish.com

Patrice Collins, Board Member & ETMAC Administrator: C: 865/806-4487
pcollins@knoxvillechamber.com

Tom Humphries, Communications Dir W:865/215-5645 C: 865/804-6858

Thomas.humphries@knoxcounty.org

Cindy Winterberger, At Large Director W: 865/679-4754 cwinterb@covhlth.com

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Patti McGrew, At Large Director C: 865/335-6423 patty.mcgrew@veteransheritagesite.org

Lyle Allen, At Large Director C: 423/631-2048 W: 865/633-0000 x 4407 lyle.allen@va.gov

Christine Shawhan, At Large Director C: 682/365-7182 pcshawhan@yahoo.com

Robert Brown, ETMAC Calendar C: 865/458-0759 rl_brown@hotmail.com

Dent Young, Webmaster, C: 865/604-8621 W: 865/483-7467 387543@tncap.us

Unit and Veteran Organization Contact Information

ETMAC

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> or www.jobs4tn.gov

American Legion

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-ESGR-171685266196286/>

Honor Air

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

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

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

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

Lost Vets Rescue alshsc@gmail.com 757/817-7869 www.thelostvets.com

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

Military Order of Purple Heart (MOPH) Chapter 356 - Charlie Caldwell 865-368-7289
www.moph356.org or cdcardwell49@gmail.com

Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) - www.moww.org

Mountain Man Memorial March

<http://mountainmanmemorialmarch.com/>

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

Navy League – Joe Holloway 865/320-5093 CTR1USN@gmail.com

Pets for Vets – Heinz Lauer ceclauer@gmail.com or 865/888-2754

Project Healing Waters FishingJoe.noe@projecthealingwaters.org 629-213-9707

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

Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless - <https://tvchomeless.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

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

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

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

Volunteers for Veterans - Noah Rempfer nempfer@vols.utk.edu 434/6650679

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

Y12 Servicing our Service Members (SOS) <https://www.y12.doe.gov/> Bonnie Harlow (865) 406-4237
bonnie.harlow@pxy12.doe.gov and Christine Shawhan (865) 410-4815 christine.shawhan@pxy12.doe.gov