

EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Feb 7, 2013 MEETING SUMMARY

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

MARCH 7	ETMAC Meeting at Red Cross
MARCH 9	NOSC Anchor Dedication – 10:00 am
APRIL 4	ETMAC Meeting at NOSC
APRIL 19-20	Mountain Man Memorial March in Gatlinburg, TN
APRIL 24	HonorAir Knoxville Flight #13
MAY 6	East TN Veterans Memorial Association 3rd Annual Medal of Honor Evening

STAY CURRENT: WWW.ETMAC.ORG

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

- The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, February 7, 2013 at the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce. ETMAC Vice President Owen Ragland, presiding. Vice President Ragland welcomed all members and guests.
- 56 members and guests were present, and the January meeting summary was approved as distributed with three corrections and one addition. The April 4th meeting will be conducted at the NOSC not the NAS. Capt Stephanie McKeen will fill the secretary position. Two of the unit comments in January mentioned upcoming deployments. Those minutes will be redacted as not to compromise the safety and security of our military units. The link to the Mountain Man Memorial March was incorrect. It has been corrected to: www.mountainmanmemorialmarch.com.
- The Treasurer's report shows a current balance of \$11,687.70. The final reconciliation was completed. Membership fees are currently being accepted. \$1,450.00 has been collected to date.
- Webmaster Laimon Godel was interviewed by WBIR Channel 10 news in reference to the recent hacking of several major news reports websites. Mr. Godel shared the findings of ETMAC's 2012 general statistics report containing such items as total visitors to the website, the most downloaded files and economic impact report.
- The following were presented by the Chair:
 - ETMAC formally acknowledges and thanks the Blount County Chamber (Bryan Daniels and Kathy DeLozier) for their support of the Veterans Day Luncheon
 - A reminder was given about paying dues; \$25 for individual members and \$100 for corporate memberships
 - A request was made to all units to provide the number of people their organization represents to understand the outreach of ETMAC as an organization (give answer to Patrice or Capt McKeen)
 - A motion from the ETMAC Board was presented to "Accept Gold Star parents' membership applications to ETMAC at no-fee for annual membership." The motion was presented and passed without objection.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 0940.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Veteran Reintegration Study** – Veliska Thomas, UT Adjunct Professor – received lots of helpful feedback at the Veteran job fair but would like more ideas on ways to help reintegrate veterans back into the civilian workforce
- **Rolling Thunder Chili Cook-off Fundraiser** – 23 February – Patrice sent out email with address.
- **Welcome Home Vietnam Vets Event** – 15-18 April - Barry Rice, Vietnam Veterans of America, TN State Council – 18 chapters across the state and approx 2500 members.
- **K9 Veteran's Day Event** – 16 March – Donna FeFee – 1 pm at War Dog Memorial/UT-Knox-Honors Service dogs
- **Smoky Mountain Service Dog Fun Run** – 3 March – Lee Dalton

MILITARY UNIT ACTIVITY UPDATES

- **UT Air Force ROTC – Lt Col Brian Delamater** – busy time – cadets off and running. Located in Hoskins library no longer in Stokely. Facilities are great! Rated cadets will find out position assignments this week, will be commissioning 11 cadets in May, several cadets will be traveling down to Hurlburt/Eglin in March for training and lastly they will be hosting their Combat Dining In - in April.
- **UT Army ROTC – LTC Danny Kelley** – located in Hoskins library; Fort Lewis, Washington – Jr Year – UT is one of top five schools for training cadets on tactics; Change to HOPE scholarship – anything above 120 hrs will not be paid via HOPE - most cadets have 40 hours in ROTC courses having little to none to do with their degree. MG Haston is aware of the problem and looking for solutions.
- **Military Entrance Processing Station – First Sergeant Schaffner** – Commander Isaac unable to attend, attending a briefing for the upcoming move.
- **119th Command and Control Squadron – CMSgt Randy Browning** – Col Franklin and Lt Col Keener in Chattanooga observing a compliance inspection in prep for their own inspection in March.
- **134th Air Refueling Wing – Captain Joseph Keith** – Col Cauthen and Col Gratz – working on Installation Development Plan; working on inspection prep for Operational Readiness Inspection – first week in March; 134th sent a group along with the 119th to set up a communications package for the inauguration.
- **1/230 Air Cavalry Squadron – LTC Mel Clawson** – Several Soldiers attending yellow ribbon event; Army LUH's (Light Utility Helicopter) will stop flying on 1 March – five in the state of Tennessee National Guard.
- **278th Armored Cavalry Regiment – Col Jeff Archer** – Training in full force; Bradley upgrades with the latest Blue Force Tracker; M1 Abrams upgrade; Soldier and NCO of the year competition at Tullahoma Range; 14 April will be the Regiment change of Command at West High.
- **489th Civil Affairs Battalion – Capt Wunder** – Re-integration with the yellow ribbon event; updated annual training on forks of the river; hosting a "Welcome Home" 5k – on the 22nd of June to raise funds for children of deceased service members.
- **844th Engineering Battalion – Dennis McVey**– Annual training going on; thanked TVBA for the networking opportunity for soldiers.
- **I.G. Brown Training and Education Center – Chief Don Felch** – Working on Installation Development Plan; hosting Department of Homeland security in August – teams will compete on detection of Nuclear/Radiation material; currently hosting 314 NCO students and 60 ALS students.
- **Naval Operations Support Center – Chief Todd Johnson** – facility is finished and will have "commissioning" on 9 March at 1300. Planned/participated in TN State Fair obstacle course – gave a \$500 check to the Wounded Warrior organization.
- **USCG Auxiliary Division 12 - Dave Roberts – DVCDR USCG Aux** – hosting safe boating courses.

MILITARY & VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- **East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association – Joleen Dewald** - hosting 3rd Annual Medal of Honor Evening on 6 May at the Foundry – cost \$75 per person/\$500 table of eight before April 1. After April 1 cost of table goes to \$600.
- **American Legion – Marvin Tuggle**- Hosting an Oratorical contest for local high school students; also hosting a poker run on 17 August to raise money for HonorAir.
- **Air Force Association – Steve Dillenburg** – looking for nominees for outstanding STEM teacher.
- **Honor Air – Joe Sutter** – flight #14 – April 24th - branching out to other counties; flight #15 – OCT 2013.
- **2014 Medal of Honor Convention Update – CMSgt (ret) Chris Coyne** – dates: 9-13 Sept 2014.

- **Ben Atchley Veteran's Home – Doug Ottinger** – currently has beds open; acute patients can request Ben Atchley services; willing to come to various units and give a fifteen minute presentation about the homes' services.
- **ESGR –Dr. Jim Foggin** – 53,700 Active Duty; No funds (TN Air NG) for boss-lifts at the moment; <https://h2h.jobs/> jobs for VETS.
- **Mountain Man Memorial March – Capt Mark Farley** – 19 & 20 April – expecting @ 560 marchers this year and 90+ Gold Star Families; asking for sponsorships for weekend expenses for GSFs. \$150 will sponsor a GSF's hotel and meals for two days. Go to www.mountainmanmemorialmarch.com to sponsor a family or to register as a marcher.
- **Tennessee Veterans Business Association – Jonathan Williams** – Thanked all participants from job fair; currently having a contest for VETS seeking to start a business - \$5000 dollar prize – need a two page business plan by 28 Feb.
- **American Red Cross** – Knox & Blount Counties – **Jess Hernandez** – limited funds (only) for Guard/Reserves for: Utilities, gas, grocery, rent, etc. Have funds for bus tickets for transporting VETs to Dr appts.
- **Marine Corps League – Laimon Godel** – Hosting Dining-In Banquet in March.
- **MOWW – Joe Eddlemon** - Meets the second Wednesday each month at Rothschild Conf. Center – 11am.

Next meeting – Thursday, March 7 at the Knoxville Red Cross **Located at 6921 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37909**

- **ETMAC Webpage:** Please send anything to be added to the calendar to webmaster@godel.com