



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

January 9, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Every WED Combat Coffee Hour for all Veterans, 7:30 Knoxville Vet Center, 1645 Downtown West Blvd #28 (Black Rifle Coffee Company <https://www.blackriflecoffee.com/>)
- Every Second Saturday: Breakfast for Buds from 8:30 until 10am. Mama Grits in Tellico Village. Contact Dennis Drake at dennisdrake2012@outlook.com for more information.
- 22 Every Month Veterans Coffee Hour hosted by MOPH at Avalon Coffee 125 W Jackson Ave Knoxville
- 11 JAN Team Red, White & Blue Dark and Early Donut Run 7:30-9:30 Dunkin Donuts at 712 N Campbell Station Rd, Knoxville
- 15 JAN Reboot session begins Register at rebootrecovery.com. Contact Darrell Williams at 423/312-4752 or kdarrellwilliams@gmail.com
- 15 JAN Knox County Veteran Services Office are offering several dates for veterans and their family members to learn about benefits and receive help filing for them. There are 11 dates scheduled between now and March. Call the office at 865/215-5645 or email at veterans@knoxcounty.org for more information.
- 16 JAN Bunker Brews 5:30 –7:30pm at Calhouns 10020 Kingston Pike Knoxville RSVP on their Facebook page @bunkerlabsknoxville
- 25 JAN Veterans Mobile Food Pantry 11-1pm Roots of Wellness 680 E Meeting St Dandridge TN
- 1 FEB 4th Annual Hope Gala to support the Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless Details at www.tvchomeless.org
- 20-21 FEB Farmer Veteran Coalition of Tennessee New and Beginning Farmer Session 1-4pm at at the Marriott Cool Springs in Franklin TN www.agrability@tennessee.edu for more information
- 28 MAR Job Fair in Loudon County. Details to follow.

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

We are changing the format of the monthly minutes. All organization contact information will be in a list at the end of the minutes. We hope you will find having the information in one place will be beneficial to you, and hope you find the minutes easier to read.

ETMAC BUSINESS SESSION

- **Welcome and Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, **January 9, 2020 8:30am** at the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce. President **Geoff Freeman** presided over the meeting. A total number of **67** were present.

Introduction of new Attendees:

- **Kalene Faulkner with the Knoxville Vet Center**

- **Samanatha Shreves with the Tri County Veterans Honor Guard**
- **Chris Robson with the US Postal Service**
- **James Artman with Tennessee AgrAbility**
- **Jack Evens with Humana/Mr Insurance**
- **Jumar Thomas with the Coast Guard Aux**
- **Thomas Hoebeke, Enrollment Coordinator for Educational Outreach. Lindsey Wilson College**
- **Dylan Gahagan UT Law Student**
- **Owen Ray with First Bank**

- **President's Report – Geoff Freeman** – Geoff introduced the two new board members, Leslie Purser and Cindy Winterberger.
- **Webmaster's Report - Col Dent Young-** There were 373 visitors to the website last month. 357 of them were new users. Most were from the US, with Brazil, Argentina the most interesting countries visiting. Check to see if your group is listed on the website and let Patrice know if any changes need to be made.

Cindy Winterberger talked about the programs Covenant has that are focused on veterans. She would like to partner with other agencies to have health fairs. They also would like to provide information to their veteran patients about local services. Covenant Hospice started their program We Honor Veterans. Anyone interested in talking about this information, please email Cindy. Her email is cwinterb@covhlth.com.

- **Treasurer's Report: Derren Burrell** –

Beginning Balance	\$14,388.77
Deposits	151.35
Expenses	895.78
Ending Balance	\$13,644.34

Membership dues may be paid online <https://www.etmac.org/resources/etmacresources/membership-application/> or bring check to Patrice Collins at the next meeting. Donations are also appreciated.

- **Other ETMAC Announcements - Patrice Collins** –Patrice is having surgery on Friday morning (it went well). Be patient next week if she doesn't get right back to you.

MILITARY UNIT UPDATES

- **3rd Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard – MAJ Joseph Westfall-** Helping with security for the upcoming RAM event at Chilhowee, the last of Jan and beginning of Feb.
- **119th Cyberspace Operations Squadron –Maj Chris Morin** - UTA this weekend. Global Exercise coming up. They are working with state agencies to define and mitigate vulnerabilities
- **1-230 Assault Helicopter Battalion – CPT Philip Webster** – unable to attend.
- **134th Air Refueling Wing – Lt Col Travers Hurst-** Joint Domestic Exercise Joint Adaptive Battle. Troops in motion
- **241st Engineering & Installation Squadron (Chattanooga) - Lt Col Dave Moss** – unable to attend.
- **278th Armored Cavalry Regiment – LTC Steven Turner** They have hired a person to handle ID cards and should have that up and running in a couple of weeks. Troops in motion.
- **332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – MSgt Brandon Carver** Looking to hire.
- **489th Civil Affairs Battalion – CPT Jacqueline R. Bradford** Sending 3 to Best Warrior competition. Have annual training in March

- 844th Engineering Battalion – **MAJ Justin Belford** – Increasing strength. 100 new soldiers. Best in their division this past year. Ramping up to send two units to the Training Center
- Coast Guard Recruiting – East TN Region – **ME1 Steven Brashear** – unable to attend
- Co D 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – **SSGT Jose Ordonez**- Drill this weekend.
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center - **Lt Col John Capra** – unable to attend
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) – **CPT Patrick Conner**- unable to attend
- Military Entrance Processing Station – **CPT Taylr Hill** – Last quarter, 734 applicants processed through; 167 AF, 399 Army, 68 Marines, and 100 Navy. They also gave 11000 tests.
- Navy Operational Support Center – **CDR Scott Moss** – Safe holidays for all. Funeral Honors, drill weekend, Command Assessment in March.
- Navy Recruiting – Talent Acquisition Onboarding Center – **HM2 Josh Dixon**- unable to attend
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – **Col Dent Young** – 2 earthquakes in Puerto Rico. Much of island in a state of emergency. Using generators for power at the hospitals. CAP will be sending assistance.
- USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – **DCDR Thomas Jumar** – Training C Scouts
- UT Air Force ROTC – **Lt Col Matt “Ocho” Castillo** –unable to attend
- UT Army ROTC – **LTC Justin Howe** – unable to attend

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- Air Force Association – **Paula Penson**– 35 people attended Air Space and Cyber Space networking event.
- American Job Center / State of TN Department of Labor – **Laura Chagnon**-Unemployment remains low. Job Fair on Jan 16 at the Job Center. March 28 Loudon County Veteran Job and Resource Fair.
- American Legion – **Joleen Dewald** –Post 2 Celebrating 100th anniversary. Post 2 is partnering with South Doyle High School to break record of retired flags. If you have a flag to retire let Joleen know.
- American Red Cross – **Tom DeHoog** –Have online resources for help for families of deploying service members.
- Ben Atchley Veteran’s Home – **Doug Ottinger** –Great Christmas. Over \$15000 in gifts donated for residents. Job openings.
- Bunker Labs – **Rich Gross** – Bunker Brews on January 16th at Calhoun’s at Pellissippi from 5:30 until 7:30. The speaker is from ORNL.
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078 – **Gary Ellis** – March 29th. Vietnam Veteran Memorial Ceremony at John Sevier Veteran Cemetery. Meet 2nd Tuesday evening.
- Disabled Veterans Chapter #24 – **Larry Sharp** – Looking for new van to transport disabled veterans.
- East Tennessee Veteran’s Honor Guard - November 45 funerals. Over 400 YTD. \$68k was raised in October. \$61k of that came back to the units here.

- East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association - **Joleen Dewald** –Medal of Honor Dinner will be on May 4, honoring Milo Lemert. There will be discounted tables available from Feb. 1 until Mar 1 for Veteran Service Non – Profits.
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) – **Leslie Purser** – Tennessee has 50 candidates for the Freedom Award this year. We provide the USERRA briefings for all units if you would like us to. 2 Yellow Ribbon Events coming up with over 200 attending each. Total Guard and Reserve activated currently is 40,033. Approaching 1,000,000 since 9/11.
- Honor Air - **Joe Sutter** – 193 women currently signed up for the flight in April. Notification letters going out soon.
- Knoxville Habitat for Heroes – **Rick Garner** – 5th Annual Clay Shoot on March 6.
- Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council – **Ed Junod** – Starting Veteran Court in Sullivan County. Military Chaplin Assoc. adding about 4 churches a week. They are moving across the country. New program in schools teaching suicide prevention to 3000 students.
- Knox County Veteran Services Office – **Tom Humphries** – nothing to report
- Knoxville Vet Center – **Kalene Faulkner** – Services are free. Will partner with other agencies. Trying to get the word out since many veterans don't know about them.
- Marine Corps League – **Eric Nash** – unable to attend.
- Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) – **Bill Potter** – unable to attend.
- Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW)/ Reserve Officers Assoc.– **Bill Grieve** – Meets 2nd Wednesday at Rothchild's from 11-1. Preparing trip to Brussels.
- Mountain Man Memorial March - **Joleen Dewald** – No news at this time.
- Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing – **Steve Burman** –Continuing to grow. Had over 70 at their Christmas Party. New classes beginning to build rods and tie flies.
- REBOOT Combat Recovery – **Darrell Williams**– 12-week course on the spiritual aspects of PTSD. 15 Jan will be the next class at Fountain City Church.
- Rolling Thunder – **Carlos Hollifield** – Nothing to report
- STAR – Horses & Heroes Program – **Cathy Dolson** – Classes beginning now. Hiring facility manager.
- Team Red White & Blue – **Jesse Hawe** – open to all branches of the military. Monthly events. 216,000 engagements nationwide last year.
- Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless - **Brandon Harris**- unable to attend
- Tennessee Veterans Business Associations (TVBA) – **Steve Stilts** – Event successful.
- United Veterans Council – **Buzz Buswell** - Goal for wreaths was 17,000, had over 14,000 donated. Wreaths have been picked up and 7000 will be recycled. (Kim update- over 70 individuals came out over two days to take the wreaths apart and recycle. The volunteers included a group from IG Brown. I worked with cadets from South Doyle and they were working hard.).
- UT Army ROTC Alumni Council – **Geoff Freeman** –nothing to report.

- Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – **Patty McGrew** – April 4th trail run. The Foundation will be taking over planning and implementation of the new site overlooking the Veteran’s Cemetery on John Sevier.
- VVA Chapter 1073 & VFW Post 3380 (Morristown). **Whit Whitman** - They cover 7 counties and provide flags in all classrooms for the 88 schools in their counties. They donated a lot of money to Wreaths Across America and the rural counties are done locally. The graves they placed wreaths on included Civil War veterans. They also took fruit baskets to veterans at nursing homes and for homebound.
- Volunteers of America/Supportive Services for Veterans Families/Stand Down – **Ivette Torres** – unable to attend.
- Yellow Ribbon Fund Veteran Caregivers Support Group – **Stephanie Trost** –unable to attend

Next meeting: Thursday, February 6, 2020 @ Knoxville Chamber at 8:30am

**For input or corrections, please contact Kim Spencer
865/691-0898 or kim@nallssherbakoff.com**

ETMAC Board of Directors:

Geoff Freeman, President 865-974-8758 email: gfreema1@utk.edu

Jess Hernandez, Vice President 865-567-6134 email: Jess.Hernandez@redcross.org

Derren Burrell, Treasurer 865-771-4243 email: derren@tagresources.com

Kim Spencer, Secretary 865-661-9856 email: kim@nallssherbakoff.com

Patrice Collins, Board Member & Chamber Rep: 865-806-4487

email: pcollins@knoxvillechamber.com

Dent Young, Webmaster 387543@tncap.us

Capt Willie Posey, At Large Director, 865-274-9901 email: willie.s.posey.mil@mail.mil

Gina Massey, At Large Director, 865-363-2994 email: gmassey@etmafcu.net

Tom Humphries, At Large Dir 865-215-5645 Thomas.humphries@knoxcounty.org

Rick Garner, At Large Director 865-740-2970 email: rgarner@khfh.com

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

Leslie Purser At Large Director 757-537-0734 purserjl@verizon.net

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

Unit and Veteran Organization Contact Information

ETMAC

www.ETMAC.org

American Job Center/State of TN Dept of Labor

<https://www.careeronestop.org/ResourcesFor/Veteran/veteran.aspx>

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/>

Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078

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

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

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/honoir/>

Knoxville Habitat for Heroes

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

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

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/>

Marine Corps League

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

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

www.moaa.org

Military Order of Purple Heart (MOPH) Chapter 356

www.moph356.org Charlie Caldwell 865/368-7289 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/>

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

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

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

REBOOT Combat Recovery

<https://rebootalliance.com/reboot>

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

Rolling Thunder

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

STAR – Horses and Heroes Program

<https://www.rideatstar.org/heroes--horses.html>

Team Red White & Blue.

www.teamrwb.org

Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless

<https://tvchomeless.org/>

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 of America Supportive Services for Veterans Families/Stand Down

<https://www.voamid.org/ssvftn>

Yellow Ribbon Fund Veteran Caregivers Support Group

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