



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

JANUARY 5, 2012 MEETING SUMMARY

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- JAN 17-19 ESGR's Employment Assistance Workshop – Hampton Inn & Suites, 11340 Campbell Lakes Road, Knoxville. The site is South of I-40...take Campbell Station Road. Pre-registration Required. Contact Joe Thomas @ 615-313-0752 or joseph.c.thomas2@us.army.mil to register.
- JAN 24 Tennessee Veterans Business Association Business to Business Expo at the Knoxville Convention Center. Go to www.jointvba.org to register. A “Hiring our Heroes” Job Fair will also be taking place during the Expo.
- APRIL 18 HonorAir Knoxville Flight #12
- APRIL 20-21 Mountain Man Memorial March in Gatlinburg, TN
- MAY 7 East TN Veterans Memorial Association 2nd Annual Medal of Honor Evening at The Foundry to honor Medal of Honor recipient Mitchell Stout.

STAY CURRENT: WWW.ETMAC.ORG

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, January 5th, 2012, at the Knoxville Chamber, ETMAC Vic-President Barry Allen presiding. A total of 56 members and guests were present. The November meeting summary was approved as written. The treasurer's report shows a current balance of \$16,758.65.

Patrice Collins Announcements:

- Please pay 2012 membership dues. \$25 per individual. \$100 for organizations or units.
- The 2012 ETMAC meeting schedule has been released. Each meeting will be on the 1st Thursday of each month except for the July meeting and that meeting will be on July 12.

They had a brief recap of the 2011 Veterans Day luncheon and talked about some of the problems found and ways to make it much smoother next year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Rolling Thunder (Jack Alman):** The major function of Rolling Thunder is to publicize the POW-MIA issue. On Saturday, February 25th at 11:00 am they are having the 1st Annual Chili Cook-off “Chili Chili Bang Bang” at Moose Lodge #1560, 6903 Mundal Rd, Knoxville. For more details call 865-281-0154.

- **CredAbility Counseling & Education (Anna Seale):** Offers resources for our military. They have a special program called “Veterans Helping Veterans”. For more info go to www.CredAbility.org/military or call 888-417-325
- **ESGR (Jim Foggin):** On January 17-19, there will be an ESGR Employee Assistance Workshop open to Veterans and military service members and spouses. It will be held at the Hampton Suites off of Campbell Station Road. John Dyess will provide more info.
- **ETMAC Webpage (Laimon Godel):** For the month of December there 34 visits a day. Please send anything to be added to the calendar to webmaster@godel.com

SENIOR ROTC UNITS

- **UT Air Force ROTC (LTC Brian Delamater):** Recently attended National Commanders Conference in November. There are cuts that will be made in ROTC. Competed for 227 scholarships nationally among 145 detachments and they received 5 of the scholarships. In a couple years there will be 150 unfunded billets nationwide which means 25 to 30 detachments may be cut out of 145. They will have a big inspection in February and last semester they had 4 cadets with a 4.0 grade point average.

MILITARY UNIT ACTIVITY

- **US Air Force Recruiting Command (CPT Jason Sumner):** Recruiting zone includes nine states and 99,000 miles. Looking forward to future interaction with ETMAC.
- **Military Entrance Processing Station (LCDR Lester Isaac):** On track to meet all goals for the year. Still looking to move to new building in July, 2012. MEPCON Commander will be visiting on January 10, 2011. Navy service liaison office was recently selected as Navy Processing Station of the Year for the State of Tennessee.
- **119th Command and Control (COL Dave Evans):** Focusing on personnel issues as they need to add 35 to meet district requirements. Budget impact is less than originally planned. Working on system refresh. Still has significant amount of construction going on. Finished 2 out of 3 fundraising events for HonorAir. Final event will be in February. COL Dave Evans will be retiring in March, 2012.
- **1/230 Air Cavalry Squadron (MAJ Melvin Clawson):** Budget looking good for FY2012 but not for FY2013. In February the air ambulance unit deploying to OEF. In April they will be having their annual conference. In June they will have annual training at Fort Knox, KY. In July the lift company delta company will begin pre-mobilization to Kuwait. Then they will have their Aviation Resource Management Survey.
- **844th Engineering Battalion (MAJ Al Floyd):** Recently held annual briefing. Thanks to the Red Cross for assisting with the briefing. Educated soldiers on finding jobs. Preparing to go to Germany, Honduras, Hawaii, and Fort Chaffee, Ark for annual training. Three of the companies have been moved up to be available for FY2013.
- **I.G. Brown Training and Education Center (COL Timothy Cathcart and Chief Master Sergeant Don Felch):** With end of the year money from last year they will upgrade a satellite facility. Project should be completed by the end of the month and they will start using new system. They will have 270 NCO’s will be reporting for NCO Academy. The following week there will be 55 Airman Leadership School students reporting. They will have 325 students on board. This will be the biggest class ever. They are also putting out a new curriculum.
- **Naval Operations Support Center (Chief Johnson):** Lots of opportunities for returning warriors who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Outward Bound and Warrior Vacations are two of the programs. Thanks to the Red Cross for the help with the December Family Day. Navy construction unit partnering up with Camp Montvale. Also involved with Project Live to help seniors in the community. If you’re looking for volunteer opportunities contact Chief Johnson.

MILITARY AND VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

- **East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association (Joleen Dewald):** On May 7th, they will host the 2nd annual Medal of Honor at the Foundry to honor Medal of Honor recipient Mitchell Stout. On Memorial Day they will be again reading all the names on the memorial and will be looking for volunteers.
- **American Legion (Marvin Tuggle):** Will be supporting the Mountain Man Memorial March in April. Eleven Gold Star families have already signed up. Expecting over 4,000 in attendance for the event.
- **Honor Air (Joe Sutter):** HonorAir Flight #12 will be on April 18. You can purchase a HonorAir watch and cookbook at the HonorAir webpage. To support Honor Air Knoxville, please go to <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/>.
- **Ben Atchley Veteran's Home (Doug Ottinger):** Thanks for all support from various military organizations over the Christmas holidays.
- **American Red Cross Knox County (Janice Campbell):** Currently has a SAF grant that is good through June of 2012 for Yellow Ribbons, Welcome Home events, family days and other events. In December they helped 3 soldiers, a sailor, and a marine with financial assistance.
- **American Red Cross Blount County (Jerry Bennett):** In December they helped every unit at the airbase plus the 278th in Maryville with their events. Will be helping the 1/230 with their FRG in January.
- **Knox County Veterans Affairs Office (Richard Julian):** Recently helped a grandmother in need. Her grandson is a wounded warrior at Fort Campbell. John Dyess and Richard Julian presented her with \$1000 that was raised by generous donations. They are located at 1000 North Central Street in Knoxville. They're number is 865-215-5645.
- **Blount County Veterans Affairs Office (Nathan Weinbaum):** If you know of any Veterans who are unaware of VA benefits please have them contact our office or any Veterans Service Office. They are located at 305 Court Street in Maryville. They're office number is 273-5760.
- **Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs (Don Smith):** There is still not a date planned for the Official Dedication Ceremony for the Veterans Cemetery.
- **Tennessee Veterans Business Association (Jonathan Williams):** Jonathan Williams was recently named to the Knoxville 40 under 40. On January 10th, they are having a networking event at Outback Steakhouse on Peters Rd. On January 23rd is the kickoff reception and January 24th they will be having a Business Expo and Job Fair at the Knoxville Convention Center. Over 110 booths already committed. Everyone is invited. Introduced Candice Trent as the TVBA secretary.
- **Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (James Foggin):** On January 17, ESGR is offering an employment assistance workshop open to Veterans and military service members and spouses. It will be held at the Hampton Suites off of Campbell Station Road. Seats still available. You do need to pre-register, call Joe Thomas at (615) 313-0752
- **Marine Corps League (Laimon Godel):** A Marine from Co D, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion, Lance Cpl Cody Evans was recently injured in Afghanistan losing both legs. His mother had to take off of work without pay to be by his side at the Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland. This created a hardship for their family. The MCL held a "safety break" at a rest stop over the Christmas holidays and raised \$1400. They received checks totaling \$6350. They will be presenting these checks to Lance Cpl Cody Evans.
- **The Congressional Medal of Honor Society (Chris Coyne):** The first draft proposal in and will be working on the second draft soon for the National Convention in 2014.
- **National College (Anita Kardatzke):** Working with K-Town Youth organization and involved with construction projects to focus on housing. Also working with Harmony Adoptions at Camp Montvale.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 2nd at the Knoxville Chamber – 8:30 am

Respectfully Submitted,

Nathan Weinbaum, Secretary
East Tennessee Military Affairs Council
nweinbaum@blounttn.org