

EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

July 10, 2014 MEETING SUMMARY

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

For a complete listing of events go to www.etmac.org and click on the “calendar” tab on the left.

AUG 16 5th Annual American Legion Poker Run to Support HonorAir
SEPT 10-13 Medal of Honor Convention

STAY CURRENT: WWW.ETMAC.ORG

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

- The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held at the Knoxville Chamber Office on Thursday, July 10, 2014. President Barry Allen presided over the meeting. The meeting opened with members reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. President Allen welcomed new guests.
- 78 members and guests were present, and the June meeting summary was approved and distributed with corrections
- The Treasurer reported \$104.96 in checks written - leaving a balance of \$13,969.97.
- The Webmaster report – 2,221 Visitors Last Month and Red Cross Service Member Resource most popular files

Introductions:

MAJ Craine – UT ROTC, Maj Meece – Deputy TEC Commander, George Hollins, Larry Sharpe, Lt Col Lindeman – 134th Vice Commander, Lt Col Willocks – 119th CACS Detachment Commander

President’s Report

Barry Allen:

- Discussion and vote to change ETMAC Website. ETMAC wants to have the ability to use e-commerce to sell tickets, dues and challenge coins. Slamdot proposal - approximately \$2,000 new website with no particular contract. Another company was \$1500 more. Both companies use the same website platform. Board voted to recommend Slamdot to members. Laimon Godel made motion to use Slamdot to develop and host the new website. The Motion was approved.

Chief Coyne Medal of Honor Convention Update:

- 60 Days out from convention
- 400 volunteers
- 13 recipients have committed
- New Campaign to donate to MOH Convention – Give Thanks on website at www.mohknoxille.com/givethanks

Barry Rice - Vietnam Veterans of America 2015 Region III Conference:

- March 26-29th Downtown Hilton – 300 Veterans and family.
- “Welcome Home From Vietnam” Parade August 23, 2014 10:00AM in Pigeon Forge

Barry Allen – Special Note:

- PTSD Vietnam Veteran Class Action Lawsuit filed by Yale Law School student clinic; covers Vietnam Veterans who received bad discharges and who now have been diagnosed with PTSD, but VA and Services all refuse to re-examine discharges due to mental health issues traceable back to Vietnam service – Contact Barry Allen with any questions.

MILITARY UNIT ACTIVITY UPDATES

- **UT Army ROTC – MAJ Jared Craine**– Summer Section, Summer Camp, Study Abroad, 50 freshman enrolled
- **Military Entrance Processing Station – LCDR Jason McNear** – Nothing Significant to Report
- **119th Command and Control Squadron – Lt Col Willocks** – Preparing for 50 Drill Status Guardsman to complete Cyber Training
- **134th Air Refueling Wing – Col Randy Gratz/Col Lindeman** – 40 personnel deployed at various locations around the world; 110 personnel deploying to Guam in August as part of the Theater Support Package, Successful ESGR Flight 08JUL14, Hurricane Planning Group, Spring 2016 Air Show. Col Lindeman will be replacing Col Gratz on his retirement in approximately 90 days
- **I-230th Air Cavalry Squadron – LTC Mel Clawson** – All troops are doing well in Afghanistan, Medic Unit completed training at Camp Shelby, Arizona Support of Southwest border mission, Safety Stand Down for the month of July.
- **278th Armored Cavalry Regiment – MAJ Shubert** – Two thirds of troops returned from Camp Shelby, Supporting “Welcome Home Vietnam” transportation needs.
- **844th Engineering Battalion – LT Mike Sweany** – Annual training in Alaska working on runway.
- **Co D, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – 1st Sergeant Michael Lambert** – 106 Marines return from 29 Palms, CA and one platoon at Ft Erwin and one platoon at Camp Lejeune.
- **I.G. Brown Training and Education Center – Col Jessica Meyeraan** – Recently graduated largest Airman Leadership Class, 243 NCO Airman in next class with a Jordanian, Ground Breaking August 14, 2014 at 11:30AM, Seven new instructors to report in July.
- **Naval Operations Support Center – HM1 Bryan Griffin** – 2nd Annual Warrior Ride – Harley Davidson Maryville – August 2, 2014 1300L.
- **Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – Lt Col Dent Young** – 70 Cadets toured TEC, Ops Eval conducted, 200 people – Annual training at Fort Campbell.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- **East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association - Joleen Dewald** – Still raising money for lights and plumbing after the Medal of Honor Convention
- **Mountain Man Memorial March – Joleen Dewald** – Preparing for April 2015 Mountain Man Memorial March
- **American Legion – Marty Everett** – November 11, 2014 Veterans Day Parade, Medal of Honor Display at Airport.
- **Air Force Association – Steve Dillenburg** – October 13, 2014 AFA Golf Tournament – Scramble
- **Honor Air – Joe Sutter** – October 1, 2014 – Wednesday – 17th Flight
- **Ben Atchley State Veterans’ Home – Doug Ottinger**– Full Building/NSTR
- **ESGR – John Dyess** – 37,400 Guard and Reserve still mobilized, Special Thanks to 134th ARW – “Boss Lift” 34 business leaders to Fort Benning GA.

- **Tennessee Veterans Business Association – Jonathon Williams** – August 3, 2014 3K Fun Run/Foam Festival Party in the old city.
- **American Red Cross – Jess Hernandez** – Willing to support Unit Family Day Programs
- **Knox County Veterans Services Office – Buzz Buswell** – Hiring New Deputy Veterans Service Officer – all veteran resumes.
- **Blount County Veteran Services Office – Nathan Weinbaum** – Korean War Reunion Saturday July 26, 2014 – Noon – Cookout, Facebook for more details.
- **TN Department of Veterans Affairs – East Region – Bonnie Johnson and Don Smith** – November 5, 2014 – Big Veterans Outreach on Sutherland; Free Property in Knoxville, TN is available if some group or organization is in need, but property need work
- **Marine Corps League - Laimon Gobel** – Sept 13, 2014 is the annual Mud run which will raise funds for ETVM and Smoky Mountain Service Dogs
- **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rich Gill** – New Website - www.vva1078.org, Meet second Tuesday of every month at Red Cross Knoxville Facility.
- **MOWW – Nolan Sharbel** –Website – www.mowwregionV.net or 865-693-8170 or O.haddock@comcast.net meet 2nd Wednesday at 11:00AM at Rothschilds on Kingston Pike, National Convention 1st Weekend in August 2014.
- **Project Healing Waters – Steve Thompson** – July 23, 2014 fishing the Clinch River, and plans on fishing Blackberry Farms. Two Veterans – Alaska, 2 Veterans – Yellow Stone National Park. Tournament Oct 17th and 18th with a banquet at the Museum of Appalachia.
- **Volunteers of America – Melanie Finuf** – Web Site - www.kavsd.org – Building up to 11OCT14 – Stand Down, Program has been funded for this next year.
- **Disabled American Veterans Chapter 24 – Angela Casteel** - Meet 2nd Thursday every month– Patrice has contact information.
- **Women Veterans American Chapter 20 – Pearl Rich** - September 26-28, 2014 National Conference Nashville, TN

**Next meeting - Thursday, August 7, 2014
Knoxville Chamber**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 09:33 AM