



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

July 11, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Every WED Combat Coffee Hour (Black Rifle Coffee Company <https://www.blackriflecoffee.com/>) for all Veterans, 7:30-8:30am at the Knoxville Vet Center, 1645 Downtown West Blvd #28
- JUL 17 Job Fair at the American Job Center from 10am until noon.
- AUG 17 VFW 5154 Poker Run. For information please call 865/380-0590.
- AUG 17 Boat Rides 4 Vets at Wind River Marina. For information please call 865/458-2792.
- AUG 17 Heroes, Hops and Harvest – 401 Sleepy Valley Rd. Madisonville 6pm until 10pm. There will be bluegrass music, farm to table food, and locally brewed beer. Tickets are \$75. For more details, <http://bit.ly/yrf-hhh>.
- AUG 20 Veteran’s Resource Fair at the National Guard Armory from 10am until 3pm. 3330 Sutherland Ave, Knoxville Call 865/524-3926 ext. 261 for more details.
- AUG 21 Job Fair at the American Job Center in conjunction with the Veterans Resource Fair. 10am-12pm
- SEP 28 Marine Core League Mud Run at Melton Hill Park <https://www.mclknoxville.org/>
- OCT 4-6 Saving Families Marriage Retreat for Military and First Responders. The fee is \$300 to cover lodging and meals. Registration may be submitted online at <http://servingmarriages.com/retreats.htm>
- OCT 19 Vietnam Veterans of America #1078 Veteran’s Picnic at Chilhowee Park. <https://vva.org/chapter/vva-chapter-1078/>

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 will 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, **July 11, 2019**, 8:30am at the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce. President **Owen Ragland** presided over the meeting. A total number of **86** were present.

- **Introduction of new Attendees:**
 - MG (retired) Max Haston and his wife Anne
 - MAJ Blair Osten with the 489th CABW
 - Brig Gen (retired) John H Grueser
 - Kristen Kaldenberg with Knoxville Habitat
 - Kit Brown with TVA Veterans Association
 - Jill Shoffner and Megan Debolt with Elder Law of East TN
 - Meaghan Johnson with Goodwill Industries
 - Roy Wayne with Lindsey Wilson College
 - Cindy Whaley with Lindsey Wilson College
 - Casey E. Bain with the Human Resource Department of UT
 - Tim Jackson with Citizens Insurance Solutions
 - CPT Taylor Hill with MEPS
 - Chelsea Ivens with US Senator Marsha Blackburn's office

- **Webmaster's Report - Col Dent Young-** Last month our website had 500 visitors. Most visitors were from the US. The services page was the most popular.

- **Treasurer's Report: Derren Burrell** – June Income - \$2,388.68; Expenses - \$240.99; Account balance - \$18,591.18. Membership dues may be paid online or bring check to Patrice Collins at the next meeting. <https://www.etmac.org/resources/etmacresources/membership-application/> Donations are also appreciated.

- Patty McGraw with Caris Healthcare and Cindy Winterberger with Covenant talked about the We Honor Veterans program. This program covers several areas, such as education, community involvement, and they work with Vet 2 Vet. They also host Veteran Cafés at local nursing homes which promotes interaction between veterans.

- **President's Report – Owen Ragland-** The Veterans Luncheon will be held on Friday, November 8th at Hotel Knoxville. This year we will celebrate the Army. The parade will be on the following Monday, Nov. 11. Col Joe Eddlemon passed on June 7th. Joe was a WWII veteran and will be greatly missed by the veteran community. Joe became a marine at the age of 16, and retired as a Colonel. The Enterprise Holding Foundation gave a donation toward our Veteran's Day Luncheon and we thank them for that. Also, The Army Knoxville Recruiting Co is at the Pentagon currently receiving an award for top company within their recruiting brigade.

- **Other ETMAC Announcements - Patrice Collins** – Patrice asked outgoing commanders to give incoming commanders information on choosing honorees for the upcoming Veteran's luncheon.

MILITARY UNIT UPDATES

- 3rd Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard – **MAJ Joseph Westfall-** Successful June.

- 119th Cyberspace Operations Squadron – **Col Chris Smith** – the unit is involved in Cyber security for the Air Force. They hosted the Air Force Space Command.

- 1-230 Assault Helicopter Battalion – **CPT Hulon Holmes** – **unable to attend**

- 134th Air Refueling Wing – **Lt Col Travers Hurst** – Thank you to CPT Holmes for their help. The Tellico Village VFW is hosting Boat Rides 4 Vets. Details above. Their recruiter was responsible for 70 new recruits.
- 241st Engineering & Installation Squadron (Chattanooga) **Lt Col Dave Moss** – they are the AT&T of the Air Force. Troops all over.
- 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment – **LTC Brad Bowlin**. Their mission is to Attack, Defend and Delay. Troops in motion. Promotion on Saturday for LTC Bowlin.
- 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – **SMSgt Patrick Cone** – Squadron has best cancellation rate and that is attributed to the support in our community. New Commander last month. Last quarter was best quarter: #1 in group and #3 in nation.
- 489th Civil Affairs Battalion - **Major B.W. Osten**- They provide support to combat units down range to return areas to pre-conflict state. He is looking to share facilities with other units, and as a tradeoff, he will share his toys.
- 844th Engineering Battalion – **MAJ Justin Belford** – **unable to attend**
- Coast Guard Recruiting – East TN Region – **PO1 Steven Brashear** - **unable to attend**
- Co D 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – **1st Sgt Jason Brackley** – ICX just completed.
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center –**Lt Col Brad Green**- New Commander is Col Kenneth Lozano. Classes beginning on Monday.
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) – **CPT Patrick Conner** – **unable to attend**
- Military Entrance Processing Station – **LCDR Galo Cavalcanti** – he has an open position. He is hosting an interservice recruiting meeting.
- Navy Operational Support Center – **CDR Kevin Settle** – CDR Scott Moss will be his replacement. Drill this weekend. Change of Command on 14 Sept. They have 2 new Petty Officers.
- Navy Recruiting – Talent Acquisition Onboarding Center – **HM2 Josh Dixon**- **unable to attend**
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – **Col Dent Young** – They have 140 cadets at the air base going through various trainings. Headed to Puerto Rico to photograph the entire island for baseline comparisons for future hurricanes.
- USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – **Div. CDR Ron Boneau** – primary focus is recreational boating. They provide education and safety checks. They are the largest division in their district, and they cover all East Tennessee.
- UT Air Force ROTC – **Lt Col Matt “Ocho” Castillo** – **unable to attend**
- UT Army ROTC – **LTC Justin Howe** – They have 230 cadets starting this fall between Knoxville and Chattanooga. They will hold a commissioning ceremony on 16 August and will have a welcome barbecue for new cadets on 17 August.

➤ VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- Air Force Association -**Paula Penson** Teaching Cyber Generations course to area seniors. They have been invited to teach the program at 6 senior centers in Knoxville. Fundraiser golf tournament will be in October.
- American Job Center / State of TN Department of Labor - **David Webb** See event section for details on upcoming job fairs. The US unemployment rate is 3.3%, Knoxville is 2.7%. Nationwide the unemployment rate for veterans is 3.2%
- American Legion – **Joleen Dewald** –. American Legion Memorial Ride is on Aug 24th. Monday November 11 will be the Veteran’s Day Parade.
- American Red Cross – **Tom DeHoog** - They are currently in need of blood donations, especially Type O+. They have kits that provide information for family members of service men and women in case of a family emergency.
- Ben Atchley Veteran’s Home – **Doug Ottinger** –4 open beds and 2 openings for nurses. Can be admitted directly into Ben Atchley from a hospital.
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078 –**Gary Ellis** Meet 2nd Tuesday evening. Picnic this year will be on Oct 19.
- Disabled Veterans Chapter #24 -**Garrett Hanas** – They need power wheelchairs they can distribute. They will take secondhand ones, even if they don’t work.
- East Tennessee Veteran’s Honor Guard- **Herb Kraehmer** – They provide 2 honor ceremonies each day.
- East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association- **Joleen Dewald** – ETVMA Clay Shoot on Oct 25.
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) – **Jim Mungenast** 36,400 Guard and Reservists activated currently. Will come to any Yellow Ribbon event and also brief employers. Let us know if you have an employer that you would like to participate in our Boss lift events.
- Honor Air **Joe Sutter** - Successful -virtual flight on 6/15 with 40 veterans participating. Flight #29 will be on October 2.
- Knoxville Habitat for Heroes – **Rick Garner** They are having a veteran build and are looking for teams to come work. The build will begin Veteran’s Day week.
- Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council – **Ed Junod** - Emily had her baby and both are doing well. Audition this Saturday for youth to participate in a youth suicide prevention play. Over 40 roles. Local officials and celebrities will be participating as well. Also doing QPR instruction training on July 24.
- Knox County Veteran Services Office – **Tom Humphries** Blue Water Navy has been approved for anyone serving on a Navy ship within 12 miles of the coast where Agent Orange was being deployed. This could impact as many as ninety thousand Vietnam vets. They need help getting the word out not only to the veterans impacted, but also surviving family members of those veterans.

- Knoxville Vet Center –**Lyle Allen** – **unable to attend.**
- Marine Corps League – **Eric Nash** - Mud run will be on 28 September at Melton Hill Park
- Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) – **Bill Potter** – **unable to attend**
- Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) – **Bill Grieve** – All are invited to their meeting on the second Wednesday of the month.
- Mountain Man Memorial March- **Joleen Dewald** – Looking for a date for MMMM
- Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing –**Cindy LeMarr** They will have an event on 17 July at Miller Island. All Welcome. Their next meeting is on 6 August.
- REBOOT Combat Recovery – **Rick Garner** - Reboot is a Faith-Based Combat Trauma Recovery 12-week program that provides practical help for service members and families dealing with the after effects of combat. They are working on recruitment this summer and Darrell will be happy to speak to groups. His number is 423/312-4752. The next class will begin the first week of September.
- Rolling Thunder –**Patrice for Carlos Hollifield** -
- meet on 2nd Sunday of every month, 3:30 at the Community Center, 11708 West Emory Road, Powell, TN 37849. Their focus on awareness of MIA and POW from all wars. They are having a memorial ride in Chattanooga this Saturday in honor of the attack on the Marine Recruiting Center in Chattanooga. They are having a veteran appreciation cookout on 20 July at the Powell Community Center
- STAR – Horses & Hero's Program – **Cathy Dolson** – Open house on 13 July from 10-12 at their Lenoir City location. Fundraiser Songwriters in the Round on 24 August in Lenoir City. Their horse show will be on 10 August which will include veterans showing what they have learned in the program.
- Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless- **Rick Garner** - One year ago they had identified 83 homeless veterans in our area. They have housed most and plan to have all housed by August. Hosted a Celebrity Chef Dinner on June 22. Car show in August, details to follow.
- Tennessee Veterans Business Associations (TVBA) – **Steve Stilts** The golf tournament was a success. The job fair for 2020 will be on 7 Jan.
- United Veterans Council – **Janet Guess** – They raised over \$32k at the Food City event. They collected 500 non serviceable flags. It takes \$270k to provide wreaths for all the Knoxville Veteran graves. Next meeting is on 17 July at 6:30 at the Red Cross office.
- UT Army ROTC Alumni Council – **Geoff Freeman** –They raised \$5k at their golf tournament. They are planning events to honor veterans during Veteran Day week.
- Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – **Patty McGrew** - 9 Sept they will have a ceremony to honor first responders. This year they will be honoring service dogs. The next meeting will be on 24 July at Oakwood Lincoln Recreation Center.
- 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, August 1, 2019 @ Knoxville Chamber at 8:30am

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

ETMAC Board of Directors:

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

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

Patrice Collins, Chamber Rep 865-806-4487 email: pcollins@knoxvillechamber.com

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

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Don Smith, At Large Director 931-335-0477 email: donandmarysmith@aol.com

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

Robert Brown ETMAC Web Master 865-458-0759 email: rl_brown@hotmail.com

Dent Young, Webmaster 387543@tncap.us

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/honorair/>

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 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>

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/>