



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

JULY 7, 2011 MEETING SUMMARY

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

AUGUST 3	U.S. Army Recruiting Company - Future Soldier event
AUGUST 3	Honor Air Flight #10
AUGUST 12	ESGR Luncheon at Rothschild's
SEPTEMBER 11	Tennessee Valley Fair Hometown Heroes Celebration
OCTOBER 5	Honor Air Flight #11
OCTOBER 10	Bud Bacon Memorial Golf Tournament
OCTOBER 21	Kerbela Shrine Circus "Honor Our Troops" Night. Free admission to all Active Duty and Reserve Soldiers and their families. More information will be provided at a later date.
NOVEMBER 11	Veterans Day Parade & Veterans Day Luncheon
DECEMBER 10	"Wreaths Across America" placement of wreaths on Veterans graves. More info to follow in the future.

STAY CURRENT: WWW.ETMAC.ORG

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, July 7th, 2011, at the Knoxville Chamber, ETMAC President John Dyess presiding. The meeting began at 0830. A total of 43 members and guests were present. The June meeting summary was approved as written. The treasurer's report shows a current balance of \$12,076.31, which was unchanged from the prior month.

Don Smith, Assistant Commissioner, TN Dept. of Veterans Affairs, East TN, and Mark Breece, Assistant Commissioner, TN Dept. of Veterans Affairs, West TN, were both welcomed. Commissioner Smith noted that the new Knoxville Veterans Cemetery opening, originally scheduled for July 9th, had been postponed to late August or early September. A dedication will take place a few weeks after the opening. The first burial will be Colonel Harris, who was the former landowner. Commissioner Breece noted that his area of the State covers Memphis to Nashville. He said that there is a plan to put a State Veterans Nursing Home in Clarksville and Millington, and a cemetery in Jackson. He also expressed a desire to create a duplicate of the ETMAC model in West TN.

David Leaverton and Cate Catani, from Senator Corker's office, were welcomed as guests. Other guests or new ETMAC participants who were welcomed included Lt Col Young, TN Civil Air Patrol; Maj. Huffaker, recently assigned to the 119th Command and Control Squadron; Mr. Bob Humphrey, DOD Yellow Ribbon Program; Mr.

Richard Julian, the new Knox County Veterans Service Officer; and Lt Col Dave Kelly, the new head of UT's Army ROTC program.

DICUSSION ITEMS:

- **ETMAC Dues (John Dyess):** President John Dyess noted that only about 20% of those who are on the ETMAC mailing list are actually paying dues. He asked that others who do participate and attend to consider paying their dues so that ETMAC can continue to support the military units and their personnel.
- **ETMAC website (John Dyess):** ETMAC needs someone to volunteer to run the webpage www.ETMAC.org; please contact John Dyess if you are interested.
- **ETMAC Sponsorships/Donations (John Dyess):** There is a new ETMAC Sponsorship Request Form that can be used when ETMAC financial support is requested. The Board of ETMAC has decided that support will generally not exceed \$300 for approved requests, with many requests likely to be below this amount and some, based on the circumstances, to exceed this amount.
- **Veterans Luncheon (Patrice Collins):** Work on the luncheon will be starting soon. Commanders will be getting letters about picking honorees from each unit. John Dyess announced that an invitation has been sent to Gen. Pete Chiarelli (Army Vice Chief of Staff) to be the guest speaker. We are still waiting to confirm whether he will be available to attend.
- **Honoring Chuck Jones - Knox VSO (John Dyess):** On July 15th, a road will be named in honor of Chuck Jones and his many years of service to Knox County Veterans.
- **Tennessee Valley Fair (Patrice Collins):** Hometown Heroes Celebration at the Fair will be on September 11, 2011. More details to follow.

SENIOR ROTC UNITS

- **UT Army ROTC (LTC Dave Kelly):** Cadets are in summer training exercises. Some members of the cadre staff are helping with that training, while others remain on campus and are involved with recruiting and general administration. On August 13th, there will be a "Welcome Back" BBQ for the cadets.

MILITARY UNIT ACTIVITY

- **US Army Recruiting Company (CPT Scott Glidden):** Some staff changes have occurred recently. There is a large push to support Reserve recruiting. There will be an Education Seminar on July 18th for the public. On Aug 3rd, there will be a "future soldier" event for those shipping out in the next few months.
- **119th Command and Control Squadron (Maj. Huffaker):** July is shaping up as a relatively quiet month. LTC Evans is still recovering from knee surgery.
- **489th Civil Affairs Battalion (MAJ Wells, deputy commander, UT Army ROTC, but reporting for the 489th):** Unit is getting ready for deployment to Afghanistan; return will be late Spring, 2012.
- **844th Engineering Battalion (Mr. Josh Richardson, senior civilian in Unit):** Will be helping with Education Seminar to be put on by Recruiting Company. Unit still recovering from deployment. Annual Training is at Fort Dix, NJ; will depart on July 15th. Next year will be busy, with possible projects in Hawaii or Africa (to support new Africa Command).
- **I.G. Brown Training and Education Center (Col Bradley McRee):** Currently 258 students at the NCO academy. Change of command ceremony (Col Cathcart taking command) will be on July 15th. Thanks to everyone for their support and friendship.
- **Naval Operations Support Center (LCDR Grant):** personnel are supporting training efforts. 10 Sea Cadets return from national competition this week. Reserve Center construction - contract finalized and work will start in Fall, 2011.
- **Civil Air Patrol (Lt Col Young):** explained background and duties of CAP.

MILITARY AND VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

- **East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association (Joleen Dewald):** One of the founders passed away in the last month. Commanders should consider using the Memorial as a location for appropriate events.
- **Honor Air (Joe Sutter):** Upcoming flights are #10 on August 3rd and #11 on October 5th; funding for Flight #11 is not in place yet. To support Honor Air Knoxville, please go to <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/>. If anyone knows of an organization interested in the recent ETMAC Economic Impact report, Joe Sutter is available to speak about it.
- **American Red Cross (Janice Cambell):** Four call centers have been set up to handle financial or emergency communications with servicemembers. Also, it may still be possible to obtain money for special events from DoD from the last grant.
- **Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (John Dyess):** There are currently around 94,000 mobilized from the Guard and Reserve. Freedom Salute ceremony, honoring local people who have deployed, will be on July 13. If you wish to attend the August 12th ESGR Luncheon please let John Dyess know by July 22nd. The luncheon will be held at 11:30 am at Rothchilds. The luncheon honors those who have given extraordinary support to military personnel. The Guest Speaker will be RADM Donald Gintcig. DoD is conducting ongoing discussions about the future role of the National Guard and the Reserves.
- **American Legion Post 2 (Bob Dewald):** The “Sons of the American Legion”, for children of members, is fully operational. Motorcycle Riders are doing fundraising for Honor Air flights. Planning is now beginning for the Veterans Day Parade in November.
- **Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1733 (Tom DeHoog):** Trying to get the National organization to support the Mountain Man March.
- **Tennessee Veterans Business Association (Jonathan Williams):** On July 13th, TVBA is sponsoring an Elected Officials “Meet and Greet” at the Navy Reserve Center, to thank these local, State, and Federal officials for their support. On August 1st, Y-12 is hosting the East Tennessee Veterans Business Conference. For more details go to <http://www.y12.doe.gov/vetcon2011/>. Veterans and service members looking for a job can send their resumes to resumes@jointvba.org. TVBA has started a Veterans-only Job Board.
- **Ben Atchley Veteran’s Home (Gene Bayless):** Waiting list of 400 people. Sometimes have to prepare room for new resident very quickly after death of prior resident. Done with great sensitivity, but sometimes must be done.
- **Fleet Reserve Association (Eric Nash):** still exists and meets monthly. Mud Run is scheduled for August. Expect 2000 participants.
- **Air Force Association (Jim Mungenast):** Oct 10th - Bud Bacon Memorial Golf Tournament. Tennessee Veterans Business Association will be participating with AFA. Also, AFA trying to get more students to participate in cyber security training targeted at High School and college ROTC levels.
- **Yellow Ribbon Program (Bob Humphrey):** described his function and DoD role; willing to assist units and others.

The meeting adjourned at 0935.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barry P. Allen, Vice President and Treasurer
East Tennessee Military Affairs Council
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