



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

JUNE 7, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

UPCOMING EVENTS

- JUN 20 Veteran Mental Health Summit @ Appalachian Federal Credit Union, 5034 Bobby Hicks Hwy #2, Gray, TN. 8:30 – 4:30. (6 hrs continuing education credit) contact: Johnny Carnell (423) 737-2391
- JUN 21-23 Marine Corps League Dept of TN 37th Annual Convention
Hilton Knoxville Airport <https://www.mclknoxville.org/>
- JUN 23 Homes for our Troops present key for specially adapted custom home for Army Staff Sergeant Joshua Halls @ 10am in Jonesborough. RSVP at www.hfotusa.org/JHall Contact: Alicia Wlodynski, awlodynski@hfotusa.org
- JUN 23 American Legion Post 2 Patriots Luncheon to honor legacy of WWII Veteran Sam Hardman @ Powell Community Center, 11am. RSVP email to pcollins@knoxvillechamber.com
- JUN 25 Korean War Veterans Memorial Luncheon, Location TBA, RSVP Jean Watkins (865) 361-6723. Email: Knoxvilleareakorean@gmail.com or Ed Junod (865) 850-8376
- JUN 25 TVBA 2nd Annual Golf Tournament @ Green Meadows Country Club. Contact: Steve Stilts email: ssilts@gotvba.com (865) 414-2000 For details: <https://gotvba.com/events/second-annual-tvba-golf-tournament/>
- JUN 25 Korean War Veterans Memorial Luncheon 11am – 1pm. RSVP Jean Watkins email: Knoxvilleareakorean@gmail.com or call (865) 361-6723.
- JUL 14 NoogaStrong Memorial Ride to honor those fallen in terrorist attack at the recruiting station at Thunder Creek Harley Davidson, 7720 Lee Hwy, Chattanooga, TN. Contact: Carlos Hollifield 865-919-1368.
- JUL 14 Marine Corps League Summer Pistol Shoot, Bonnyman Pistol Range “Seymour Airpark” at 9am. <https://www.mclknoxville.org/> Contact Jay Holmes 404-414-4225 JayHolmes@gmail.com
- JUL 20 50th Anniversary Celebration I.G. Brown Training and Education Center. More info to come.
- AUG 18 Marine Corps League Summer Pistol Shoot, Bonnyman Pistol Range “Seymour Airpark” at 9am. <https://www.mclknoxville.org/> Contact Jay Holmes 404-414-4225 JayHolmes@gmail.com
- AUG 25 Post 2 American Legion Riders Memorial Fun Run, 5700 Old Rutledge Pike, 9am
- SEP 8 Marine Corps League Jim Putman Rifle Range Match, 2327 Rifle Range Road @ 7am. Rifles available to use, must buy ammo. <https://www.mclknoxville.org/> Contact Jay Holmes 404-414-4225 JayHolmes@gmail.com

- SEP 11 REBOOT Combat Recovery Fall Session begins
- SEP 15 Marine Corps League Mud Run <https://www.mclknoxville.org/>
- SEP 15 – 16 Katerpillar Kids Free Grief Camp at Wesley Woods for children & teens grades 1-12 who have lost a loved one, most commonly a parent. Application deadline SEP 7. For info: <https://www.covenanthomecareandhospice.com/katerpillar-kids-camp-grief/>
- SEP 22 Vietnam Veterans of America #1078 All Veteran’s Picnic at Chilhowee Park. More info to come.
- SEP 28 GORUCK Heavy Challenge, Knoxville - Friday Sept. 28 @ 6pm. Sign up at: <http://bit.ly/2wbivFU>
- SEP 29 GORUCK Tough Challenge, Knoxville – Saturday Sept. 29 @ 9pm. Sign up at: <http://bit.ly/2vLsPVs>
- SEP 30 GORUCK Light Challenge, Knoxville – Sunday, Sept. 30 @ 2pm. Sign up at: <http://bit.ly/2vYMu8A>
- OCT 3 Honor Air flight #27. See details at <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/>
- OCT 5 Smoky Mountain Grand Slam Fundraiser for Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing National
- OCT 13 Navy Ball, More info to come.
- OCT 20 Marine Corps League Jim Peacock Memorial Pistol Shoot, Bonnyman Pistol Range “Seymour Airpark” at 9am. <https://www.mclknoxville.org/> Contact Jay Holmes 404-414-4225 JayHolmes@gmail.com
- OCT 26 ETVMA Sporting Clays Shootout @ Chilhowee Sportsman’s Club, 3flights 9a, 12p & 3p. Team & individual. Register online at www.etvma.org Contact: Tim Eichorn (865) 218-8408 email: Eichhorn@rkcapital.com.
- OCT 27 Marine Corps Ball at Knoxville Convention Center, Open to public – Tickets are \$50. Cocktail hour begins at 6:00 am with program starting at 7:00 pm. Click here for more information and to buy tickets. <https://ticketbud.com/events/ae9d447c-5144-11e8-90ce-6f8b05438e09>
- NOV 8 ETMAC’s Annual Veteran’s Appreciation Luncheon @ Marriott Downtown Knoxville. Celebrating the Air Force this year.

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

ETMAC BUSINESS SESSION

- **Welcome and Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, June 7, 2018, 8:30am at the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce. President **Owen Ragland** presided over the meeting. A total number of 73 were present.
- **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by President Owen Ragland
- **Introduction of new Attendees:**
 - Ted Ancelet, Regional Director of F3 Knoxville leader <https://www.f3knoxville.com/>
 - Hank Hamblin running for U.S. Congress accompanied by wife, Lori. www.hankhamblinforcongress.com
 - Bill Richards, Vet to Vet TN
 - Morris Ickowitz, Vietnam Veterans of America #1078

- MSgt Jeff Whittaker, First Sergeant, 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron, Nashville
- John Cherry, USAF (Ret), Leadership Knoxville
- CPT Drew Ray, USAF 332nd Recruiting Squadron
- Emily Hager, Vet to Vet TN
- Geoff Freeman, BG (Ret) UT Army ROTC Alumni Council

➤ **Treasurer's Report: Darren Burrell –**

- Started month with \$16,028.96
- Deposits \$176.50
- Expenses \$193
- Monthly ending balance - \$16,012.46.

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

➤ **Freddie J. Owens' Women Veterans Summit – Emily Hager & Cindy Winterberger** - The inaugural event of the Freddie J. Owens Women Veterans Summit will be held on October 4, 2018 at Redemption Church, 3550 Pleasant Ridge Road. The purpose of the summit is to:

- Recognize Women Veterans of all ages
- Inform on programs that are offered by both VA and the community.
- Create a foundational network of organizations to communicate with each other.
- Provide an example of a beneficial program from Vet 2 Vet

Sign up and more information at: <http://tnvhc.org/east-tennessee-veterans-remember-comrade-advocate-freddie-owens/>

There are sponsorship opportunities for this event. There are forms in back and info will be sent out.

➤ **F3 Knoxville, Fitness * Fellowship * Faith – Chris Defranco & Ted Ancelet -**

<https://www.f3knoxville.com/> - Hardship Hill obstacle course race was very successful with 160 participants and raised \$4000 for Operation Enduring Warrior. F3 is for males and FIA (Females In Action) is for the women. Fitness opportunities bring the people in but the fellowship keeps people coming back; it is the glue. Many participants with military background because the camaraderie is missing after separating from the military. We invite all military, veterans and retired, really anyone to look at our program that meets at 90 different locations with an average of 25 workouts throughout the week. Call 865-257-2507 or email: tedancelet@gmail.com for information or email

➤ **President's Report – Owen Ragland –**

- Looking for a webmaster to upload content and update information.
- Monday June 11th, Vice Admiral Lee Gunn, USN (ret.) will be at the downtown Knoxville Hilton to speak about National Security. A reception will be held at 4:30 to 6:30. RSVP to Martin Penny email: mpenny@colleyps.com or cell: (615) 504-1408.
- Veteran Crisis Card with a number 1-800-273-8255 press #1, see Tom and Ed to have one in your pocket.
- Looking to refine policy on email distribution list for ETMAC regarding college programs tailored to Veterans, specifically University Programs tailored specifically for Veterans. Patrice suggested that a page on the ETMAC Website be designated specifically for Veteran University Programs so that Veterans can go straight there to find that information and that she is not sending out multiple emails a day regarding college programs. If you have any suggestions or input, please send to President Owen Ragland at ORagland@kmfpc.com.

➤ **ETMAC Announcements: Patrice Collins**

- REMINDER – Next meeting is Thursday, July 12th – the 2nd week of July due to the 4th of July Holiday.
- This Saturday June 9, RAM is holding their Salute to Service. Please plan to attend.
- Helmets for Hardhats – Free training for jobs for Veterans. See info at end of meeting notes.
- There are Legal Advice Clinics every single month for Veterans. Info in back.
- Literature table in back – Available for all to lay out information, but materials must be taken with you after meeting. Any remaining papers, literature, etc. will be thrown away.
- Sponsors for coffee and refreshments are appreciated. If interested, contact Patrice.

MILITARY UNIT UPDATES

- 3rd Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard – **MAJ Joseph Westfall** – *nothing to report*
- 119th Cyberspace Operations Squadron – **Captain Willie Posey** – *unable to attend*
- 1-230 Assault Helicopter Battalion – **LTC Pat Wade** – *unable to attend*
- 134th Air Refueling Wing – **Col Thomas Cauthen** – we have constant rotations going on. AMC/IG coming for an on-site visit and a unit effectiveness inspection in April. Breaking ground on a new \$25 million dollar hanger in Nov/Dec time frame. Leadership changes - Col Cauthen stepping down as wing commander in next few months, moving to joint force headquarters in Director of Staff position. Col Lee Hartley will step up as new wing commander. Col Bobby Underwood moving up to be Vice Wing Commander and other changes will follow.
- 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment – **LTC Brad Bowlin** – Just got back from NTC. We took 4,000 to national training center and we have about 27 still out there. Group at Smyrna going through medical training, including Col Cole. Getting ready to start remodel at Sutherland.
- 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – **CAPT Drew Ray, Ops Officer** - Made goal in May and on target for the month of June. UCI in May was very successful. New C flight chief will attend next month's meeting.
- 489th Civil Affairs Battalion – *unable to attend*
- 844th Engineering Battalion – **Dennis McVey** – *unable to attend*
- Coast Guard Recruiting – East TN Region – **AET1 Christopher Rapp** – *unable to attend*
- Co D 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – **1st SGT Gabe Burns** – Capt Tores on annual leave. Last weekend drill at Ft. Knox before AT. AT in August in Michigan. Family day on June 14th. Marine Corp Ball at Knoxville Convention center - open to the public and will send out a flier.
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center – **Col Kerry Lovely** – personnel change, Commandant is leaving, excited for him, sad for us. Full with enlisted PME. Summer is busiest time. 50th anniversary is July 20th. More information to come. We have a brand-new infield for parade ground being finished up this week.
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) - *unable to attend*
- Military Entrance Processing Station – **LCDR Emily Wilson** – *nothing to report*
- Navy Operational Support Center – **LCDR Kevin Settle** – Navy Ball will be held on October 13th. Maybe last meeting, Transferring to Washington DC.
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – **Col Dent Young** – Biannual inspection, Received Excellent. We had 5 individual performances got Outstanding. Next week, 42 students in region staff college. 2 weeks after that, cadets will attend ground school at the TEC. RAM salute to service is a great V-day celebration this Saturday June 9th, 10a – 2p with presentations, colors, fly by and RAM jumpers into field behind RAM hangers at the Island Home Airport.
- USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – **Div CDR Ron Boneau** – Primary initiative is recruitment which is a little slow right now. Starting new Auxiliary Unit at Douglas & Cherokee Lakes with first meeting on Tuesday, June 12, 6pm at Walters State Community College Main Campus – Math building, Morristown. Coast Guard has been assisting and this is their first time on TN waterways patrolling Loudon and Douglas lake. Training out of Chattanooga. Will be back in July. Bad news - boating season has started with 3 losses of lives to date, none were wearing life jackets. Auxiliary Flotillas are active on water with patrols and public education classes.
- UT Air Force ROTC – **Lt Col Matt “Ocho” Castillo** - *unable to attend*

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- Air Force Association – **Paula Penson** – *unable to attend*
https://secure.afa.org/contact_links.asp?searchby=state&stabbr=TN&ent=chapter –
- American Legion – **Bob DeWald** - legionknox.com - New home of the Legions Post 2 is 5100 Old Rutledge pike. Legion founded 1919. Raising money for new building. Kickoff to Honor the memory and legacy of Sam Hardman with a luncheon at Powell Community Center on June 23.
 - June 16, Sons of The American Legion Golf Tournament, Three Ridges Golf Course @ 1pm.
Contact: Josh Plane, email: littlemantag@yahoo.com 865-805-8781 or Dan Chipman, email: chipmanvttmn@gmail.com 965-719-1207
 - New website address www.LegionKnox.com
 - On Facebook – American Legion Post 2

- American Red Cross – Tom DeHoog - <http://www.redcross.org/local/tennessee/local-chapters/east-tennessee> - May sound-the-alarm program was a huge success with 1475 detectors installed with the help of a lot of volunteers. Disaster cycle program – Aunt Bertha website <https://www.auntbertha.com/> has 10 categories to help individuals in need of assistance. Looked into the Food pantry and there are many pantries close by. It is a great resource to find assistance for those in need.
- Ben Atchley Veteran’s Home – Doug Ottinger – <http://www.tsvh.org/> - presently have available beds available for Veterans or spouse in the hospital, refer them to us.
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078 – Gary Ellis <https://vva.org/chapter/vva-chapter-1078/> - We are the number one growing veteran group in the U.S. 22 Sept having an all veterans picnic at Chilhowee park.
- Disabled Veterans – Chapter #24 – Garrett Hanas <https://www.dav.org/> - *unable to attend*
- East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association – Joleen DeWald – <https://etvma.org/>– thanks to everyone who helped us at 4am to set up for the Memorial Day event.
- East Tennessee Veterans Honor Guard – Reid Gerhardt - <https://www.facebook.com/East-Tennessee-Veterans-Honor-Guard-109780775701142/> - *unable to attend*
- Habitat for Heroes – Rick Garner <https://knoxvillehabitatforhumanity.com/habitat-for-heroes/> - *nothing to report*
- Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council – Ed Junod <http://tnvhc.org/> - Emily is Co-Chair of Women’s council. Update from trinity health update for suicide training for Veteran suicide prevention. Looking to train 100 instructors. Also looking to do training at churches and youth groups to train as instructors to help youth in the church. Free luncheon for Korean war veterans on June 25 at Bridgewater place. Holding the 3rd expungement clinic in Blount county. This weekend we will be at AMVETS state program for a repair for hero’s program with mind, body, spirit and home. Did about 15 projects last year and hoping to increase that number.
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) – Jack D’Araujo <https://www.esgr.mil/> - Successful visit with 278th. Employers had chance to interact with employees at their military units. I will be replaced as area chairperson by Teresa Beavers, served in army and national guard. Now is Sr. Manager with Lowes. 17 May, had a UH 60 black hawk orientation flight with employers. It was a huge success. Tomorrow we have an orientation flight with 134th.
- Honor Air – Joe Sutter - <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/> - Virtual flight is coming up on June 16 at Bridgewater Event center. Gives those unable to make the actual flight the chance to experience the flight. Speeches will be given by the 2 Mayors. TSA screening, flight attendants, snacks and tour guides. Land about 11:45 – welcome home with family and friends. All welcome. Next regular flight is scheduled for Oct 3, flight # 27. Not too late to sign up.
<http://www.honorairknoxville.com/applications.html>
- Ed Junod – Coming up on June 25th is a free luncheon for Korean War Vets with Knoxville Korean Association. If you know of anyone who is eligible, would like to get them to the event and presented with an award the Ambassador for Peace Medal.
- Knoxville Career Center – David Webb - <https://www.tn.gov/workforce> – National unemployment 3.7, state 3.4 and local 2.9. Job fair on June 20 at American job center 10am – noon. Rochelle Barnes moved on to UT with upward bound. Local Veterans Employment Representative for Knox County job opening. Go to TN.gov, search employment.
- Knox County Veteran Services Office – Tom Humphries <https://www.knoxcounty.org/veterans/> - President signed the VA mission act into law. Continue the VA choice program for one more year. Program goes away in one year. VA will replace it with a community care program. New legislation includes pre-911 veterans and now will include pre-1975 veterans. Then, in about 2 years will include Veterans from 1975 – 911.
- Knoxville Vet Center – Emily Feedback – *unable to attend*
- Marine Corps League – Eric Nash <http://www.mclknox.org/> - *unable to attend*
- Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) – Bill Potter - www.moaa.org – last month been busy trying to reorganize. Middle of April made 14 high school ROTC award presentations from all around TN. 3 presentations to colleges in area. Each award winners received a \$500 stipend for that student.
- Mountain Man Memorial March- Joleen Dewald – <http://mountainmanmemorialmarch.com/> Next year MMM date is Friday – Saturday, April 26 & 27, 2019. January will start preparing for the event.

- Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) – **Bill Grieve** <http://mowwregionv.org/posts.html> – Meet every 2nd Wed of month at Rothchild's next Wed 13th at 11am - 1. Lt. Col Phil Holt, AF Retired will talk about his experience flying the F4. Also, we are actively presenting ROTC and JROTC awards and will continue for the next couple of weeks.
- Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing – **Steve Thompson** <http://www.projecthealingwaters.org/> - Update - Dan Moneymaker is doing well. Kids fish free day this weekend at Clinch River. Register at CRCTU.org. We will have a change of leadership – Scott Haythorne is taking over though I am still very involved. Recent fundraiser with River Sports. Raised over \$800. Fishing this month on Norton creek. Brad Hue won rod building contest last year went to bamboo rod building contest and asked to lead our rod building classes. The National Fundraiser - Smoky Mountain Grand Slam will be held on Oct 5.
- REBOOT Combat Recovery – **Rick Garner for Mike Simpson** – Starting in FALL on Tuesday 9/11 for 12 weeks. ReBoot is a Faith-Based Combat Trauma Recovery 12-week Program focuses on the Spiritual Aspects of Combat and is a course, not a support group, that provides practical help for service members and families dealing with the after effects of combat. Classes will be held Tuesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Farragut Church of Christ, 136 Smith Road, Farragut, TN. Dinner and childcare are provided. contact Stacey Nichols at snich@tds.net or 865-582-5330 or Michael Simpson at mike@visionaryhorizons.com
- Rolling Thunder – **Carlos Hollifield** - <http://www.rollingthundern3.com/index.php/about-tn3/> - Held our 31st ride for freedom to Washington DC over Memorial Day weekend. On 22 carry the flame came through Knoxville. Co-hosted a reception with Knoxville Harley dealership with gold star families. At DC we had over 6000 Patriots. Also, paid visit to wounded warriors at Walter Reed. Donated over \$600,000 to pay bills for veterans in need. Coming up co-sponsor with Legions patriot luncheon, second Sunday of month at 3:30. On July 14 will be doing a ride NoogaStrong. Information will be sent out. Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NoogaStrongRide/> website: <http://nooga.com/217367/nooga-strong-memorial-motorcycle-ride-honors-fallen-five/>
- STAR – Horses & Heroes Program – **Cathy Dolson** - <https://www.rideatstar.org/heroes--horses.html> - This is a fully funded program, free to military and veterans. Kicking off summer session next week. Two full days of program at south Knox facility on Tuesdays and Thursdays for veterans and families. Can always use volunteers, putting up 500 bales of hay today. Any help will be appreciated.
- Tennessee Veterans Business Associations (TVBA) – **Steve Stilts** - <https://gotvba.com/events/second-annual-tvba-golf-tournament/> - Second Annual TVBA Golf Tournament on Monday, June 25 at the Green Meadow Country Club in Alcoa. Limited to 21 teams and sponsorships are available. \$125 per player; \$450 per team. Starts with a noon buffet lunch with a guest speaker followed by a 1pm shot gun start Clubhouse Reception. Will finish with awards ceremony and pizza. Come play or just hang out and support the event.
- UT Army ROTC Alumni Council – Geoff Freeman - http://alumni.utk.edu/s/1341/alumni/interior_alumni.aspx?sid=1341&gid=2&pgid=7955 – 1st meeting, *nothing to report*
- Veteran Appreciation Program- **Larry Sharp** –<http://www.veteransappreciationprogram.com/> - *unable to attend*
- Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – **Patty McGrew** –<http://veteransheritagesite.org/> - Caris Hospice and Covenant Health have a program where place our Vets at end of life with someone to sit with. We had an Awesome run, tripled number from previous run. Thanks Vietnam Veterans and channel 10. Annual meeting at Sharps Ridge park at noon at pavilion 1. cell phone 865-335-6423. All are welcome.
- Volunteers of America/Supportive Services for Veterans Families/Stand Down – **Clyde Vincent** <https://www.voamid.org/ssvftn> - *Unable to attend*
- Women Marines Association – **Lindsay Long** <https://www.womenmarines.org/> - *unable to attend*
- Yellow Ribbon Fund Veteran Caregivers Support Group – **Stephanie Trost** <http://www.yellowribbonfund.org/> - this month had 100th family join group. We have had 6 deaths – 3 suicides and 3 cancer that are service connected. Families are suffering and thanks to all for helping. We get calls for help for things that do not fit VA services. Working case by case and family by family to help with difficult life situations outside of Veteran services. A veteran, single father and his daughter was diagnosed with Cancer and we are providing services to help him.
- Secret City Parade for Veterans – Janet Guess – If you are able to march in the parade, please be there no later than 8am at the ORAU.

- Katerpillar kids Camp - Cindy Winterberger - A free grief camp at Wesley woods for children and teens, grades 1 – 12 who have lost a loved one, most commonly a parent but any loss is appropriate. <https://www.covenanthomecareandhospice.com/katerpillar-kids-camp-grief/>
- Helmets to Hardhats – Robert Schwartz, Senior Program Manager – www.helpetstohardhats.org – Construction project starting at Y-12 and will need trained personnel in a variety of trades. Helmets to Hardhats is a national, nonprofit program that connects National Guard, Reserve, retired and transitioning active-duty military service members with skilled training and quality career opportunities in the construction industry. The program is designed to help military service members successfully transition back into civilian life by offering them the means to a secure and quality career in the construction industry. Go to the website and register (free) and then search for apprenticeships. For information, contact Robert Schwartz, email: RSchwartz@helmetstohardhats.org

**Next meeting: Thursday, July 12, 2018
@ Knoxville Chamber of Commerce**

For input or corrections, contact:

