



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

March 5, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Upcoming Events

- 12 Mar Multi-Employer Job Fair at the Blount County Library from 10am until noon
- 19 Mar Job Fair at the American Job Center from 10 until noon
- 24 Mar Multi Employer Job Fair at the Elm Street Probation and Parole Office 1426 Elm St Knoxville from 1-3pm
- 31 Mar ESA is hosting a dinner to honor Women Veterans at Susannah's House 923 Dameron Ave Knoxville at 6pm. Call 865/250-4863 to RSVP
- 4 Apr 4th Annual Veterans Heritage Ridge Run at Lincoln Park Technology Trade Center 535 Chicamauga Ave Knoxville at 9am ridgerun@veteransheritagesite.org
- 18 Apr UT Army ROTC Alumni's General Robert Neyland Golf Outing at Egwani Farms Golf Course 523/871-1975 or wlhickman@comcast.net for more information.
- 4 May ETVMA 10th Annual Medal of Honor Evening. For more information, www.etvma.org/moheve.
- 22 May 1st Annual Irreverent Warriors Silkies Hike, 1001 Waterfront Dr, Knoxville. Contact Jesse Hawe 865/773-2128.
- Every Wednesday – Combat Coffee Hour for all veterans 7:30am at the Knoxville Vet Center 1645 Downtown West Blvd. #28
- Second Saturday – Breakfast for Buds 8:30 until 10am. Mama Grits in Tellico Village. Contact Dennis Drake at dennisdrake2012@outlook.com for more information.
- 22nd of each month – Veterans Coffee Hour hosted by A Veteran's Heart at Awaken Coffee 125 W Jackson Ave Knoxville from 8-9am.

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 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, **March 5, 2020 8:30am** at the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce. President **Geoff Freeman** presided over the meeting. A total number of **100** were present.

Introduction of new Attendees:

- Maddie Tuggle with Senator Blackburn's Office
- Denise Brooks with the USPS
- Hugh Daughtry with GLS, Inc
- Rhea Kenney with Second Harvest of E TN

- SGT Kristopher Reynolds with Salute Veterans Honor Society UTK
 - Melissa Abbey with Shangri-LA Therapeutic Academy
 - Dr Pat Polis with VVA 1078
 - Sgt Carlos Reyes with Lt Alexander Bonnyman Det 924 Marine Corp League
 - Cpl Richard Farrer with Irreverent Warriors
 - Paul Adkins with CVMA 18-12
 - Gwen Cole Quilts of Valor
 - Marie Connelly
 - J.D, Faulkner with Knox County Schools ROTC Career Tech Ed.
 - Tony Lee with Shepherds Men
 - Gene Sinclair
- **President's Report** – **Geoff Freeman** – Economic Impact meeting to follow ETMAC meeting.
 - **Webmaster's Report** - **Col Dent Young**- 594 visitors to the website last month, 559 of them new. Most visited pages were Resources and Membership.
 - **Quilts of Valor** - **Gwen Cole** - They make quilts for veterans or active service members. You can nominate someone to receive one through their website. <https://www.qovf.org/>
 - **American Legion Post 2** -**Larry Sharp** – Gave an update on their building site and fundraising progress. Donations may be made at <http://legionknox.com/>
 - **Tara Adkins** Veteran Food Pantry - They are holding an event each quarter. The last 4 events have served 330 veterans and their families. The future dates are May 28, August 27, and November 12. Locations to be determined.
 - **Treasurer's Report: Derren Burrell**

Beginning Balance	\$13,088.74
Deposits	2,691.55
Expenses	552.74
Ending Balance	\$15,227.55
- Membership dues may be paid online <https://www.etmac.org/resources/etmacresources/membership-application/> or bring check to Patrice Collins at the next meeting. Donations are also appreciated.**
- **Other ETMAC Announcements** - **Patrice Collins** – Thanks to First Bank for sponsoring breakfast. Commanders please get your Economic Impact Report Data into Patrice. There will likely be a new site for the Veteran's Luncheon this year since Hotel Knoxville has ceased operations. Details to follow.

MILITARY UNIT UPDATES

- **3rd Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard** – **MAJ Joseph Westfall**- Annual training at the end of March. Providing support to RAM at Walter State Community College.
- **119th Cyberspace Operations Squadron** –**Col Chris Smith** – Shifting – 624th becoming 616th. Adding Air Force Intelligence along with Cyber Security. No discernable intervention into our election process thus far.
- **1-230 Assault Helicopter Battalion** – **CPT Philip Webster** – Providing tornado support in middle TN. Also providing transport for government officials touring damage area. Also, standby support for President's visit. Troops in motion.
- **134th Air Refueling Wing** – **Col Lee Hartley** – Also providing support as needed for storm recovery. Troops in motion. Looking forward to visit from AFROTC detachment.

- 241st Engineering & Installation Squadron (Chattanooga) - **Lt Col Dave Moss** –Troops in motion. Annual conference in March. Also providing tornado response.
- 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment – **CW3 Brian Culbertson** – Helping with storm recovery.
- 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – **MSgt Brandon Carver** – unable to attend.
- 489th Civil Affairs Battalion – **MAJ BW Osten**- unable to attend.
- 844th Engineering Battalion – **MAJ Justin Belford** – unable to attend.
- Coast Guard Recruiting – East TN Region – **ME1 Steven Brashear** – unable to attend.
- Co D 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – **GySgt John Kepper/1stSgt Jason Brackley** - unable to attend
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center -**Lt Col John Capra**- 350 students on base currently. They stay at full capacity. Recognized SMSgt Chris Gragg as the Campus Operations Superintendent who keeps the campus running. They had 14,000 airmen come through their campus last year.
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) –**SSG Kyle Lane** – Always looking for volunteer opportunities. Their two sections are in middle Tennessee and were impacted by the storm.
- Military Entrance Processing Station – **CPT Taylr Hill** –Always need help with ceremonies, please feel free to volunteer.
- Navy Operational Support Center – **CDR Scott Moss**- Command assessment coming up. Navy Ball will be 17 October. Please buy a ticket and or provide sponsorship. Any amount appreciated.
- Navy Recruiting – Talent Acquisition Onboarding Center – **HM2 Josh Dixon**- unable to attend
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – **Col Dent Young** – They lost an airplane in the storm. Providing transportation for individuals needing to view the damage. Providing 3D imagery of the storm damage to help determine the capacity of dump trucks that will be needed to remove debris.
- USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – **DCDR Ron Boneau** – will be working Boat Show and are ramping up for boating season.
- UT Air Force ROTC – Col **Matt “Ocho” Castillo** – Field Training this weekend. 25 Mar 30 cadets will be taking a flight with the 134th. 27 Mar Stratcom is coming in to have a tabletop exercise. 21 Apr Awards Day. Appreciation given to the units that are allowing cadets to take flights with them, for some, their first ever.
- UT Army ROTC – **LTC Justin Howe** – Field Training coming up at the end of March. 3 April will be the Military Ball at the Student Union. 16 Apr will be the Award Ceremony, also at the Student Union. 7 May is Commissioning. The class of 2024 already has 23 on scholarship. \$1.85 million given to UT this year in scholarships by the Army.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- Air Force Association – **Dick Webber**– New Air Space and Cyber Space Planning Committee met at Heritage High School. Several different departments and companies were represented. Cyber Patriot teaches middle and high school STEM students how to build and defend a network. Locally four teams are in the top tier.
- American Job Center / State of TN Department of Labor – **Laura Chagnon**- Job Fairs listed in events section.
- American Legion – **Joleen Dewald** – unable to attend
- American Red Cross – **Tom DeHoog** –6 shelters open for storm victims. Critical need for blood. 18 April will be Sound the Alarm campaign in the Inskip area. They are looking for volunteers to help, especially anyone that speaks Spanish.

- Ben Atchley Veteran's Home – **Doug Ottinger** – Serving for 13 years. Still have job openings.
- Bunker Labs – **Rich Gross** – Bunker Brews on 19 Mar at 5:30 at Boyd's Jig and Reel.
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078 – **Gary Ellis** – March 29th. Vietnam Veteran Memorial Ceremony at John Sevier Veteran Cemetery at 2pm. Monthly Meeting 2nd Tuesday evening.
- Consolidated Nuclear Securities SOS – **Jamie Uptgraft** – Thanks to Justin Howe for allowing us to train with his cadets on 28 Feb. Hopefully 2 teams for MMMM. They will also provide water for that event. New organization consisting of 75 to 250 individuals looking for volunteer opportunities. SOS is one of 14 affinity groups at Y-12.
- Disabled Veterans Chapter #24 – **Garrett Hanas** – unable to attend
- East Tennessee Veteran's Honor Guard – **Herb Kraehmer** – nothing to report
- East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association - **Joleen Dewald** –unable to attend.
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) – **Leslie Purser** – Boss lifts being planned. First on 21 May. Also talked about a program called Mission Readiness to get kids fit to be eligible for military service. The group consists of 750 retired generals and admirals. They met with 10 legislators yesterday and a bill is on the hill currently.
- Honor Air - **Joe Sutter** – Next flight for women only is 15 April. 13 June will be virtual flight.
- Knoxville Habitat for Heroes – **Rick Garner** – unable to attend
- Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council – **Emily Hager** – Expungement clinic in Monroe County 18 April. Details coming. Worth It Suicide program. Training guidance counselors in suicide prevention. They have found that community based, and school-based programs work best. When a service member is thanked for their service, they hand the individual a sticker that says, 'You're worth it'.
- Knox County Veteran Services Office – **Tom Humphries** –Expanding eligible individuals for Caregivers Act.
- Knoxville Vet Center – **Kalene McSwain Faulkner** –May 2 from 11-3 Family event at the center. All veterans and active duty welcome. Bring your families. There will be activities for the kids. Mobile Vet center available after March 2. They bring the van around to all 39 counties they serve.
- Marine Corps League – **Carlos Reyas** – Looking to increase awareness. Also, would like to have a building of their own.
- Military Order of the Purple Hearts – Chapter 356- **Charlie Caldwell** – Meet 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6pm at Shoney's on Emory Rd.
- Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) – **Bill Potter** – Will be giving scholarship awards again this year to area students.
- Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW)/ Reserve Officers Assoc.– **Bill Grieve** – Meets 2nd Wednesday at Rothchild's from 11-1. Leadership in Washington DC from the 15th to the 17th.
- Mountain Man Memorial March – **LTC Justin Howe** 13th annual on 25 April. Proceeds support Gold Star Families. Need groups to man water points. Looking for donations in-kind of water/Gatorade/snacks. Also, ATVs needed. Drink donations may be dropped off at the Hoskins Library. Please contact LTC Howe if you are interested in manning a water point or if you want to drop off drink donations jhowe12@utk.edu www.information@mountainmanmemorialmarch.com for more details.
- Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing – **Lindsey Long** – Season begins 2 May. Details at www.projecthealingwaters.org. Meet at the Red Cross office 1st Tuesday of the month. 23 May Veterans on the Water.

- REBOOT Combat Recovery – **Darrell Williams**—unable to attend.
- Rolling Thunder – **Lou Amorello** – Ride for Freedom coming up this year on 24 May.
- STAR – Horses & Heroes Program – **Melissa Abby** – Always need volunteers. Melissa is taking over for Cathy. Seeking a grant for a family day. They are gauging interest in having a family day. Please reach out to them. They also are looking for bat, owl and bird boxes to help with rodent and insect control.
- Team Red White & Blue – **Jesse Hawe** – open to all branches of the military. Monthly events.
- Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless - **Brandon Harris**- 2 homeless veterans housing openings currently.
- Tennessee Veterans Business Associations (TVBA) – **Steve Stilts** – Helping with a Vet to Vet. Looking for a couple of employees for a 2-year job at TAC. Contact Steve for details. 414-2000.
- United Veterans Council – **Natalie Donahue** – 6 free breakfasts each Saturday at a different location each time. Check out their Facebook page for details. Council changed meeting structure. Board members will attend area veteran organization meeting. The next Council meeting will be 6 June at Elks Lodge following the veteran breakfast.
- UT Army ROTC Alumni Council – **Geoff Freeman** –Golf Tournament will be on 18 April at Egwani Farms.
- Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – **Patty McGrew** – April 4th is their annual Ridge Run. Sponsors and volunteers are needed. Money raised will be used for improvements to the site. For more info contact Patty at pmcgrew@carishealthcare.com
- VVA Chapter 1073 & VFW Post 3380 (Morristown). **Whit Whitman** – 150 attended a funeral for a veteran that passed 2 years ago. VFW provided honor guard. It was a beautiful ceremony.
- 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
- James H. Quillen VA Medical Center – **Dean Borsos**- he updated many accomplishments they have achieved over the past year. Among them, they have added a neurologist to enable EMG recapture, Radiation Oncology is adding a 2nd linear accelerator, added a second MRI, developed a DaVinci Xi robotic surgery program, adding services in outlying areas such as Sevierville and Morristown, started two new academic affiliations with UT and Meharry Medical College. They have also received several recognitions for best practices.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 2, 2020 @ 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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email: oragland@kmfpc.com

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Patrice Collins, Board Member & Chamber Rep: 865-806-4487

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Gina Massey, At Large Director, 865-363-2994 email: gmassev@etmafcu.net

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Robert Brown, ETMAC Calendar 865-458-0759 email: rl_brown@hotmail.com

Leslie Purser At Large Director 757-537-0734 purserjl@verizon.net

Cindy Winterberger At Large Director 865/679-4754 email: cwinterb@covhlth.com

Unit and Veteran Organization Contact Information

ETMAC

www.ETMAC.org

A Veteran's Heart

<https://www.facebook.com/aveteransheart/> Jason Bush 423/231-5418

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/honoraire/>

Irreverent Warriors

dentmanofknoxville@yahoo.com Jesse Hawe 865/773-2128 or Richard Farrer at 615/490-5715 www.irreverentwarriors.com

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 Purple Heart (MOPH) Chapter 356

www.moph356.org Charlie Caldwell 865/368-7289 or cdcardwell49@gmail.com

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>

Team Red White & Blue.

www.teamrwb.org

Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless

<https://tvchomeless.org/>

United Veterans Council of East Tennessee, Inc.

https://www.facebook.com/The-United-Veterans-Council-of-East-Tennessee-Inc-1912897478820375/?_tn=%2Cd%2CP-R&eid=ARDSHn8_-f00QmdnXmMDEJNMfwLIDApNr7_9IImjiWKt3EQ3mN6n1PfvjgiRHuxaI8czNzRIXwSY7d5t

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/>