



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

March 3, 2022, via Zoom

Upcoming Events

ONGOING Fund raiser for Operation Honor Guard Info at <https://www.wate.com/operation-honor-guard/> Donate [at Donate today to Operation Honor Guard](#)

- 1st Sat Breakfast at the Elks Club #160 5600 Lonas Rd, Knoxville - 8:00 - 9:30am
- 2nd Sat Breakfast at Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 1615 Price Ave, Knoxville - 8:00-9:30am
- 3rd Sat Breakfast at the Community Center in Powell, 1708 W. Emory Rd, Powell - 8:00-10:00am
- Last Sat: Three Breakfasts throughout our area: 8:00 am - 9:30 am at all three locations below:
- DAV Chapter #24, 2600 Holbrook Dr., Knoxville,
- VFW Post 5154 in Blount County, 2561 Hobbs Rd., Louisville
- DAV Chapter #26, 530 Kingston Ave, Oliver Springs
- 2nd Wed Rock Climbing for Veterans at The Climbing Center Knoxville from 7-9pm
- 26 MAR Tack and Craft Sale at Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding Lenoir City 9am until 2pm
- 29 MAR Bunker Labs at Next Level Brewery at 5:30
- 2 APR UT Army Alumni Annual General Robert Neyland Golf Outing at Egwani Farms
- 9 APR Women Veterans Hike in the GSM Greenbrier Area [Information](#)
- 16 APR Easter Egg Eggstravaganza at 5700 Old Rutledge Pike Knoxville from 1-3pm.
- 12-24 APR The Wall that Heals at Lynnhurst Cemetery 2300 West Adair [The Wall that Heals](#)
- 23-24 Apr Katerpillar Kids Camp Contact Cindy Winterberger for details. cwinterb@covhlth.com
- 23 APR Mountain Man Memorial March [MMMM Signup](#)
- 7 MAY USA Patriots Veterans Charity Softball game. Smokies stadium at 1pm. Youth clinic at 10am. Contact Matthew.gordon@benchmark.us for details.
- 14 MAY Lt Alexander Bonnyman Young Marines Mud Run 5K @ 1722 Ellejoy Rd, Seymour TN youngmarinesbonnyman@gmail.com for more information.
- 21 MAY Rods N Hogs Car Show

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

ETMAC BUSINESS SESSION

Treasurer's Report: Derren Burrell

Beginning Balance	\$17,145.47
Deposits	2,002.08
Expenses	90.00
Ending Balance	\$19,057.55

- **Membership dues may be paid online**
<https://www.etmac.org/resources/etmacresources/membership-application/> or mail a check payable to ETMAC to Patrice Collins at the Knoxville Chamber: 17 Market Square, #201, Knoxville, TN 37902. Donations on our website are also appreciated.
- **President Report** –Leslie Purser– Tom Humphries has volunteered to be our Acting Communications Director, which will likely become a permanent board position. More information to follow. Still looking for a speaker for the Veteran's lunch in November.
- **Webmaster's Report** – Dent Young – 475 visitors with 459 being first time visitors. As is normal, the Veteran Services page was most popular.
- **2022 Medal of Honor Convention** – Joleen Dewald. – September 6-11. It's still happening!
- **Other ETMAC Announcements** - Patrice Collins –Thanks to Tom for helping! Please check the website to ensure the information for your organization is correct. The 134th has offered to host the May and June ETMAC meetings if we can't meet at the Chamber. Details to follow.
- **Michael Torano** from Second Harvest spoke about the Veteran specific food distribution each quarter and they would like to expand it. They distribute approximately 12,000 pounds of food at each one. 19 may is the next one scheduled. More details to follow.
- **First Time Attendees**
 - MAJ Scott Shards with ETSC ROTC
 - Angie Palmore with Covenant Hospice
 - Karen Lee with Just Serve
 - Michael Torano with Second Harvest
 - Mary Deel with TN Dept of Veteran Services

MILITARY UNIT UPDATES

- **3rd Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard** – LTC Joseph Westfall- Annual training upcoming.
- **119th Cyberspace Operations Squadron** – Col Smith - no report
- **1-230 Assault Helicopter Battalion** – CPT Phillip Webster – Training upcoming
- **134th Air Refueling Wing** –Col Jason Brock– Two retirements coming up.

- 278th Armored Cavalry Unit –LTC Tim Shubert – COL Brad Bowlin is being promoted to Brig Gen. 278th will be representing the entire Army National Guard at the Sullivan Cup Competition at Fort Benning Ga. This competition brings together tank crews to test their mastery of a variety of skills, including gunnery and maneuver, over a period of two weeks. The unit of the 278th representing the Army National Guard is the Q-4-278 out of Rockwood. The 278th has upgraded much of their equipment including new M1A2 Abrams Tanks, M2A2 Bradley IFV, and Paladin SPA. The renovation continues at their Sutherland location.
- 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – LT Col Bryan Ewing – no report
- 844th Engineering Battalion – MAJ Justin Warrick no report.
- D Co 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – GySgt Jeffrey Bryant – no report
- ETSU Army ROTC. – MAJ Scott Shard -Several new cadets joining program. Field training coming up next week.
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center -Lt Col John Capra – 21 March, will see on campus students reach 200. Mission Defense class ongoing. Tech U Leadership coming up. That will be a partnership with Pellissippi State which will give the students college credit. Inspection coming up. Gym is being refreshed. They have a retirement ceremony coming up on 14 March. Chief Master Sgt Steven Durrance is retiring after 38 years of service.
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) – CPT Mary Bustamante– no report
- Military Entrance Processing Station – CPT Calvin Wu -no report
- Naval Reserve Center Knoxville – CDR Trier Kissell – Drilling this weekend.
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – Col Dent Young – National meeting last week. Planning for first cadet encampment in 2 years. DOD communications exercise coming up.
- USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – Ron Boneau – no report
- UT Air Force ROTC – Lt Col William Estep -23/41 cadets were selected by HQ AFROTC to receive an enrollment allocation this year. The overall selection for the ROTC was 56%. Det. 800 faired extremely well compared to other schools in the SER. - 24 Apr, Det 800 hosted Maj Gen (ret) Webber for a Space Force 101 briefing to help generate understanding and interest in the USSF. We have two cadets that will be commissioning into the Space Force from this graduating class- Det. 800 won the first annual Omega Cup hosted by GA Tech University for physical fitness. We beat nine other large Detachment schools. - We had a sophomore cadet selected for the US Air Force Academy (USAFA) exchange program. The cadet will attend USAFA in the Fall and return to UT next Spring. We had one senior cadet selected to be an Air Force Gold Bar Diversity Recruiter (assignment location TBD) The Det is preparing to graduate/commission 19 2Lts this week into Air and Space Forces. The commissioning ceremony is Saturday, 8 May at 1600-1800 in the UT Student Union Ballroom. By invitation only due to COVID restrictions.
- UT Army ROTC – LTC Justin Howe – The bill to allow out of state students that are military affiliated to receive instate tuition is looking good. The Det took cadets to Gettysburg and were able to tour and meet with some Army War College students. Spring Field Training is coming up at Fort Knox Kentucky. 21 April is the spring Award Ceremony. 20 May is Commissioning Ceremony.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- Air Force Association –Dick Webber – 9 March will be the next meeting for the Cyber Force initiative at Tac Air. Planning has begun for the Air Force’s 75th Anniversary. They are looking at dates after the Air Show.

- American Job Center / State of TN Department of Labor – Richard Bennett – Several hiring events going on currently. Planning a health care specific job fair on 22 March at the Oak Ridge Chamber.
- American Legion Post 2 – Mike Testerman – 7 March next meeting at the DAV. Building is in progress. Easter Egg Extravaganza on 16 April. Boys State in May.
- American Legion Post 212. Samantha Shreves – no report
- American Red Cross – Jamie Buck - Working with MEPS with resiliency. Also recruiting volunteers. Month of the Military Child.
- AMVETS Post 75 in Newport – Leslie Purser- no report
- Army Reserve Ambassador Program Eastern TN – Leslie Purser – no report
- Ben Atchley Veteran’s Home – Doug Ottinger – no report
- Bunker Labs – Derren Burrell – 29 March next event. Details in Event section.
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078- Pat Polis – The Wall that Heals is coming in April. Opens 21 April and will be open until 24 April. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!
- Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, Morristown – Leslie Purser – no report
- Y12 Serving Our Service Members (SOS) – Bonnie Harlow– Vet to Engineer. Go to [Y 12 Career Page](#) for details. Just ended winter session of Heroes and Horses, spring session will begin soon. <https://www.rideatstar.org> or <https://www.darkhorselodge.org/>
- Covenant Health Military Recognition Program – Cindy Winterberger – Katerpillar Kids Camp will be April 23-24. This is a free grief camp for any child, 1st through 12th grade that has lost a loved one. Contact Cindy for details. cwinterb@covhlth.com.
- Disabled Veterans Chapter #24 – Garrett Hanas – Veterans Breakfast happening last Saturday of the month.
- East Tennessee Veteran’s Honor Guard – Jim Mungenast – no report
- East Tennessee Veteran’s Memorial Association - Joleen Dewald – Medal of Honor dinner on May 2nd at the Foundry is sold out and Sgt Troy McGill will be honored. John McMannis will be speaker. The 140 Corridor between Watt Rd and NC is being renamed the Sgt Troy A McGill Memorial Hwy and the ceremony will be at the Memorial. Details to follow. There will be 17 names to be added to the Memorial this year, and all the names will be read this year, as always.
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) - Jim Mungenast – 50th anniversary of ESGR. The Guard and Reserve force comprises 40% of our military. First Baptist Church of Wartburg will be presented the Pro Patria Award. ESGR will brief larger employers on the USERRA law. We will have a Boss Lift on 9 June with the 134th.
- Enlisted Association of National Guard of Tennessee - SMSgt Christopher Gragg – no report
- Frontline Gardens – Stephanie Trost – no report
- Honor Air - Joe Sutter – Flight 30 on 13 April
- James H Quillen VA Medical Center – Billy Key – He gave links to several events and resources: [events](#)
[jobs](#) [news](#)

- Knights of Columbus, Monsignor Francis D. Grady Assembly 1083 - Henry Usey – no report
- Knoxville Habitat for Heroes – Rick Garner – no report
- Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council – Emily Hager- Continuing to collaborate to ensure veterans receive mental health services.
- Knox County Veteran Services Office – Tom Humphries. – Continuing to rewrite how disabilities are rated. [38 CFR 1](#) [38 CFR 2](#) [38 CFR 3](#)
- Knoxville Vet Center – Lyle Allen –Mobile unit out and about. They can bring it anywhere you need it.
- Marine Corps League – Ken DeBoer – April 9 is Dine in Awards Dinner. May 21 is May Rods n Hogs Car Show. 10 Sept Mud Run. Details at www.mclknoxville.org
- Military Order of the Purple Hearts – Chapter 356- Thomas Booker – no report
- MOAA – Bill Potter – They have awards for ROTC cadets and JROTC cadets.
- Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW)/ Reserve Officers Assoc.– Bill Grieve – Awards being ordered.
- Mountain Man Memorial March – 102 are registered currently. Team RWD is sponsoring the event this year. The event is on 23 April.
- ORNL Veterans Group – Lisa Bollinger – Volunteers being gathered for both the Wall that Heals as well as Darkhorse. There are still several positions available at www.ornl.com.
- Pets for Vets – Heinz Lauer – no report
- Project Healing Waters – Joe Noe – no report
- Rolling Thunder –Carlos Hollifield – no report
- STAR – Horses & Heroes Program –Chelsea Taylor – Thanks to SOS for their support. There will be a craft show on 26 March from 11-2.
- Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network –Emily Hager- no report.
- Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless - Brandon Harris – We still have openings in our Veteran PSH Program and are working to house homeless individuals in our ESG Rapid Rehousing Program through June 2022
- United Veterans Council – Natalie Donahue – no report.
- UT Army ROTC Alumni Council – Geoff Freeman – 2 April will be their Golf Scramble at Egwani Farms. Deadline to register is 28 March. Proceeds provide scholarships to ROTC cadets. UT Veteran’s Memorial dedication will be sometime this year.
- Veterans Appreciation Program – Larry Sharp – no report
- Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – Marilyn Childress– 5 March cleanup at Sharp’s Ridge from 9-12. Also hosting a Women’s Veteran Hike on 9 April. 19 March cleaning headstones in the Park. 11 June Honor our Smoky Mountain Veterans.
- VFW Post 5154 in Maryville – Kerry Lovely – Providing yoga classes on Wednesdays at 3pm beginning on 2.9.2022. For details, email 2016bcsurvivor@gmail.com

- VVA Chapter 1073 (Morristown) & VFW Post 3380 (Dandridge) & Walter J. 'Bud' Bacon Chapter Distinguished Flying Cross Society, East TN Region- W. E. 'Whit' Whitworth/ Bill Potter – Looking for additional Flying Cross awardees. The February DFCS meeting was held in sorrow for one of our founding fellows was LTC Bill Cauntt. He passed on the early morning of 24 February 2022. Another ETMAC member (Bill Potter) was noted for receiving a Quilt of Valor in Jefferson City recently. Added and additional \$ 5,000 to their scholarship base at Walters State Community College (WSCC). Two scholarships have already been given to worthy veterans (any time period of service) (1 in RN program and 1 in Business). Three (3) Final Call services were provided to veterans in the area.
- **Next meeting: Thursday April 6, 2022, via Zoom**

For input or corrections, please contact Kim Spencer 865/661 9856 or kim@yourplacetoflourish.com

ETMAC Board of Directors:

Leslie Purser, President C: 757/537-0734 email purserjl@verizon.net

Geoff Freeman, Immediate Past President C: 843/743-5661 [email: gafreeman@comcast.net](mailto:gafreeman@comcast.net)

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Robert Brown, ETMAC Calendar C: 865-458-0759 [email: rl_brown@hotmail.com](mailto:rl_brown@hotmail.com)

Dent Young, Webmaster, C: 865/604-8621 W: 865/483-7467 387543@tncap.us

Unit and Veteran Organization Contact Information

ETMAC
www.ETMAC.org

American Job Center/State of TN Dept of Labor
<https://www.tn.gov/workforce/jobs-and-education/services-by-group/services-by-group-redirect/job-placement-for-veterans.html>

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/>

Bunker Labs Knoxville

<https://chapters.bunkerlabs.org/knoxville/>

Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078

<http://www.vva1078.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/vvachapter1078knoxville/>

Combat Veterans Motorcycle Assoc 18-12

<https://www.cvma18-12.com/upcoming-gatherings.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/481217796399085>

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/>

Knights of Columbus Henry Usey 865/246-4413

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 - Charlie Caldwell 865-368-7289

www.moph356.org or cddcardwell49@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 FishingJoe.noe@projecthealingwaters.org 629-213-9707

Rolling Thunder

<http://www.rollingthundertn3.com/index.php/about-tn3/>

Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless - <https://tvhomeless.org/>

United Veterans Council of East Tennessee, Inc.

<https://m.facebook.com/pages/category/Nonprofit-Organization/The-United-Veterans-Council-of-East-Tennessee-Inc-1912897478820375/>

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>

Volunteer State Honor Guard

<http://www.milhonors.com>

