

EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

May 2, 2013 MEETING SUMMARY

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- JUNE 6 ETMAC Meeting at the Red Cross Office on Middlebrook Pike
- JUNE 8: MUSIC and DRINK! Worlds Fair Park! KnoxGives, Celebrate Knoxville with the TVBA and 5 other non-profits. Free tickets. TVBA shares profits from food and drinks.
- JULY/AUG NOSC along with Harley Davidson Ride/Concert for Wounded Warrior Project
- SEPT 14 Knoxville Area Veterans Stand Down – National Guard Armory
- NOVEMBER 11 Veterans' Day Parade and Veterans' Day Luncheon

STAY CURRENT: WWW.ETMAC.ORG

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

- The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, May 2, 2013, at the Knoxville chamber office with President Barry Allen, presiding. President Allen welcomed seven new members and guests
- 60 members and guests were present, and the April meeting summary was approved and distributed with no corrections
- The Treasurer reported \$132.54 checks written, deposits made for \$480 in dues - leaving a balance of \$16,137.80
- Webmaster report shows 1,709 people visited the web last month - @ 56 per day; the most heavily viewed page was Local Resources
- ETMAC President, Barry Allen, presented a check to Laddy Fields, Art Director for the Knoxville Chamber, for submitting the winning logo. Congratulations once again to Laddy Fields for designing the winning logo
- President Allen
 - Formally thanked Patrice for staying late to get the new ETMAC logo signs up and Laimon for updating the website as well
 - Formally welcomed CPT Jared Hull, the new commander of the US Army Knoxville Recruiting Command
 - Along with John Dyess, Jess Fernandez, and Buzz Buswell met with members of Senator Corkers Office – to discuss various Veterans issues currently of concern in ETMAC community

GUEST ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Amedisys Hospice/We Honor Veterans Program – Sarah Wimmer** – Provides Special Care needs to Veterans; looking for volunteers; <http://www.wehonorveterans.org/>
- **Pellissippi State Comm. College – Rachel Cragle** – Grant awarded to fund new program called “Operation Veteran Success” – A free service to military members that provides tutoring before placement testing

- **Knox County in partnership w/various business – Patrice Collins on behalf of Mayor Tim Burchett –** “Yesterday’s Soldiers, Today’s Veterans” – A luncheon for Vets and their families on the 24th of May from 10am-2pm at the Grande Event Center (formerly the EXPO center) – RSVP 865-657-3240

MILITARY UNIT ACTIVITY UPDATES

- **UT Air Force ROTC – Maj Michel Edwards** – Commissioning ceremony on 9 May – Alumni Memorial Bldg Room 32 – all invited
- **UT Army ROTC – Lee Dalton** – 16 Commissioning – at McClung Museum/UT – Friday May, 10
- **US Army Knoxville Recruiting Command – CPT Scott Glidden/CPT Jared Hull (New Commander)** – Shipping out 90 High School Seniors in June/July
- **Military Entrance Processing Station – LCDR Lester Isaac (his last meeting)** – Change of Command - 24 May (incoming LCDR Jason McNear) hosted by the NOSC. Re-location of MEPS is scheduled for August 2nd
- **119th Command and Control Squadron – Lt Col Sam “Bull” Keener** – Have several building projects in the works as well as annual field training in Savannah for the unit this month
- **134th Air Refueling Wing – Col Randy Gratz** – Having a cookout during drill weekend to celebrate receiving an overall EXCELLENT rating for Nuclear ORI; National Deficit Authorization Act resulted in the 134th losing two planes – returning one in July and one in August; Had a large contingency of folks who supported the Mountain Man Memorial March either as marchers or volunteers.
- **1-230 Air Calvary Squadron – LTC Mel Clawson** – Continuing MODs on aircraft – upgrades; Hosting a Golf Tournament on Friday May 24th at Royal Oaks to raise scholarship money for fallen aviators
- **278th Armored Cavalry Regiment – LTC Keith Scott** – Regimental change of Command at West High School Football field was a success. Training at Camp Shelby this month; New equipment fielding with the Bradley Fighting vehicle; Supported the “Welcome Home Vietnam Veteran Parade” in Pigeon Forge
- **489th Civil Affairs Battalion – SGM Michael France** – Finishing yellow ribbon program for formerly deployed soldiers; two Soldiers are competing at Fort Story, VA for best warrior competition; Integrating Civil Affairs NTC functions with the 278th
- **844th Engineering Battalion – MSG Josh Richardson** – Nothing new to report
- **I.G. Brown Training and Education Center – MSgt Keith Cavanaugh** – 586 NCOA/ALS students in session; Enlisted folks in the Air Guard will now receive appraisals; as a result TEC has been tasked with rolling out the appraisal instructions (via digital media) to the entire Air National Guard force; 45th Anniversary celebration in June – more info to come; hosting Department of Homeland security the week of August 19th – teams will compete on detection of Nuclear/Radiation material
- **Naval Operations Support Center (NOSC) – Chief Todd Johnson & CDR Kurt Jordan (New Commander)** – NOSC local Seabees are helping out in many community arenas to include Veteran Cemeteries, the Veterans War Memorial, and Veterans Day displays in Farragut. The NOSC and Smoky MTN Harley Davidson have teamed up for a fund raising ride on August 3rd. The ride will raise money for wounded warriors and cost twenty five dollars to enter. Full Throttle Magazine is running an ad for the ride.
- **USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – CDR Dave Roberts** – May 18th is National Safe boating week; Life vest slogan “If you won’t wear it, it won’t work”. Any units wanting boating safety courses for their staff, contact CDR Roberts.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- **East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association – Joe Sutter** - hosting 3rd Annual Medal of Honor Evening in honor of Corp Paul B Huff on 6 May at the Foundry – cost \$75 per person or table for \$600; May 10th sporting clay competition at Chilhowee Sportsman’s club Maryville; Memorial Day will include the reading of the 6000+ veterans on the memorial beginning at sunrise – looking for volunteers to read names
- **American Legion – (General Bayless/ Marvin Tuggle)** – Helping w/Salute to Heroes on May 11 at Smokies Stadium; Currently looking for a new facility for Post
- **Air Force Association – Steve Dillenburg** – 4 May – hosting State Convention & banquet at Crowne Plaza – honoring Eddie Mannis, 134th ARW as well as many others; will award teacher of the year at convention
- **Honor Air – Joe Sutter** – Flight #14 was smoothest ever flight - honored 130 Vets from the Korean and WWII Wars; Flight #15 will be Oct 9th
- **Ben Atchley Veteran’s Home – Doug Ottinger** – Groundbreaking ceremony in Clarksville/Montgomery County on May 17th, 3:45 PM Eastern Time

- **ESGR – John Dyess** – Number of mobilized Guard/Reserve - Just over 54,986; ESGR sponsored Awards luncheon will be held at Rothschild's on May 20th at 11:30
- **Mountain Man Memorial March – Lee Dalton** – Was able to give seven (\$1,000) scholarships because of the huge success of this year's Mountain Man March – many thanks! Next year's march date is set for– 12 April, 2014
- **TVBA – Jonathan Williams** – Teaming up with the American Diabetes Association and Boys and Girls Club to host a Bicycling event along with an after party–The event will be held at the World 's Fair Park on June 8th· Volunteers needed. Five local bands will provide the entertainment
- **American Red Cross – Knox & Blount Counties – Jess Hernandez** – Began the morning by helping a family who had a fire inside their condo; Also, been busy helping Ben Atchley Vets as well as Mountain Home Vets; Red Cross still has funds for Guard personnel in need of living expenses.
- **Knox County Veterans Affairs Office – Buzz Buswell** – Wants to get the word out that they are willing to travel to any reasonable location to help Veterans who would not otherwise be able to travel to their office
- **Marine Corps League** – Laimon Gödel – Sponsoring the Young Marine Program; Attended the Young Marines silent drill team at local school; Have Young Marine unit detachments in North and South Knoxville – Volunteers needed
- **Vietnam Veterans or America – (Knox Chapter) Barry Rice/Gary Ellis (New President)** The Pigeon Forge "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans" held 15-17 of April was a huge success. There were Seven hundred Vietnam VETs from twenty-eight states at the opening ceremony and more than eight hundred who marched in the parade. **You can watch an awesome video of this homecoming on YouTube. Here is the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JyG1iW55eok&feature=youtu.be>**
- **MOWW – Joe Eddlemon** - Meets the second Wednesday each month at Rothschild Conf. Center – 11am

Next meeting – Next meeting – Thursday, June 6

Knoxville Red Cross Office

Located at 6921 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37909

- **ETMAC Webpage:** Please send anything to be added to the calendar to webmaster@godel.com
- **The meeting was adjourned at 0923 am.**