



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

MAY 3, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

UPCOMING EVENTS

- MAY 7 Medal of Honor Dinner at The Foundry, 747 World's Fair Park Drive @ 5:30pm - \$500 table of 8. Contact Joleen Dewald 571-332-3100 for info. <https://etvma.org/moheve/>
- MAY 9 Veteran's Council Meeting @ Red Cross, 6pm. Contact Don Smith for information.
- MAY 9 Free Legal Advice Clinic for Veterans, Community law Office 1101 Liberty Street, Knoxville 37919, 12 noon – 2pm. Contact: Tracy Chain (865) 522-7501, tchain@knoxbar.org
- MAY 10 Cleaning of Headstones and Coin Placement at East Tennessee State Veteran's Cemetery, 5901 Lyons View Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919 sponsored by Keller Williams. 8am – 3pm.
- MAY 12 Bill Gerst M-1/M-1A Rifle Match, 2327 Rifle Range Road, 7a – 1p. \$20. Will have rifles available for use and purchase, must buy ammo.
- MAY 17 Veteran Ventures Investors Kickoff, K-Town Tavern 320 N. Peters Rd. 5-7p. Contact: Derren Burrell (865) 771-4243. Email: derren@veteranventures.us
- MAY 19 Veterans Heritage Ridge Run 5k, Lincoln Park Baptist Church 9am. Volunteers needed 7a - 1p call Patty @ 865-335-6423 or email: pmcgrew@carishealthcare.com
<https://runsignup.com/Race/Events/TN/Knoxville/TheVeteransHeritageRidgeRun5K>
- MAY 19 Hardship Hill Team Obstacle Course Race fbo Operation Enduring Warrior. Contact: Chris DeFranco (865) 368-0411 or email: defranco.chris@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/hardshiphillocr/>
- MAY 19 The MURPH Challenge fundraiser of the LT. Michael P. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Foundation at **CROSSFIT865**, 1149 Kevin Lane, Lenoir City, TN 37772 (865) 456-2077 8:30am, 9:45am and 11am. Register online at <https://crossfit865.com/calendar/>
- MAY 22 Honor the Fallen Passing of the Flame Ceremony @ Harley Davidson 605 Lovell Road at 6pm
- MAY 24 Bunker Brews – The Veteran Entrepreneurship Journey @ Knoxville Entrepreneur Center below the Knoxville Chamber, 17 Market Square #101, Knoxville, TN 37902
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bunker-brews-knoxville-the-veteran-entrepreneurship-journey-tickets-44878598095?aff=StudiousEmail&mc_cid=26c6f194f2&mc_eid=e8c7bf1aaf
- MAY 26 The MURPH Challenge fundraiser. **SEE info above ^ on May 19.**
- MAY 26 East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery Memorial Day Flag Placement @ BOTH Lyons View and John Sevier Veteran's Cemetery @ 8:30am – 12:30.

- MAY 28 Annual Reading of the Names (6,253) at the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial in World's Fair Park starting at sunrise, around 6am. Concluding with a dedication ceremony hosted by American Legion 2 Post. Rain or Shine event.
- MAY 28 Annual Memorial Day Service, 2200 East Governor John Sevier Hwy Cemetery @ 2pm
NOTE: Change of location from last year, NOT at Lyons View Cemetery
- JUN 9 Remote Area Medical (RAM) Salute to Service to honor WWII Veterans, Downtown Island Airport. contact: Sherri Hudson, (615) 948-0193, SherriHudson@ramusa.org
- JUN 16 American Legion Golf Tournament
- JUN 16 WWII, Korean & Vietnam War Veteran Honor Air Virtual Flight, Bridgewater Event Center, 9a – noon. Online application at <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/applications.html> or Contact Jan or Amber at 865-859-9279 for more information.
- JUN 21-23 Marine Corps League Dept of TN 37th Annual Convention
Hilton Knoxville Airport <https://www.mclknoxville.org/>
- 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. 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 20 50th Anniversary Celebration I.G. Brown Training and Education Center
- AUG 25 Post 2 American Legion Riders Memorial Fun Run, 5700 Old Rutledge Pike, 9am
- SEP 15 Marine Corps League Mud Run <https://www.mclknoxville.org/>
- SEP 28 GORUCK Heavy Challenge, Knoxville - Friday Sept. 28 @ 6pm. Sign up now: <http://bit.ly/2wbivFU>
- SEP 29 GORUCK Tough Challenge, Knoxville – Saturday Sept. 29 @ 9pm. Sign up now: <http://bit.ly/2vLsPVs>
- SEP 30 GORUCK Light Challenge, Knoxville – Sunday, Sept. 30 @ 2pm. Sign up now: <http://bit.ly/2vYMu8A>
- OCT 3 Honor Air flight #27. See details at <http://www.honorairknoxville.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.
- NOV 8 Veteran's Day Luncheon @ Marriott

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, May 3, 2018, 8:30am at the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce.

- President **Owen Ragland** presided over the meeting. A total number of 58 were present.
- Pledge of Allegiance: Led by President Owen Ragland
 - **Introduction of new Attendees:**
 - LaVonda Cantrell – Knoxville High Independent Senior Living
 - Kim Olen – Knoxville High Independent Senior Living
 - Emily Hager – Vet2Vet
 - Chris DeFranco – Tennova Healthcare, Hardship Hill to benefit Operation Enduring Warrior
 - CAPT Drew Ray
 - Brad Yowell
 - **Treasurer's Report: Owen Ragland** –
 - Started month with \$15,781 in bank.
 - Deposits of \$ 954 and expenses a little over \$ 712.
 - Finished up little over \$16,000 for the month.
- 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.
- Knoxville High Independent Senior Living – **Kim Olen** - <http://knoxville-high-independent-senior-living.business.site/> - Opened last Tuesday. LaVonda Cantrell is executive director of facility offering 80 independent living apartments. Very historical building. Inviting everyone to come out to see it. Ceremony of the statue to honor the WWI veterans will be held soon. Details will be sent to Patrice.
 - TN Veterans Business Associations Golf Tournament – **Steve Stilts** - <https://gotvba.com/events/second-annual-tvba-golf-tournament/> - TVBA is holding their 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.
 - CROSSFIT865 Fundraiser for LT Michael P. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Foundation – **Bonnie Harlow** - <https://crossfit865.com/calendar/> - CROSSFIT865 will hold The MURPH challenge <https://themurphchallenge.com/> which is the official annual fundraiser of the LT. Michael P. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Foundation. Funds for this year's challenge will be used to raise \$250,000+ for construction of the Lt. Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum/Sea Cadet Training Facility in Long Island NY. <https://murphsealmuseum.org/>
 - **President's Report – Owen Ragland** –
 - Looking for a webmaster.
 - Veteran Suicide Crisis Card's are available - 1-800-273-8255 press #1
 - Veteran's Day Event is in November and this is the year of the Air Force. MAJ GEN Stephen Clark is the guest speaker at the luncheon and the reviewing officer for the parade. Read his Bio <http://www.af.mil/About-Us/Biographies/Display/Article/108737/major-general-stephen-a-clark/>
 - **ETMAC Announcements: Patrice Collins**
 - Please pay dues online or bring check to Patrice at next meeting.
 - Thanks to Kim Spencer of Nalls Sherbakoff for the donuts this month.
 - Thanks to Frankie Ballew of Bethel University for providing refreshments last month.
 - June 9, RAM is holding their Salute to Service. Please plan to attend if possible.
 - 10 Volunteers needed on Memorial Day at 4:30am to help Joleen Dewald set up at the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Day celebration and reading of the names.
 - 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 Lee Hartley** – Hosted a McGhee Tyson aviation day. Handful of security forces came home. Had a great opportunity to support TN employers through ESGR program.
- 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment – **CW3 Brian Culberson** – unable to attend

- 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – **Lt Col Terrance Holmes** – SSgt Kitter is at NCO academy. Made our goals for the month of April. Didn't make goal last year but proud to be on target to meet goals for this fiscal year. 1st Sgt is leaving and new Msgt Jeff Whittaker is coming in next week. New recruiter SSGT Ian Heplinger coming in Sept. Motor speedway was a success. Upcoming Aid A Veteran festival on May 12. Unit having semi-annual training session, rare occasion entire squadron in one location at Arnold AFB and a new flight chief transferring in.
- 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** – Back from Arnold AFB in Tullahoma, TN for target training. Next drill at Ft. Knox to train for support of ARNG in Michigan.
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center – **Major John Capra** – 50th Anniversary on July 20. 270 students at NCO school. Will hit 8000 this year. Change in AF professional education so expecting to increase. Conference going on, active duty recruiters here now.
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) - *unable to attend*
- Military Entrance Processing Station – **LCDR Emily Wilson** – *nothing to report*
- Navy Operational Support Center – **LCDR Kevin Settle** – *nothing to report*
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – **Col Dent Young** – participated in DART (Disaster Assistance Response Team). In 2 weeks will have our bi-annual evaluation so will be busy preparing for that.
- USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – **Div CDR Ron Boneau** – patrols getting back on the water. Starting up public education classes. Inspecting recreation boats for right equipment. Coast Guard will be actively patrolling waterways. Will train the reservists on the patrols of our lakes and rivers.
- UT Air Force ROTC – **Lt Col Matt “Ocho” Castillo** – Cadets are in finals. Will work with 134th Air Refueling wing on refueling flights. This summer one cadet picked up for an internship and 2 picked up for language immersion. A number of cadets picked up to visit bases around US. 15 cadets will go to field training this summer.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- Air Force Association – **Paula Penson** – https://secure.afa.org/contact_links.asp?searchby=state&stabbr=TN&ent=chapter – 2 items. End of award season to teachers and cadets of the year. Teacher at Concord Christian church was awarded teacher of the year, chapter award and the state award. Recruited one person this month.
- American Legion – **Joleen DeWald** - legionknox.com - closed on new home for the Legion Post 2 at 5100 Old Rutledge Pike. Will work on cleaning up and preparing the land for construction and will begin a capital campaign to raise money for the building.
- American Red Cross – **Tom DeHoog** - <http://www.redcross.org/local/tennessee/local-chapters/east-tennessee> - *unable to attend*
- Ben Atchley Veteran's Home – **Doug Ottinger** – <http://www.tsvh.org/> - inspection deficiency free. Chief of Staff of Veteran Affairs Peter O'Rourke recent commented that he realizes that VA has issues and he knows about this facility and wants to come and see how your home is run so we can get ideas for the management of facilities across the nation.
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078 – **Rich Gill** <https://vva.org/chapter/vva-chapter-1078/> - I (Rich Gill) was elected chapter vice president and retired Colonel Gary Ellis is the new chapter president.
- Disabled Veterans – Chapter #24 – **Garrett Hanas** <https://www.dav.org/> - Department service officers averaging 25-30 veterans a day. Veteran, combat infantry finally got in to see service officer and going to get 100% disability. Continue to do great things to help disabled veterans in with needs.
- East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association - **Joleen DeWald** – <https://etvma.org/>– Reading of the names will take place on Memorial Day. We are looking for 10 volunteers at 4:30am to set up for this event. Should conclude by 1pm. Looking for use of pop up tents. Need more name readers. Can read as few names or as many as you want. Rain or shine event.
- East Tennessee Veterans Honor Guard – **Reid Gerhardt** - <https://www.facebook.com/East-Tennessee-Veterans-Honor-Guard-109780775701142/> - nothing to report
- 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/> - Expungement Clinic in Monroe county was held and processed 200 cases in 8 hours. 500 expungement cases successfully processed with help of UT law clinic. Now opening home hospice care and helping veterans to get modular ramps for those veterans in need with the help of Covenant Health in Blount County. Looking for donors. One ramp costs \$3500. It is ADA compliant and can be installed in rental properties. Want to recognize Freddie Owens' last request to recognize female veterans. Freddie J Owens Woman Veteran summit will be held at Redemption Church. Details will be sent out.
- ESGR – **Jack D'Araujo** <https://www.esgr.mil/> - over 34,000 guards and reserves on federal active duty. 6000 on state emergency duty and counter drug operations. May 17 will hold an orientation flight with rescue demonstration for about 24 employers. Yesterday launched a C17 and that group will be bussed out to Mohave desert to watch training. Col Hartley processed them all and gave them the royal treatment.
- Honor Air –**Joe Sutter** - <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/> - flight 26 was on April 11 and was very successful. Oct 3, flight # 27. Virtual flight will be on June 16 at Bridgewater Event center. Still time to sign up online at <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/applications.html> Starts at 9am and last about 3 hours and a family member can attend.
Ed Junod will hold a free luncheon for Korean War Vets on June 25th 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> – unemployment rate up to 2.9%. Veterans at 2.5%. overall statewide is at 3.4%. May 15 will hold job fair at Blount County library 9a - noon. May 23 at the Knox County Career Center 10-noon, and June 2, 10am-noon. Veteran hiring fair will be held on May 10 at Title Max on Kingston Pike.
- Knox County Veteran Services Office – **Tom Humphries** <https://www.knoxcounty.org/veterans/> - *nothing to report*
- Knoxville Vet Center –**Emily Feedback** – *unable to attend*
- Marine Corps League – **Eric Nash** <http://www.mclknox.org/> - Saturday May 12, Bill Gerst M-1/M-1A Rifle Match, 2327 Rifle Range Road, 7a – 1p. \$20. Will have rifles available for use and purchase, must buy ammo.
- Mountain Man Memorial March- **Joleen Dewald** –<http://mountainmanmemorialmarch.com/> - thanks to all who volunteered, supported with food, donations and helped. Course record set less than 5 hours. Next year date last weekend, Friday – Saturday, April 26 & 27, 2019. Will start in January preparing for the event.
- MOWW – **Bill Grieve** <http://mowwregionv.org/posts.html> –Meet every 2nd Wed of month at Rothchild's at 11am - 1. Lt. Col Charles F. Brakeville, AF Retired will talk about his military career and Omaha Beach. Was also in the Army. VP emeritus of UT Foundation. ROA reserve officer association completed state department meeting and preparing for national meeting at Omaha, Nebraska. Actively presenting ROTC and JROTC awards and will continue for the next couple of weeks.
- Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing – **Dan Moneymaker** <http://www.projecthealingwaters.org/> - *unable to attend*
- REBOOT – **Rick Garner reported out for Mike Simpson** – There will be a summer hiatus. The exact date not yet set for the session starting in FALL. 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.rollingthundertn3.com/index.php/about-tn3/> - *unable to attend.*
- STAR – Horses & Heros Program – **Cathy Dolson** - <https://www.rideatstar.org/heroes--horses.html> - Spring session started on March 6 and is going well. We are working with spouses and caregivers of the yellow ribbon program. Wounded warriors facing various issues can benefit from this fully funded program, free to participants.
- Veteran Appreciation Program- **Larry Sharp** –<http://www.veteransappreciationprogram.com/> - *unable to attend*

- Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – **Patty McGrew** –<http://veteransheritagesite.org/> - Meet 4th Wed at the Red Cross office at 6:30. Big fundraiser on May 19, Veteran Heritage trail run and walk at 9am at Sharp's Ridge. Fliers on back about Volunteers needed for lots of positions. Sign up at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/Events/TN/Knoxville/TheVeteransHeritageRidgeRun5K>
Volunteers needed this Saturday for clean up on May 5 at Sharps ridge park.
- 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/> - *unable to attend*
- Hardship Hill Obstacle Course Race - <https://www.visitknoxville.com/event/hardship-hill-obstacle-course-race/8079/> – **Chris DeFranco** - part of an organization called F3 – Fellowship Fun and Faith. How we can help out Veterans? Operation Enduring Warrior to hold a Team obstacle course race at Ft. Southwest Point Park in Kingston. Registration is still open until May 10. Volunteers needed. Contact: Chris (865) 386-0411
- Frankie Bellew of Bethel University. WBIR recognized May as Military appreciation month. There are new guidelines for TN reconnect which offers free tuition for adults in Tennessee without degree. See eligibility requirements: <https://www.tnreconnect.gov/>

Next meeting: Thursday, June 7, 2018
@ Knoxville Chamber of Commerce

For input or corrections, contact:



Bonnie Harlow
(865) 406-4237
Secretary

www.ETMAC.org
East Tennessee Military Affairs Council

