



November 3, 2022 – Meeting Minutes
Meeting Location: Knoxville Chamber
65 Attendees

Upcoming Events

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

- 1st Sat Free Breakfast for Veterans & Guests at the Elks Club #160 5600 Lonas Rd, Knoxville – 8:00 - 9:30am
- 2nd Sat Free Breakfast for Veterans & Guests at:
- Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 1615 Price Ave, Knoxville - 8:00-9:30am.
 - Kodak UMC 2923 Bryan Rd Kodak - 8-9:30am
- 3rd Sat Free Breakfast for Veterans & Guests at the Community Center in Powell, 1708 W. Emory Rd, Powell - 8:00-10:00am
- Last Sat: Free Breakfast for Veterans & Guests 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 Tuesday Project Healing Waters meets at Central Bearden Baptist Church 6300 Deane Hill Dr Knoxville from 1800-2000
- 12 NOV Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Holiday Food Drive 8-10am at Walmart 1997 Buffalo Tr Morristown and from 12:30 until 3pm at Walmart 4331 W Andrew Jackson, Morristown
- 13 NOV War Dog March at Pellissippi State's Hardin Valley Campus. Details at <https://veteransheritagesite.org> or Marilyn Childress at 678/920-1989 president@veteransheritagesite.org
- 19 NOV Headstone cleaning at the Knox National Cemetery. At 10am Details contact Chris Bryant 865/659-1001
- 19 NOV Volunteer Appreciation Fishing Outing for Project Healing Waters 0900-1600 joe.noe@projecthealingwaters.org for details.

- 19 NOV The Hike Back at the Capital Theater in Maryville from 6pm until 9pm. Details <https://eventbrite.com/e/434611714337>
- 16 DEC Southeast Veteran Ball 2021 Main St, Niota from 6pm until midnight. Contact daryl.e.jackson12.mil@army.mil for details.

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

ETMAC BUSINESS SESSION

Treasurer's Report: Derren Burrell

<i>Beginning Balance</i>	\$22,532.77
<i>Deposits</i>	7,329.05
<i>Expenses</i>	1,130.00
<i>Ending Balance</i>	\$28,731.82

- **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 – Nominating committee has been established for officers for the coming year. If you are interested, or would like to nominate someone, let the committee know. Tom Humphries, Owen Ragland and Geoff Freeman are on the committee. There are 3 At Large Director positions available, as well as the Treasurer position. There are 52 days until Christmas.
- Webmaster's Report – Dent Young – 590 visitors 20 from Russia, the Philippines and China. Veterans Luncheon and Veterans Services were most popular pages
- Other ETMAC Announcements - Patrice Collins –9 November will be the Veterans Appreciation and Awards Luncheon at the Airport Hilton. Lt Gen Larry Nicholson will be the keynote speaker. Thank you for the nominations from the unit commanders. Please bring an unwrapped toy for the USMC Toys for Tots program.
- Veterans Day Parade – Friday 11 Nov at 10:30 am on Gay Street.
- Nancy Welch– Knoxville CAC/VAT. They are able to transport veterans to places they need to go. They can also transport groups.

First Time Attendees

- **Gary Phillips with the TN State Guard**
- **Jared Godar**
- **LtCol Chad Morgan with the 134th ARW**
- **Mark Goodman with TNARNG Recruiting and Retention**
- **Tiffany Walker**
- **John Jeffries**
- **Nancy Welch**
- **Cindi King**

MILITARY UNIT UPDATES

- 3rd Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard – LTC Joseph Westfall-They will be participating in Wreaths Across America in Johnson City.
- 1-100th Engineer Battalion – MAJ Matt Marshall – *unable to attend*
- 119th Cyberspace Operations Squadron – Maj Willie Posey – Speaking at local high schools looking for potential candidates.
- 1-230 Assault Helicopter Battalion – CPT Hulon Holmes – Helping out with local needs, fighting fires and rescues in the Smokies. Two educator flights are coming up this month to help with recruiting. First spouse flight coming up.
- 134th Air Refueling Wing – Lt Col Travers Hurst – Troops home from deployment. Hosted Gov Lee at the base. Participated in the 72-hour continuous operation of the KC 135.
- 278th Armored Cavalry Unit – CW3 Brian Culberson – new leadership at the unit. 300 soldiers helped with the hurricane. Other troops in motion for training.
- 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – LT Col Bryan Ewing – *unable to attend*
- 489th Civil Affairs Battalion – CPT Jacqueline Bradford – *unable to attend*
- 844th Engineering Battalion - CAPT Andrew Turner – Troops in motion. Helping ROTC with weapons training. Dining out in December. Contact CAPT Turner for details.
- D Co 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – Capt Shawn Balent – Gearing up for Toys for Tots. They will have a box at the Veterans Luncheon. They are looking for businesses to host boxes and for volunteers. You can get more details on drop off locations on their website. Providing Color Guard for Luncheon. 250 people coming to their Ball.
- Coast Guard Recruiting – ME1 Steven Bradshear – *unable to attend*
- Coast Guard Auxiliary – Kevin Lindsay – *unable to attend*
- ETSU Army ROTC. – 1LT Andrew J. Sepulveda – *unable to attend*
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center – Chaplain Derrick Wakefield – Air Leadership school currently.
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) – 1LT James Jonatchick – no report.
- Military Entrance Processing Station – 1SG Paul Lovelace – They need at least one additional staff after the new year, if you have anyone in your unit that has availability. They don't have funding to pay for them.
- National Guard Recruiting and Retention BN – 1LT Daryl Jackson - no report
- Naval Reserve Center Knoxville – CDR Trier Kissell – no report
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – Col Dent Young – no report
- UT Air Force ROTC – Lt Col Tony Estep – Detachment 800 partnered w/134th ANG for the F-35 flyover for the UTK football game; we hosted the aircrew former Det. 800 alum Brad "Dirt" Matherne and Johnathan "Rev" Hassell. Approximately, 60 cadets and cadre members toured the F-35 to learn more about America's newest 5th generation aircraft. 4 Nov, Det. 800 hosted the 2022 Combat Dinning-In ceremony at Island Home Airport in Knoxville. 7-12 Nov, Det. 800 cadets participated in all UTK Veterans Week Events on campus (Veterans Dinner, 5v5 ARMY ROTC vs. AFROTC basketball game, Veterans Day Joint ROTC Fun Run, and Contracting Ceremony during UTK vs. Mizzou football game

- UT Army ROTC – LTC Justin Howe – Class of 2027 has more applicants than any other civilian college. FTX was held last of October in Catoosa GA. Lots of activities on campus over the Veterans Day week. 10 November change of command for the detachment. 2 December weapons training. 16 December 7 are commissioning. Branching results are coming out soon.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- Air and Space Force Association – Joe Sutter – Thank you to the 134th for hosting the 75th anniversary of the Air Force. 200 attended. 17 November will be at the STEM fair at Prospect Elementary. Information on Star Base is upcoming.
- Air Force Sargent's Association – Jamie Prince – *unable to attend*
- American Job Center / State of TN Department of Labor – Rich Meadows – Continuing to host job fairs. They provide two areas of service; they also work with individual veterans to help them get the skills they need to become employed. They have resources that are not being utilized. 2.5% unemployment rate in Knox County currently. Many more jobs than applicants.
- American Legion Post 2 – You can register for the Veteran's Day Parade at www.legionknox.org. This will be the first full parade in 3 years. Will be operating a concession stand at last home game against Missouri in Neyland Stadium to raise money for new building.
- American Red Cross – Nothing to report
- Ben Atchley Veteran's Home – Doug Ottinger – They have staff openings.
- Bunker Labs – Derren Burrell – no report
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078- Pat Polis –. Adding 1000 graves each year at the cemetery on John Sevier. Working to cover all graves with a wreath again this year. Opportunities around town to donate. Will be participating in the parade this year.
- Y12 Serving Our Service Members (SOS) – Bonnie Harlow– *unable to attend*
- Caris Health Care – Brenda Palmatier *unable to attend*
- Covenant Health Military Recognition Program – Cindy Winterberger – *unable to attend*
- Disabled Veterans Chapter #24 – Dave Swanson – *unable to attend*
- East Tennessee Veteran's Honor Guard – Matt Barrick – Operation Honor Guard was held on 12 Oct. 97% of monies received goes back into the Honor Guards to purchase uniforms, vans, and other items.
- East Tennessee Veteran's Memorial Association - Joleen Dewald – *unable to attend*
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) - Jim Mungenast / Leslie Purser – Met this month with different leadership groups within the Guard. We are available to provide briefings to all units.
- Female Veterans of Est TN – Bonnie Bonner – *unable to attend*
- Frontline Gardens – Stephanie Trost – *unable to attend*
- Honor Air - Joe Sutter – Flight 31 was a great success. Flight 32 will be 12 April 2023.
- Irreverent Warriors – John Shawhan – *unable to attend*
- James H Quillen VA Medical Center – Billy Key – refer any vets you know to them for services. They can help with medical issues and are increasing their outreach staff.
- Knights of Columbus, Monsignor Francis D. Grady Assembly 1083 – Jeff Brown – *unable to attend*
- Knoxville Habitat for Heroes – Rick Garner – *unable to attend*
- Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council – Cindy Winterberger *unable to attend*

- Knox County Veteran Services Office – Tom Humphries – nothing to report
- Knoxville Vet Center – Lyle Allen – available to provide training for the units. Mobile Vet Center can be used for local events. Multi-use including internet availability.
- Lost Vets Rescue – Alvin Wagner – *unable to attend*
- Marine Corps League – Ken DeBoer - Meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month. They will be participating in the parade. 5 November will be the Marine Corp Ball. Honorarium for Lt Alexander Bonnyman will be 19 November.
- 194 Fleet Reserve Association – Eric Nash - *unable to attend*
- Military Order of the Purple Hearts Chapter 356- Thomas Booker – *unable to attend*
- MOAA – Bill Potter - *unable to attend*
- Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW)/ Reserve Officers Assoc.– Bill Grieve – no report
- Mountain Man Memorial March – Justin Howe – Website will be updated soon, and registration will open middle of November. Discounts offered for registration prior to Thanksgiving. The event will be held on 21-22 April 2023.
- Navy League – Joe Holloway – *unable to attend*
- ORNL Veterans Group – John Gearhart – Participating in the Veterans lunch and hosting 4 veterans at a Freedom Award recognition on Friday with keynote remarks by VADM Ross Myers, USN(Ret). Eddie Mannis and Jim Mungenast will be attending. This will be a tribute to Honor Air Knoxville.
- Pets for Vets – Heinz Lauer – *unable to attend*
- Rolling Thunder – Carlos Hollifield – *unable to attend*
- STAR – Horses & Heroes Program – Chelsea Taylor – *unable to attend*
- TN Department of Veteran Services – Knoxville Field Office – Mary Deel – Have QR codes available that will direct individuals to their website.
- Team RWB - Christian Koshaba – *unable to attend.*
- Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network – Emily Hager- *unable to attend*
- United Veterans Council – Natalie Donahue – Would like to present to local businesses about Wreaths Across America
- UT Army ROTC Alumni Council - Geoff Freeman – Conducting 8 honorees into the Hall of Fame, including Larry Taylor.
- Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – Marilyn Childress – 13 Nov is the War Dog March at Pellissippi State' main campus on Hardin Valley. Proceeds will go the Military Dog Memorial that is being build, and to the Memorial site being constructed next to the Veteran's Cemetery on John Sevier. 18 Dec beginning ceremony for the placing of wreaths. They have 68 veteran sites to place wreaths on across the area, and they need assistance to place all of them. There are 120 Revolutionary War veteran graves in Blount County. Contact Marilyn if interested in helping with the wreaths. The DAR has scholarship opportunities. Again, contact Marilyn for details.
- Veterans Mental Health Council – Cindy Winterberger – *unable to attend*
- VFW Post 5154 in Maryville – Neal Whetsel – Damage done to their facility in a storm, in the process of rebuilding. They are open during construction. Thank you to the Guard for helping in the cleanup process.
- Volunteers for Veterans - Noah Rempfer – *unable to attend*
- Volunteers of America – Amanda Millsaps- Have taken 74 veterans into their program this fiscal year. They help homeless veterans in 24 counties.

Next ETMAC meeting is Thursday, Dec 1 at the Knoxville Chamber or by Zoom...we will let you know.

Any 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)

Jim Mungenast, Vice President C: 865/386-5859 [email: bamaforce@aol.com](mailto:bamaforce@aol.com)

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Patrice Collins, Board Member & ETMAC Administrator: 865-806-4487 - cell [email: pcollins@knoxvillechamber.com](mailto:pcollins@knoxvillechamber.com)

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Patti McGrew, At Large Director C: 865/335-6423 [email: patty.mcgreg@veteransheritagesite.org](mailto:patty.mcgreg@veteransheritagesite.org)

Lyle Allen, At Large Director C: 423/631-2048 W: 865/633-0000 x 4407

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> or www.jobs4tn.gov

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/>

Lost Vets Rescue alshsc@gmail.com 757/817-7869 www.thelostvets.com

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 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/>

Navy League – Joe Holloway 865/320-5093 CTR1USN@gmail.com

Pets for Vets – Heinz Lauer ceclauer@gmail.com or 865/888-2754

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://tvchomeless.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>

Volunteers for Veterans - Noah Rempfer nempfer@vols.utk.edu 434/6650679

Volunteer State Honor Guard <http://www.milhonors.com>

Y12 Servicing our Service Members (SOS) <https://www.y12.doe.gov/> Bonnie Harlow (865) 406-4237 bonnie.harlow@pxy12.doe.gov and Christine Shawhan (865) 410-4815 christine.shawhan@pxy12.doe.gov