



## EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

### **OCTOBER 6, 2011 MEETING SUMMARY**

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- OCTOBER 21      Kerbela Shrine Circus “Honor Our Troops” Night. Free admission to all Active Duty and Reserve Soldiers and their families. More information will be provided at a later date.
- OCTOBER 28      Dedication Ceremony at new East TN Veterans Cemetery at 10:30 am
- NOVEMBER 3      Knoxville Veteran Stand Down
- NOVEMBER 11     Veterans Day Parade & Veterans Day Luncheon
- DECEMBER 10     “Wreaths Across America” placement of wreaths on Veterans graves. More info to follow in the future.

**STAY CURRENT:      [WWW.ETMAC.ORG](http://WWW.ETMAC.ORG)**

#### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at the Knoxville Chamber, ETMAC Vice-President Barry Allen presiding. A total of 62 members and guests were present. The September meeting summary was approved as written. The treasurer’s report shows a current balance of \$14,121.12.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **ETMAC Webpage (Laimon Godel):** For the month of September there were 1,193 visitors averaging 39 visits a day. Please send anything to be added to the calendar to [webmaster@godel.com](mailto:webmaster@godel.com)
- The 2011 ETMAC Veterans Day Luncheon and Awards Program will be held at the Knoxville Convention Center on November 11. The change was due to being overcrowded at the Foundry. The price for the luncheon will be \$27. Currently there are 531 reservations to attend. The featured speaker will be Brigadier General Gill Beck. Go to [http://www.etmac.org/html/vet\\_luncheon.htm](http://www.etmac.org/html/vet_luncheon.htm) to reserve your seat or table
- The American Legion Post 2 will be sponsoring the 2011 Knoxville Veterans Day Parade. The parade will be held on November 11 and starts at 10:45 am in Downtown Knoxville. The Grand Marshall’s for the parade will be Eddie Mannis and Sam Hardman. The route has not been finalized. To participate, complete application at [legionknox.org](http://legionknox.org)
- Motion made for a resolution of support of naming street in Honor of Brigadier General Walter J. “Bud” Bacon II by Joe Sutter and seconded by David Rutherford. Motion Passed Unanimously.
- **4-H Youth Development (Carrera Romanini):** Recently completed shooting day camp to let kids of military families shoot. A couple of events coming up are on November 18, at McGhee Tyson Airbase and December 3, kids will come in and make Christmas presents. For more info call 974-9724

- **Kerbel Shriners Circus (Chris Porter):** They will be having a “Salute the Troops” night on October 21, at 7:00 pm. Any military and their families can attend free of charge with a ticket. For more info call 573-1901.

### SENIOR ROTC UNITS

- **UT Air Force ROTC (LTC Brian Delamater):** On October 28, they will be having their annual “Dining Out”. The guest speaker for the Dining Out is Brigadier General Stephen Clark, who was commissioned in 1986 through the Air Force ROTC program at UT. On November 1, there will be a Air Force ROTC and Army ROTC Flag Football game. Everyone is invited.
- **UT Army ROTC (LTC Danny Kelley):** The ROTC programs are moving to a new location on the UT campus. A flag football game will decide which floor each ROTC program will get. This game will be held on the intramural fields starting at 4:30 pm on November 1.

### MILITARY UNIT ACTIVITY

- **US Army Recruiting Company (CPT Scott Glidden):** Currently about 3 weeks into the new budget year. The Army is shifting focus from active duty to assisting the Reserves.
- **Military Entrance Processing Station (CPT Jackson):** The date for the move to the Federal Building is still unknown. For fiscal year 2011, they have had over 2,400 ship out.
- **119<sup>th</sup> Command and Control (COL Dave Evans):** The Group Status Change is now on hold until the budget is completed. The 228<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron has merged with the 119<sup>th</sup> as of October 1. Recently got funded to install a power generation station. Their 250 troops completed 17,000 man hours in the past year. They also put about \$12.5 million into the local community in the past year. They continue to raise money for HonorAir Knoxville.
- **134<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing (CPT Joey Keith):** Recently held a base cookout and thanked the American Red Cross and the ETMA Credit Union. Hosted Senior Staff members from Nashville. They have men and women deployed all year round. They have a couple of Command Chiefs retiring in November.
- **1/230 Air Cavalry Squadron (MAJ Melvin Clawson):** In the last year they had 3,262 flight hours executed out of McGhee Tyson airbase. They had an OR Rate of 82%. The Air Ambulance unit is heading to Afghanistan in January. The fishing tournament went well and they raised over \$4,000.
- **278<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment (MAJ Steven Turner):** Have been conducting reset with its equipment since the last deployment. A couple Change of Commands coming up. The regiment is at 100% strength. They have conducted a few exercises for a 24-48 hour mobilization. During Hurricane Irene they mobilized 2,000.
- **489<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion (MAJ James Rivenbark):** Most of the 489<sup>th</sup> is in Afghanistan. They are beginning to rotate for 15 days of leave. Captain David Christopher recently returned from Iraq on October 7<sup>th</sup>. The unit invited the public to come to the airport to welcome him home.
- **844<sup>th</sup> Engineering Battalion (MAJ Al Floyd):** Recently gained the 758<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company out of Florida as their battalion has deployed. Recently attended the Commanders Readiness Workshop in Montgomery, AL. The unit took first place for each of the three Iron Castle awards that were offered at this workshop. The unit won both the Commanding General’s award and the Command Sergeant’s award.
- **Co D, 4<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer Battalion (Laimon Godel):** Fallen Marine LCpl Frankie Watson was brought home to thousands of people showing their support. Thanks to all the units that participated. The Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held on October 22. Tickets still remain and can be picked up at the Reserve Center.
- **I.G. Brown Training and Education Center (COL Timothy Cathcart):** FY 2011 they had approx. 3000 students attend a variety of programs. Received \$3 million to refresh television production and satellite broadcast equipment.

## MILITARY AND VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

- **Civil Air Patrol (LtCol Dent Young):** Completed two exercises in September.
- **East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association (Joleen Dewald):** They will not be having a Veterans Day event this year at the Memorial due to the parade and luncheon. Will be announcing the honoree for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Medal of Honor Dinner in a few weeks. The dinner will be held on May 7, 2012.
- **Honor Air (Joe Sutter):** HonorAir Flight #11 was on October 5<sup>th</sup>. There was 129 WWII and Korean War Veterans on the flight. HonorAir Flight #12 will be on April 18. To support Honor Air Knoxville, please go to <http://www.honorairknoxville.com/>.
- **Ben Atchley State Veterans Home (Doug Ottinger):** One resident participated in the recent HonorAir Knoxville flight. Several residents attended the Navy Ball. Currently they are near capacity. Visit their homepage at <http://www.tsvh.org/knoxville/index.html>. They are always looking for organizations to spend time with the residents. If you're interested, please call 862-8100.
- **American Red Cross Blount County (Jerry Bennett):** Recently supported a cookout at the base. Any units with Christmas parties coming up please contact Jerry if you would like the Red Cross to support them. They also have two Nursing Assistant Scholarships available.
- **American Red Cross Knox County (Janice Campbell):** Currently has a SAF grant that is good through June of 2012 for Yellow Ribbons, Welcome Home events, family days and other events. They also provide bus tickets to veteran's hospitals in Johnson City, Nashville, and Murfreesboro.
- **Knox County Veterans Affairs Office (Richard Julian):** There are many health issues associated with Agent Orange. If you know any Vietnam Veterans, have them visit the office. They are located at 1000 North Central Street in Knoxville. Their number is 865-215-5645.
- **Blount County Veterans Affairs Office (Nathan Weinbaum):** The Blount County Veterans Day program will start at 10:45 am inside the Old Courthouse in Downtown Maryville located at 305 Court Street in Maryville. Their office number is 273-5760.
- **American Legion (Bob Dewald):** Post 2 has grown in the past year by 100 members. Recently member Chuck Jones had a street named after him and member Steve Sword has become a local judge. The American Legion offers many great programs including the oratorical program. The building at Post 2 is in need of repairs and they will be having a post garage sale on October 15 at the Harley Davidson on Clinton Hwy. The 844<sup>th</sup> will also be helping with some repairs at the building since this gives the unit's members valuable training. American Legion Riders raised \$1300 for HonorAir Knoxville. The auxiliary recently held a kids day.
- **Marine Corps League (Laimon Godel):** Sponsoring the 236<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Birthday Luncheon on November 10<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 til 2:00 pm. For tickets go to [www.mclknox.org](http://www.mclknox.org). Recently held the annual Marine Mud Run and had over 1,500 runners. Certified Public Accountant is offering 5 hours of free consultation to Veterans who served on active duty and looking to start a business.
- **Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs (Don Smith):** The new Veterans Cemetery has now buried over 30 new burials. The Official Dedication Ceremony for the new Veterans Cemetery will be on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. Everyone is invited.
- **Tom DeHoog:** Reported that the VA Clinic in Knoxville has changed its phone system so you can talk directly to your dedicated team.
- **The Military Order of the World Wars (Joe Eddlemon):** They meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at Rothchild's. Lunch is \$12 and begins at 11:00 am and the meeting starts at 12:00 noon.
- **The Congressional Medal of Honor Society (Chris Coyne):** A search committee is trying to bring the 2014 National Convention to Knoxville.
- **Woodmen of the World (Rochelle Cordova):** Two upcoming Veteran appreciation ceremonies.
  - November 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 at Carter Senior Center (lunch and flag retirement)
  - November 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 at the South Senior Center (lunch and flag pole dedication and flag retirement)

**\*\*\*\*\* Next Meeting: Thursday, November 3rd at the Knoxville Chamber – 8:30 am**

Respectfully Submitted,

Nathan Weinbaum, Secretary  
East Tennessee Military Affairs Council  
[nweinbaum@blounttn.org](mailto:nweinbaum@blounttn.org)