



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL

September 5, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Every WED Combat Coffee Hour (Black Rifle Coffee Company <https://www.blackriflecoffee.com/>) for all Veterans, 7:30-8:30am at the Knoxville Vet Center, 1645 Downtown West Blvd #28
- SEP 11 2019 Knoxville 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb and Walk. 7am at World's Fair Park. Register at www.knoxvillestairclimb.com
- SEP 20 Rolling Thunder POW/MIA National Recognition Day at the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial located at World's Fair Park. The event is at 6:30pm.
- SEP 24 S.A.V.E. VA Suicide Prevention Training 1645 Downtown West Blvd #28 from 5pm until 7pm. Reservations by calling 865/633-0000.
- SEP 29 American Legion Riders Post 104 Poker Run Ride for the Troops to benefit Heroes and Horses. Beginning and ending at 3312 Tipton Station Rd. Knoxville, 37922 Tickets at www.rideatstar.org.
- SEP 28 Marine Core League Mud Run at Melton Hill Park <https://www.mclknoxville.org/>
- OCT 4-6 Saving Families Marriage Retreat for Military and First Responders. The fee is \$300 to cover lodging and meals. Registration may be submitted online at <http://servingmarriages.com/retreats.htm>
- OCT 19 Vietnam Veterans of America #1078 Veteran's Picnic at Chilhowee Park. <https://vva.org/chapter/vva-chapter-1078/>
- OCT 19 2019 Navy Ball Celebrating 245 Years. Hilton Knoxville Airport 2001 Alcoa Hwy, Alcoa. Social Hour at 1800, Dinner at 1930. Tickets at <http://ezregister.com/events/27961> Formal attire.
- OCT 25 ETVMA Annual Sporting Clays Shootout at Chilhowee Sportsman's Club. Details at www.etvma.org.
- NOV 8 37th Annual Veteran's Appreciation and Awards Luncheon at 11:30am at Hotel Knoxville. <https://www.etmac.org> for tickets.
- NOV 11 Annual Veterans Day Parade sponsored by American Legion Post 2 and City of Knoxville. <http://legionknox.com/veterans-day-parade-lineup/veterans-day-parade/>

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

We are changing the format of the monthly minutes. All organization contact information will be in a list at the end of the minutes. We hope you will find having the information in one place will be beneficial to you, and hope you find the minutes easier to read.

ETMAC BUSINESS SESSION

- **Welcome and Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting of the East Tennessee Military Affairs Council was held on Thursday, **September 5, 2019**, 8:30am at the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce. President **Owen Ragland** presided over the meeting. A total number of **80** were present.

- **Introduction of new Attendees:**
 - Gene Sievers with CNS Y-12
 - Steve Payne with CNS Y-12
 - James Uptgraft with CNS Y-12
 - CDR Roman L McCoy with NOSC
 - Sgt Clarence Forster with IG Brown TEC

- **President's Report – Owen Ragland-** The Veterans Luncheon will be held on Friday, November 8th at Hotel Knoxville. This year we will celebrate the Army. The parade will be on the following Monday, Nov. 11. Please give nominees for the Sam Hardeman award to Owen or Patrice within the week. Owen also gave information on the new Veteran's Memorial Park being considered on the bluff overlooking the Veteran's Cemetery on John Sevier Hwy. There is a committee working on the project and further information will be forthcoming.

- **Webmaster's Report - Col Dent Young-** Last month our website had 800 visitors last month. Most visitors were from the US. 224 home page and lunch 228 for the luncheon page

- **Treasurer's Report: Derren Burrell –**

Beginning Balance	\$17,772.76
Deposits	\$ 843.99
Expenses	\$275.81
Ending Balance	\$18,340.94

- Membership dues may be paid online
<https://www.etmac.org/resources/etmacresources/membership-application/> or bring check to Patrice Collins at the next meeting. Donations are also appreciated.

- **Other ETMAC Announcements - Patrice Collins –**Patrice requested nominations for the Veteran's Luncheon awards be submitted by the end of the month.

- Amanda Casteel gave a report on a study she is doing on military mental health in Tennessee. Any help will be welcomed. You can reach her through Justin Howe at the Army ROTC unit at the University of Tennessee.

- CDR Roman McCoy gave an update on the Navy Ball. Details can be found above in the event section.

- Cindy Winterberger – Social worker with Convent home health. They also provide care for homeless veterans coming out of the hospital. She is working with local schools to have children write letters to veterans and they will be given to the patients they care for.

MILITARY UNIT UPDATES

- 3rd Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard – **MAJ Joseph Westfall**- Tennessee Public Safety Inoperability Exercise. On standby with SC for the same.
- 119th Cyberspace Operations Squadron –**Col Chris Smith** – Cyber Tabletop Exercise with units across the state to discuss what to do in the event of a cyber security issue in the state. Also are working on maintaining the integrity of the upcoming election.
- 1-230 Assault Helicopter Battalion – **CPT Philip Webster** – On call for hurricanes. Currently 9 tropical depressions that have the potential to become hurricanes. Rescued an individual from Abrams Falls over the Labor Day Weekend.
- 134th Air Refueling Wing –**Lt Col Travers Hurst** - Preparing for troops in motion. Hosting displaced aircraft.
- 241st Engineering & Installation Squadron (Chattanooga) **Lt Col Dave Moss** – Also participating in Tabletop Exercise. Preparing for troops in motion.
- 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment – **COL Brad Bowlin**. Just returned from National Gard Association meeting in Denver. Wrapped up Yellow Ribbon events for East Tennessee and had some distinguished guests attending. Still on Sutherland and still hiring.
- 332nd Air Force Recruiting Squadron – **MSgt Brandon Carver**– Exceeded all goals for the fiscal year by 45%. More recruits than spots for them at the moment. Appreciate all the referrals from ETMAC.
- 489th Civil Affairs Battalion- **MAJ BW Osten** – Have sent support to Florida in the way of veterinarians.
- 844th Engineering Battalion – **MAJ Justin Belford** – Sent group to Texas. All groups sent to training performed well. Dining Out will be on December 7.
- Coast Guard Recruiting – East TN Region – **BM1 Michael Mahoney** - unable to attend
- Co D 4th Combat Engineer Battalion – **Captain Cullen Tores**- Finished rifle training in Oak Ridge. Family day September 14. Toys for Tots will be gearing up soon.
- I.G. Brown Training and Education Center –**Lt Col Bradley Green**- Business as usual with training. Undergoing major organizational changes.
- Knoxville Recruiting Company (Army) – **CPT Patrick Conner** – unable to attend
- Military Entrance Processing Station – **CPT Taylr Hill** – Paris Island not accepting new recruits currently.
- Navy Operational Support Center – **CDR Kevin Settle**- last meeting and moving to Norfolk. Change of command 15 Sept. Drill weekend Sept 14-15.
- Navy Recruiting – Talent Acquisition Onboarding Center – **HM2 Josh Dixon**- unable to attend
- Tennessee Wing, Civil Air Patrol – **Col Dent Young** –. No report.
- USCG Auxiliary Division 12 – **Div. CDR Ron Boneau** unable to attend.
- UT Air Force ROTC – **Lt Col Matt “Ocho” Castillo** – 94 cadets this fall. Formalizing an alumni organization for AFROTC for UT.

- UT Army ROTC – LTC Justin Howe –Working with Amanda Casteel on her project. 6 commissioned in August. Taking 8 cadets to DC in October to run the Army 10-mile race. 14-17 November field training for the fall semester. Commissioning for winter will be 13 Dec at the Student Center on campus.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS UPDATES

- Air Force Association -Paula Penson – Annual Golf Tournament on Columbus Day at Egwani Farm. Details to follow.
- American Job Center / State of TN Department of Labor - Chan Whitfield -Unemployment rate very low, lower for veterans than the rest of the population.
- American Legion – Joleen Dewald – Legion Act signed. Now covers veterans from 1942 until present. Groundbreaking in November for new center. Parade on Monday November 11. New website, www.legionknox.com.
- American Red Cross – Tom DeHoog – 117 shelters operating currently in Florida, housing 5703 individuals. Desperate need for all types of blood.
- Ben Atchley Veteran’s Home – Doug Ottinger –5 empty beds. Just broke ground on new Veterans Home in Cleveland. Should open in 2 years.
- Bunker Labs- Derren Burrell – purpose is to help veterans start new businesses. Networking event on 25 Sept beginning at 4pm at Pour Taproom.
- Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078 –Gary Ellis- Meet 2nd Tuesday evening. Veterans Picnic will be on Oct 19 at Chilhowee Park. Hoping to have 1000 attendees this year. Open to all veterans and guests. Fried chicken and hotdogs will be served. Feel free to bring a side dish to share.
- Whit Whitworth also spoke about the VVA Chapter in Morristown. They cover 7 counties and provide flags in all classrooms for the 88 schools in their counties.
- Disabled Veterans Chapter #24 -Garrett Hanas – Have received a lot of wheelchairs, but still need power ones. Attended DAV National Convention in Orlando. Fill a box for “Christmas in a Box” program. They will send to units deployed over the holidays. Several drop off points.
- East Tennessee Veteran’s Honor Guard- Jim Mungenast- Have done 400 funerals this year. Always looking for additional people to help with this service.
- East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association- Joleen Dewald –Clay shoot coming up. Details in event section. Medal of Honor dinner coming up on 4 May.
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) – Jim Mungenast – Attended the award ceremony for Cracker Barrel in DC. 1 October is beginning date for nominations for Freedom Award. Will be attending National SHRM Conference to spread word about USERRA law. Leslie Purser also requested units to participate in a boss lift. Much thanks to the 134th and the 1-230th for the trips they have provided, but they would like other units to have a part in this important event.
- Honor Air - Joe Sutter – unable to attend - Next flight is 2 Oct.
- Knoxville Habitat for Heroes – Rick Garner - unable to attend.

- Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council – **Emily Hager** – September is suicide awareness month. On 10 September, Suicide Prevention Day, Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs will be signing a proclamation at Concord Methodist Church in Farragut. Women’s Veterans Summit will be on 3 October. This event is to encourage and motivate women veterans. Transportation will be available for anyone needing it. Please spread the word to help get people to the event.
- Knox County Veteran Services Office – **Tom Humphries** – nothing to report.
- Knoxville Vet Center – **Lyle Allen** – Changes within the Vet Center to provide more services. Suicide prevention training will be held monthly with the first one 24 Sept from 5-7.
- Marine Corps League – **Eric Nash** - Mud Run will be on 28 September at Melton Hill Park. Funds raised will be given to charity.
- Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) – **Bill Potter** – Meet with MOWW each month.
- Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) – **Bill Grieve** – Meets 2nd Wednesday at Rothchild’s from 11-1. ROA has been changed from Reserve Officer Association to Reserve Organization of America to encourage all ranks and branches to join the organization.
- Mountain Man Memorial March - **Joleen Dewald** – Date is tentatively set for 25 April.
- Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing – **Steve Thompson** - Beginning 8th year. Smoky Mountain Slam coming up.
- REBOOT Combat Recovery – **Darrell Williams**– unable to attend
- Rolling Thunder – **Carlos Hollifield** - - Meet on 2nd Sunday of every month at 3:30 at the Powell Community Center, 11708 West Emory Road, Powell, TN 37849. The 9/11 memorial ride will be on 9 Sept. On 18 Sept there will be a senior event at UT and they will do a presentation on the state of the POW/MIA situation. On 20 Sept at 1800 hours they will hold a ceremony at the East TN Veterans Memorial in honor of National POW/MIA Day. They will be holding a donor appreciation and everyone that donates will receive a free day at a shooting range and you will be entered into a drawing for a gun or a gift certificate. Call Carlos at 919-1368 or Cindi at 556-4645 for details.
- STAR – Horses & Heroes Program – **Cathy Dolson** –Details for a Poker Run above in event section.
- Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless- **Brandon Harris**- unable to attend
- Tennessee Veterans Business Associations (TVBA) – **Steve Stilts** - unable to attend
- United Veterans Council – **Janet Guess** – New Mobile Education Exhibit 14-16 September. The 14-15 it will be at Calhoun’s in Turkey Creek and the 16th at Hardin Valley Elementary. 3 Oct Veteran Honor Dinner that evening. They will be at all Calhoun’s in the area on Veterans Day.
- UT Army ROTC Alumni Council – **Geoff Freeman** – Oct 25 Hall of Fame Induction. There will be 8 in this class. It will be held at the Foundry.
- Veteran Heritage Site Foundation – **Patty McGrew** - 9 Sept they will have a ceremony to honor first responders. Pampered Chef fundraiser going on. Patrice sent a flyer out about it. This Saturday is the National Day of Remembrance and Service beginning at 9am.

- Volunteers of America/Supportive Services for Veterans Families/Stand Down –**Ivette Torres** – unable to attend.
- Yellow Ribbon Fund Veteran Caregivers Support Group – **Stephanie Trost** –unable to attend

Next meeting: Thursday, October 3, 2019 @ Knoxville Chamber at 8:30am

**For input or corrections, please contact Kim Spencer
865/691-0898 or kim@nallssherbakoff.com**

ETMAC Board of Directors:

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Derren Burrell, Treasurer 865-771-4243 email: derren@tagresources.com

Kim Spencer, Secretary 865-661-9856 email: kim@nallssherbakoff.com

Patrice Collins, Chamber Rep 865-806-4487 email: pcollins@knoxvillechamber.com

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Capt Willie Posey, At Large Director, 865-274-9901 email: willie.s.posey.mil@mail.mil

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Don Smith, At Large Director 931-335-0477 email: donandmarysmith@aol.com

Rick Garner, At Large Director 865-740-2970 email: rgarner@khfh.com

Robert Brown, ETMAC Calendar 865-458-0759 email: rl_brown@hotmail.com

Dent Young, Webmaster 387543@tncap.us

Unit and Veteran Organization Contact Information

ETMAC

www.ETMAC.org

American Job Center/State of TN Dept of Labor

<http://www.careeronestop.org/ResourcesFor/Veteran/veteran.aspx>

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/>

Captain Bill Robinson Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078

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

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

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/>

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 the World Wars (MOWW)

www.moww.org

Mountain Man Memorial March

<http://mountainmanmemorialmarch.com/>

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

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

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

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

REBOOT Combat Recovery

<https://rebootalliance.com/reboot>

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

Rolling Thunder

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

STAR – Horses and Heroes Program

<http://www.rideatstar.org/heroes--horses.html>

Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless

<https://tvchomeless.org/>

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 of America Supportive Services for Veterans Families/Stand Down

<https://www.voamid.org/ssvftn>

Yellow Ribbon Fund Veteran Caregivers Support Group

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