

## **Chattanooga Area Veterans Council**

Serving veterans and their organizations of East Tennessee, North Georgia and North Alabama

# Drill Performance Awards Presented by CAVC

The Awards for drill performance at the Armed Forces Day Parade were awarded by the Chattanooga Area Veterans Council officers. These awards were made at the Hamilton County School Board Meeting on Thursday, 24 September. The awards ceremony was conducted by COL Tom McConnell, director of JROTC Programs in Hamilton County.

The First Place award went to Central High School. Central is the oldest and longest continuously operated JROTC program in the United States having been formed in 1919 just after the end of WWI. It is a proud unit that were thrilled to win this year. Their award was presented by Commissioner Joe Graham, the civilian chairman of the Armed Forces Celebration Committee. Receiving the award from Commissioner Graham were Cadet Battalion Commander Sergeant Major Justice Smith, Cadet Battalion Commander Jacob Denton and their JROTC Senior Instructor, LTC Bill Brooks.

The Second place award went to the Red Bank Lion Battalion. The cadets from Red Bank were not able to be at the school board meeting because of school conflicts so Noah Long, RADM, US Navy Res. (ret) went to Red Bank High School to present the award to the battalion. Receiving the award from Admiral Long for the battalion was Colonel of Cadets Lebreshia Pactor.

The Third place winner was the Air Force JROTC unit at Hixon High School. Accepting the award from CAVC Chairman Billy Hewitt, Captain, US Navy Res. (ret), was Air Science Instructor Master Sergeant Doug Burhans, 1st Flight Commander Cadet Wade Coetzee, 2nd Flight Commander Cadet Ethan Seitz and Group Commander Cadet Joe Tallant.



(L-R) Commissioner Graham, Cadet Smith, Cadet Denton, JROTC Instructor Brooks



Noah Long (R) presents award to Lebreshia Pactor



(L-R) Instructor Burhans, Coetzee, Tallant, Seitz

## The 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Museum presents the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Remembering Our Heroes

Saturday, October 24, 2015
Polo Field on Barnhardt Circle
Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia
10 am - 4 pm



#### Schedule of Events:

WWII Veteran Recognition
12:30 pm and 3 pm
Two WWII Battle re-enactments
USO Show at 2 pm



WAC soldier Molly Cooper greeting WWII veterans and presenting them with a commemorative pin at 2014 event.



WWII re-enactment

The 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Museum invites all World War II Veterans to be their guest on Saturday, Oct. 24. For more details check out the web page at <a href="https://www.wwiiheroes.net">www.wwiiheroes.net</a> or call Chris at 706-861-2860.

#### Highlights of the Sept CAVC meeting

VA Clinic: Chris Marcus said a mental health clinic and an eye clinic will open in Spring 2016. A totally new clinic building has been authorized for 2020. The new Clinic will have better Women's Health Services. Claudia (Bo) Cox is the new volunteer coordinator.

National Cemetery: Bill Sachse reported they have begun renovating another section of the cemetery.

Chattanooga Vet Center: Kevin Baker said they have hired an additional counselor which will improve service to the veterans.

Red Cross: Roger Medlin spoke of how the Red Cross fed law enforcement officers who worked the July 16 shooting investigation.

MOH Museum: Jim Wade reported on the progress of the museum. He said a new museum location will be announced later this year. Bill Raines is the new Board Chairman.

Bradley Co. Veterans Home: Mitch Green said the process is moving along and the new home is getting closer to reality. The county has done all that is required so when the Clarksville home is finished the Cleveland home should begin to be built.

## Marine Corps Ball 2015

Chattanooga Detachment 518, Marine Corps League, will hold its Marine Corps Ball on 7 November 2015. Included in the festivities will be a cake cutting, the Commandants message reading and a short ceremony. For complete information email Carl Pittman at <a href="mailto:Pittmarine@aol.com">Pittmarine@aol.com</a> or call 423-593-6411.

#### Semper Fi Marines!



#### Military Women Get Together

ATTENTION: ALL MILITARY WOMEN – Past & Present TriState Women Veterans Unit #157 will gather for grub & gab from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm on Saturday, 17 October 2015 at SHONEY'S Meeting Room (in back of dining room). Shoney's is located at 2318 Shallowford Village Dr (I75/Exit 5), Chattanooga. Be advised that Shoney's offers a military discount!

Join us for fun, food, prizes and a general gab session!
Stay for 5 minutes or 2 hours!
Learn about your benefits & bring your ideas to help us serve all Military Women – Past, Present & Future!
Hope to see you there!

For more info or directions contact Patty Parks at (423) 326-0839 or via email at <a href="mailto:pattyjoparks@yahoo.com">pattyjoparks@yahoo.com</a>



#### Navy League Supports the Sea Services

The Navy League of the United States (NLUS) was founded in 1902 and has provided a powerful voice for a stronger sea service to Congress and to the American people. The Navy League has grown into the foremost citizens' organization to serve, support, and stand with all the sea services —



U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine.

The Navy League is comprised of 43,000 civilians in more than 245 councils around the world working to support sea service members and their families. We do this through a variety of education programs that remind our fellow citizens that the United States is a maritime nation whose national economic and security interests are inextricably tied to the freedom of the seas.

The Navy League has three missions: to enhance the morale of active duty personnel and their families, to inform Congress and the American public on the importance of strong sea services, and to support youth through programs such as the Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Junior ROTC and Young Marines.

The support mission is accomplished through council activities including the adoption of a particular ship, squadron or station; family-centered gatherings; and direct material and/or financial support.

The educational aspect is completed through presentations to elected officials and local civic organizations.

Finally, youth programs are strongly supported throughout the Navy League from national annual performance awards to local council member visits and financial assistance.

Chattanooga's local council actively supports our active duty Navy, our adopted ship USS Tennessee (SSBN734), Chattanooga and Signal Mountain Sea Cadets and Howard High School NJROTC. The Chattanooga council offers social events every other month. Annual dues to National is \$65 which includes a subscription to the monthly Sea Power Magazine. Annual Local dues, which support the local chapter and its activities, is \$15.

For information visit <a href="www.chattanooganavyleague.org">www.chattanooganavyleague.org</a> to learn more about the local council and read Compass Points (council newsletter). For more information or to join the Navy League call Mark Parks, Council Treasurer, at 423-326-0839.



#### FIFTY YEARS AGO IN VIETNAM – September 1965

Following President Johnson's commitment in July, 1965, the buildup of United States and Allied forces stepped up in September 1965.

The 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) started to arrive at An Khe in Central Vietnam. The Airmobile division was equipped with over 400 helicopters. It was the first of its kind. They began to develop and evolve the helicopter assault tactics that would be used throughout the war.

In addition by this time elements of the famed 173rd Airborne Brigade, their fame being derived from their ferocious defense in the Battle of the Bulge, began to arrive. They were followed by the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division who were famous for their air drop over Normandy on D-Day.

The Air Force started moving a Wing of fighter bombers into Saigon and the first air attacks against North Vietnam began. The Coast Guard established Coast Guard Squadron One to begin patrols of the coast line. Operation Market Time to patrol the coastal waters was established on September 19th. Coast Guard Cutter Point Glover intercepted an enemy junk boat carrying arms and supplies for the Viet Cong

Our allies began arriving in September with the first Australian and New Zealand troops moving into Central Vietnam. On September 29th the first Republic of Korea troops arrived. They deployed the ROK Capital (Tiger) infantry Division and their 2nd Marine Corps Brigade, known as the Blue Dragons. The ROK commitment eventually reached a total of 18,212 troops. They were known as hardened soldiers who took no quarter. The Viet Cong became very afraid of the ROK troops and sought to avoid them when ever possible.

Sgt. Larry S. Pierce, from Fresno, California, was a squad leader in the 1st Battalion, 503rd Regiment of the 173rd Airborne. He was awarded the Medal of Honor when on September 20th while on patrol he was killed smothering the blast of an anti-personnel mine which would have destroyed the majority of his squad.

The observance of the 50th Anniversary of the war will run through November 11, 2025. The objective of the Commemoration is to pay tribute to the more than 3 million men and women who answered our country's call and served with valor and heroic actions.

Compiled by RADM Noah Long, CEC, USN (ret) from information in Web Site of the Vietnam War Commemoration Vietnam, the Naval Story by Frank Uhlig, Jr. The Pictorial History of the Vietnam War by Jeremy Barnes

### Free Veterans Day Concert

The Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Kayoko Dan, will offer a Free Veteran's Day concert at the Memorial Auditorium beginning at 7:00 pm. Also performing will be the Lee University Singers.

Veterans, their families, and families with children are encouraged to attend. The concert is free and no tickets are required. Seating is general admission. Doors open to the lobby at 6:00pm and into the hall at 6:30pm.

If you have any questions or need additional information contact: Sarah Marczynski, Community Engagement and Education Manager, at 423-267-8583 x2100 or <a href="mailto:smarczynski@chattanoogasymphony.org">smarczynski@chattanoogasymphony.org</a>

#### Veterans Day at National Cemetery

The annual Veterans Day Ceremony will take place at Chattanooga National Cemetery on Wednesday, 11 Nov 2015, at 11:00 am.

Jesse "Bud" Alley, US Army, will be the keynote speaker. While serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion of the 7<sup>th</sup> cavalry, Alley was a participant in the bloodiest one-day battle of the Vietnam War in 1965. He received the Silver Star for gallantry and Bronze Star for heroism.

Also, as part of the program, a pinning ceremony will honor Vietnam Veterans.

# Merchants Thank Vets on Veterans Day

Veterans Day is not only a time to honor those who have served in the military. For American businesses, it's also a time to back that appreciation up with a freebie. A slew of locally owned businesses and national chains are offering up something free or at a discount to anyone who has served in the military. Of course a military ID, DD214, or some other proof of military service is usually required.

Click here <a href="http://veteransdaydeals.blogspot.com/">http://veteransdaydeals.blogspot.com/</a> to see the list of offers.

# Grateful Gobbler Walk And 5k Race

The 16th Annual Grateful Gobbler Walk 5K will take place once again on Thanksgiving morning. Walkers will gather at Coolidge Park for festivities before the 8:00 a.m. start. The event is especially exciting this year as 100% of the proceeds of the walk will benefit the Maclellan Shelter for Families, an emergency homeless shelter located on site at the Community Kitchen on 11th Street in Chattanooga. The Shelter features 13 units with 68 beds for families experiencing homelessness. The Shelter provides stable environment for families to remain together as they search for permanent housing solutions.

From now through the month of November, Grateful Gobbler volunteers will be present throughout the community seeking your support for the Shelter. Please consider taking a moment today to find a way you can be involved. 100% of all registration fees, sponsorships, and donations to the 2015 Grateful Gobbler will directly benefit homeless families, guaranteed!

#### **General Event Info**

What: 16th Annual Grateful Gobbler Walk 5K

When: Thanksgiving Day @ 8 AM Where: Coolidge Park, Chattanooga, TN

Why: To build community support and provide funding

for the new Shelter for Homeless Families

Cost: \$25 for Individuals 13+ \$30 for Individuals 13+ after 11/12 \$10 for Juniors 12 and under \$15 for Virtual Walkers

#### **Getting to the Event**

Coolidge Park lies on the banks of the Tennessee River in downtown Chattanooga located at 150 River Street. Directions: Take I-24 to 27 N to the Manufacturers Rd. exit. Take a right off of the exit ramp and continue on Manufacturers Rd. until it intersects Cherokee Blvd. Take a right on Cherokee Blvd. and proceed for .5 mile to turn right onto Tremont St.

#### **Arrive Early!**

The stage festivities and announcements start at 7:00 am and the walk will start promptly at 8:00 am. Runners will be released first and then the walkers.

https://www.gratefulgobblerwalk.org/



Grateful Gobbler route through downtown Chattanooga

Chattanooga Area Veterans Council PO Box 24984 Chattanooga, TN 37422

Check out our new website at www.chattareaveterans.com

Billy Hewitt, Chairman 423-894-3568
Mickey McCamish, Chairman-Elect 423-394-0024
Alan Syler, Vice-Chairman 423-855-6876
Patty Parks, Immed. Past Chair. 423-326-0839
Mark Parks, Treasurer 423-326-0839
Carol Laing, Secretary 423-309-1457

CAVC is a 501c19 non-profit veteran organization.

# R & R at the Ranch SpiritHorses for Veterans at Eagles Rest Ranch



2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month! 10/10; 11/14 & 12/12 2015

11:00 AM -- 2:00 PM

Flintstone, GA (just 15 minutes from Downtown Chattanooga)

Meet & Enjoy the Horses at Eagles Rest Ranch

Fishing – 3 acre lake (bring your own gear)

Walking/Hiking

**Beautiful Places for a Picnic** 

\*If you are interested in Horseback Riding, we can schedule that for another time."

There is no charge for Military events at Eagles Rest Ranch. It is our small way of thanking our Armed Forces for their service!

For directions call or email Ginger Brown
423-421-3205
ginger@eaglesrestranch.com

Covered Arena - Come Rain or Shine!

Enjoy the natural beauty of our facility

Military & their families are welcome

