



# Chattanooga Area Veterans Council

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

## Veterans Day Program

The 2015 Veterans Day Program at Chattanooga National Cemetery will be held Wednesday, 11 November, beginning at 11:00 am. The program will deviate slightly from previous years. This being the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the war in Vietnam, a special tribute will offer recognition to ALL Vietnam-Era Veterans (combat vets and non-combat) who served during the Vietnam War years. The Alhambra Shrine will provide bagpipe music featuring the Highlander Pipes & Drums and the Choo Choo Chorus will sing traditional songs and medleys. Jesse "Bud" Alley, Vietnam veteran and Silver Star recipient, will be the Keynote Speaker.

One major change is the "Massing of Colors" has been removed to keep the program inside the allotted time-frame. Units are invited to pre-post their flags to the left and right of the pavilion before the program begins. Flag-bearers are asked to arrive before 10:30 to post their unit flags.

For more information please contact Mark Parks at [mparks8192@yahoo.com](mailto:mparks8192@yahoo.com).

Chattanooga Area Veterans Council  
PO Box 24984  
Chattanooga, TN 37422

Check out our new website at [www.chattareaveterans.com](http://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.

## Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra Veterans Day Event

The Chattanooga Symphony & Opera will present a free Veteran's Day concert at Memorial Auditorium. This annual event is conducted by Music Director Kayoko Dan and is open to the public. Veterans, their families, and families with children are encouraged to attend. The CSO will be joined by the Lee University Singers. 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.



**When:**  
November 11, 2015 at 7:00PM  
**Where**  
Memorial Auditorium  
399 McCallie Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37402  
[Google Maps](#)

## TriState Women Veterans #157



## Attention ALL Military Women!

Make plans now to attend the Holiday Party from 10:30-12:30 Saturday, 19 December, at Shoney's (I75/Exit 5). Enjoy fun, food, surprises and revisit the zaniness of your service days!

Participation is open to all military women (active, reserve, retired, veteran) who have served or ARE serving in any branch of the U.S. military or its guard/reserve components. For more info contact Patty Parks 423-326-0839 or [pattyjoparks@yahoo.com](mailto:pattyjoparks@yahoo.com)

## Catalyst Climbing Clinics

CLINICS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH *PHYSICAL*

*DISABILITIES!* - FINAL ONE FOR THE YEAR!

**WHAT:** Catalyst Sports is a non-profit organization based out of Atlanta whose mission is as follows: to empower people by providing the highest quality of adaptive sports to the disabled community.

[www.gocatalystsports.org](http://www.gocatalystsports.org)

**WHO:** Individuals with *physical disabilities*, ages 5 and up

**WHEN:** The 3rd Thursday of each month

**TIME:** 5:30-7:30pm

**DATE:** November 19 (you must sign up to attend)

**WHERE:** High Point Climbing and Fitness Center

**COST:** Free!

**CONTACT:** To **sign up** and for more information, questions, dates, times, etc. please contact **Jessie** at **423.643.5716** or

[steele\\_je@chattanooga.gov](mailto:steele_je@chattanooga.gov)



## Lookout Valley Neighborhood Association Salute To Veterans

The Lookout Valley Neighborhood Association (LVNA) will host a Salute to Veterans Program, Thursday, November 05, 2015, starting at 7:00 pm.

The LVNA meets at the John A. Patten Center, 3202 Kelley's Ferry Road.



This year's program will salute all U.S. Armed Forces Veterans, with highlight on the Vietnam era Veterans.

Each Vietnam-era Veteran attending will receive a pin commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> year observance of the start of the Vietnam War.

Keynote speaker will be Colonel Chris R. Dooley, U.S. Air Force, Retired.

Presenting the colors will be The Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), Chapter 203 Honor Guard.

Presenting the Vietnam era Veterans Commemorative pins will be Rear Admiral Noah H. Long, U.S. Navy, Retired, and Captain Billy L. Hewitt, U.S. Navy, Retired.

Make your plans to be present and salute our Veterans, and ask your neighbors and friends to attend.

## FIFTY YEARS AGO IN VIETNAM – OCTOBER 1965

October 1965 brought the delayed start of the monsoon season to Vietnam. Rains normally start in late August or early September but this was the first experienced by the many units that had moved in during 1965. That October the rains in I Corps averaged over one inch per day. In the main bases and remote fire bases men were mostly in tents and/or bunkers which were erected in cleared areas. Everything and everybody was wet to the bone. The roads had been made of compacted laterite, a local soil which, when dry, could be compacted into a hard surface but when wet became a soupy, sloppy mud. Camps and roads were a mess, supply areas flooded, and heavy vehicles were constantly stuck in the mud.

This weather slowed ground combat operations but the air war was kicking into high gear with bombing in North Vietnam and on the supply routes through Laos. At the start of 1965 there were only three airfield in the south capable of handling jet aircraft and parking ramps limited the number of squadrons that could be accommodated. During the year these three, Da Nang, Bien Hoa and Tan Son Nhut had major expansions started using civilian contractors of the RMK-BRJ combine. A fourth expeditionary airfield for Marine Aviation units involved in close ground support operations was constructed at Chu Lai by Seabees of NMCB-10. A helicopter base was built at the foot of Marble Mountain near De Nang.

Naval aviation units of Task Force 77 comprising three carriers in the South China Sea were heavily attacking in North Vietnam. In late summer the North Vietnamese introduced a new Russian highly mobile missile system known as the SAM. The Navy and Air Force began to lose planes to the SAMs and they began trying to find and attack the illusive missile batteries. It wasn't until

October 17<sup>th</sup> that a flight of four A-4E's from the *Independence* was successful in destroying the first occupied SAM site.

Late in the month, under cover of the monsoon rains the enemy began coordinated attacks. The 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cav got its baptism of fire on the night of October 19<sup>th</sup> and its first encounter with North Vietnamese Army Regulars when the NVA attacked a Special Forces base at Pleime in the Central Highlands. The Air Cav responded and battled the NVA for the next week. Meanwhile on the coast there were three coordinated attacks during the night of October 27<sup>th</sup> on the airfields at Da Nang, Marble Mountain, and Chu Lai by suicidal Sapper Battalions. Most of the attacking forces were repelled but at Marble Mountain one unit got through the lines and destroyed over twenty aircraft with satchel charges. At Chi Lai two aircraft were destroyed and dozens damaged.



Private First Class Milton Lee Olive, III, from Chicago IL who was a member of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon, Company B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 173<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade was awarded the

Medal of Honor posthumously for action on October 22<sup>nd</sup> while on patrol near Phu Cuong. When pursuing the enemy through thick jungle, an enemy grenade was thrown into their midst. PFC Olive grabbed the grenade and smothered it with his body thus saving the lives of his fellow soldiers.

Compiled by RADM Noah Long, CEC, USN (ret) from information in

1. **Web Site of the Vietnam War Commemoration**
2. ***Vietnam, the Naval Story* by Frank Uhlig, Jr.**
3. ***The Pictorial History of the Vietnam War* by Jeremy Barnes**



## Veterans Bridge Flag Initiative

For many years, flags have been flown proudly on Chattanooga’s Veterans Bridge in honor of the men and women who served in our nation’s armed forces. In response to numerous requests from the citizens of Chattanooga, the City has created a program through which individuals may honor veterans by purchasing flags in their names. A \$75 donation will provide a flag which will fly on the Veterans Bridge and a mayoral proclamation recognizing the honoree’s dedicated service.

- Each pole will have an assigned, unique number so that donors, friends, and family members will be able to identify which flag has been donated on behalf of the honoree.
- One Mayoral proclamation per flag will be created. The proclamation may honor an individual, family or organization.
- The flag will fly for 6 months or until such time as weather damage requires its replacement, whichever comes first.
- Checks or money orders for \$75 per flag payable to the City of Chattanooga mailed to Chattanooga Department of Transportation, Flag Initiative, 1250 Market St, Suite 3030, Chattanooga, TN 37402.
- Once removed, the flag can be provided to the donor, if desired, or will be donated to the Boy Scouts of America. Flags must be picked up within 30 days from the VBFI Coordinator in Suite 3030 in the Development Resource Center at 1250 Market Street.
- Due to the limited number of poles, flags will be displayed on a first come, first served basis. Because of the strong response we have received for donations this year, it may be up to a year or possibly longer before the flag you donated is raised on the bridge. In all cases we will send you a notice and, if requested, the proclamation when the flag is raised.

The following information is requested:

Name of **Donor**: \_\_\_\_\_ **email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information** for flag pickup at the end of the season: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name, rank, and branch of service of Honoree:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Is the Honoree alive or deceased?** \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to keep the flag after it has been lowered? \_\_\_\_\_

*(If so, please collect from the VBFI coordinator within 30 days...)*

For the Mayoral proclamation, please email **3-6 items of interest about the Honoree to ccjohnson@chattanooga.gov**. This information can be professional, personal or service oriented. For example: dates and number of years of service, meritorious service awards or any other commendations, countries where he/she served, professional accomplishments, personal anecdotes or endearments meaningful to the family...

Due to space constraints, please limit your information to 250 words or less. An example proclamation is provided below:

**Whereas:** Master Chief John Doe served his country from 1941 until 1984 in the US Navy; and

**Whereas:** He served in the Pacific and in Europe in WW II, in the Korean Conflict, and retired as Master Chief of the Command of the US Naval Reserve Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee.; and

**Whereas:** John Doe’s legacy of integrity in business, service to his country and community and his love for God, his church and his family lives on.

For additional information, please contact:

**Caroline Johnson, Chattanooga Transportation Department**  
[ccjohnson@chattanooga.gov](mailto:ccjohnson@chattanooga.gov) 423-643-5963

## SGT. Stephens Memorial 5K



- ▶ SGT. Stephens, a graduate of UTC in 2002. Was killed in action in Afghanistan on April 12th 2007. This race is to helpo endow the SGT. Stephens Scholarship, to help off set finacial burdens to Student Veterans.

- ▶ When: November 14th 2015
- ▶ Where: Finley Stadium
- ▶ Cost: \$10 for Students and Veterans  
\$15 otherwise
- ▶ This years run will be a Camo run. We will have face painters to paint your faces in a camo motif. We encourage runners to wear camo motif clothing.

For more information or to register: <http://www.redwhiteandblue5k.org/sgt-david-a-stephens-memorial-scholarship/>

UTC MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY FOOTBALL GAME  
 UTC Vs THE CITADEL  
 NOV. 14, 2015  
 FINLEY STADIUM 2PM  
 ALL VETERANS GET IN FREE WITH UPTO 8 FREE GEN  
 ADM. TICKETS FOR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS  
 BRING PROOF OF SERVICE TO VETERAN TICKET TENT  
 AT PAVILION