



Chattanooga Area Veterans Council

Serving veterans and their organizations of Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama

CAVC Quarterly Meetings at new location

The 13 March CAVC Quarterly Membership meeting will be held at the Red Cross facility at 4115 South Access Road. Take Hwy 153 to the Amnicola Hwy. exit 6. South Access Road is just west of the interchange. Go approximately 1/4 mile to the Red Cross building on your right. Enter via the side door (the door facing the parking lot) – the sign says “Training Entrance”. A light lunch will still be available for attendees.



Area map with location of Red Cross building.



The Red Cross building – main entrance on the left, “Training Entrance” door on the right.



What you see as you approach the location.



The meeting room.

Special Thanks to our CAVC members For their 2015 dues

Chattanooga Area Veterans Council thanks the following member organizations who have paid their 2015 dues this past month:

Vietnam Veterans Chapter 203
 Associates of Vietnam Veterans Chapter 203
 Sons of Spanish American War Veterans
 Tri-State Military Vehicle Club
 American Legion Post 14, Chattanooga
 American Legion Post 81, Cleveland
 American Legion Post 112, Dalton
 South East Tennessee Veterans Home Council

Your Organization's dues payment helps pay the various overhead costs of the CAVC: copies, postage, PO Box, website, membership meeting lunches, insurance, etc.

To pay your organization's dues, make your \$20 check payable to Chattanooga Area Veterans Council, and mail to: CAVC, PO Box 24984, Chattanooga, TN, 37422

Veterans Career Fair in Nashville

On 12 March 2015 there will be a DAV Recruit Military All Veterans Career Fair in Nashville for all veterans and their spouses. Anyone who has served on active duty, in the National Guard, or in the Reserve is invited to attend this event in order to find a new career.

"Our mission is to help organizations excel by attracting, appreciating and retaining America's best talent, its veterans. We've been doing this for 16 years. RecruitMilitary works."

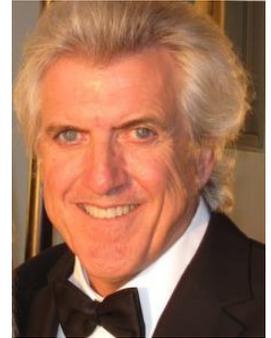
For more details go to <https://events.recruitmilitary.com/>

Doug Turner, Military Relations, Candidate Services,
Recruit Military.

RECRUIT MILITARY®

Luke Zamperini will be keynote speaker at Bryan College Program Dinner

The 8th Annual Bryan Opportunity Program Dinner will be held at the Chattanooga Convention Center starting at 6 pm on 16 April 2015. The Keynote speaker will be Luke Zamperini, son of Louis Zamperini. Luke will share his dad's story of survival, resilience and redemption as told in the book "Unbroken".



Until Louis' death on July 2, 2014 at age 97, Luke accompanied his father to most of his public appearances. Luke knows every detail of Louis' incredible story of bravery and survival. His father's accounts of his struggle as a POW fighting for his life were Luke's bedtime stories growing up, and now he is honored to have the opportunity to watch these stories influence the lives of others.

When Luke speaks to audiences about his father, he adds a unique perspective. Luke focuses on how the discipline of athletics, scouting, and education prepared Louis to survive his incredible ordeal at sea, and would subsequently help him to endure cruelty and humiliation as a prisoner of war.

The Bryan Opportunity Program helps make Bryan College accessible to academically qualified Tennessee students with significant financial need. The program guarantees that eligible students will receive scholarship and/or grant funds to meet or exceed the cost of tuition at Bryan College. Over \$1,000,000 has been raised, and 159 students have benefitted from this program since its inception in 2008. 56 students are currently enrolled at Bryan thanks to this program.

The cost for the dinner is \$50 per person. For more information and to register go to: www.bryan.edu/dinner or call 423-775-7323. Please RSVP by 9 April.

The Armed Forces Day Parade is May 1st
 To enter your unit, float or display, submit your application to Bill Norton at bill@metroservicesinc.com then get busy with you parade entry! This is the 66th year of Chattanooga's Armed Forces Day Parade – Let's make it a great one!

Medal of Honor recipient Sammy Davis to speak at MOH Museum Fundraiser

Sgt. Sammy L. Davis was awarded the Medal of Honor for action against the Vietcong in the Republic of Vietnam West of Cai Lay on 18 November 1967. Mr. Davis will be the guest speaker at the National Medal of Honor Museum of Military History's Annual Fund Raiser and Awards Banquet held on Saturday evening, 25 April 2015, from 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm at the Chattanooga Convention Center. Plan to attend and learn why Sgt. Davis has been called the "Real" Forrest Gump of Vietnam!



The Banquet will include a Social Time from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm followed by the program, dinner, and a silent auction.

Corporate Tables will be available at three different levels.



For more information or to make a reservation contact Jim Wade, Museum Director, at jfwbike@bellsouth.net.

Visit the Museum's website at www.mohm.org.



GET YOUR IRISH ON!

American Legion Battlefield Post 214 is having a St. Patrick's Day party Saturday, 14 March 2015, 7:00 pm to 11:30 pm. The dinner menu includes corned beef & cabbage, dessert & sweet tea. Music will be provided by Johnson - Carpenter Band! Dancing & door prizes (for those wearing green) will make for an evening of fun and fellowship. Admission is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple.

Post 214 is located at 540 Park City Rd, Rossville, GA, 30741. For reservations and information call Judy @ 423-645-3378

All proceeds support local area veterans and their families.



Fishing with a Soldier

Come to the Grasshopper Recreation area on Chickamauga Lake April 25th for a day of fishing and fun. Fishing licenses and food will be provided. You bring your fishing gear and life vests. Veterans will be paired up with a boater for a great day of fishing and prizes!

This event is open to all military branches, active duty, reserve, retired, and state guard units.

The location is on Chickamauga Lake in North Hamilton County (Sale Creek Recreation Area). Take Hwy 27 N to McCallie Ferry Rd to May Rd. which brings you to the recreation area.



To participate you must pre-register. A confirmation email will be sent in late March with a map and start time. Please contact one of the following people to pre-register:

Chase Estep, USMC, at 423-946-3561 or via email at: chase_estep@yahoo.com.

Rich Ballard, US Army (ret), at 423-650-1052 or via email at: sfbigdogi@aol.com.

Jerry Goodner, US Army Vietnam vet, at 423-650-1423 or via email at: bigintn@charter.net.

Greg Wright, US Army (ret), at 423-313-5533 or via email at: wrightmetree@gmail.com.

Veterans' Fundraising Events Legalized

(Chattanooga Times Free Press) The final step has been taken by the TN state Senate to ensure that veterans groups can conduct annual fundraisers for charitable purposes. Senate Bill 325 was passed and ensures that Amendment 4 to the state constitution, which won approval by 69.6 percent of voters in November, will be enacted. "The amendment gives veterans groups the same opportunity as 501 (c)(3) organizations to conduct an annual fundraising event like duck races, cake walks, raffles, and other games of chance," a press release from the state Senate Office states. Senate Majority Leader Mark Norris, said in the release, "These veterans groups do a lot of good community service work and the passage of this amendment can help them in their efforts."

Sponsor a flag on the Veterans Bridge

Chattanooga's Veterans Bridge will continue to be lined with American flags for many years to come thanks to the area's patriotic citizens.



For 10 years an anonymous donor provided some \$40,000 to provide 30 new flags annually in May which adorned the bridge's 30 light poles all summer and through November. When those gifts ceased in 2013, the Chattanooga Department of Transportation (CDOT) established a new program to generate replacement flag funds.

Photo Courtesy of WRCB-TV.com

The Veterans Bridge Flag Initiative allows any group or individual to honor a service man or woman by donating the cost of a flag. Each flag is \$75 and will fly on a numbered pole on the bridge for about six months of the year.

When the flags are raised, honorees will receive a proclamation from the mayor of Chattanooga recognizing their service to the country and proclaiming the pole number from which their flag flies. The flags will be offered to the donors at the end of each season.

Original plans were to fly 30 flags each year between May and November. However, response to the program has been so tremendous that American flags will now be flown on the bridge year-round, according to Caroline Johnson, CDOT Special Projects Coordinator, who oversees the initiative.

Since flags must be replaced every six months, 60 veterans may be honored each year. Still, the community has rallied to the point there are more than 100 honorees on the waiting list.

While new applications are welcome, Ms. Johnson said, it will be several months before their flags will be flown.

If you would like to buy a flag, please provide the following information to Ms. Johnson, preferably by email at "johnson_c@chattanooga.gov":

1. Name and rank of veteran (as it will appear on the proclamation)
2. Military Branch (or branches) of service and inclusive dates of service
3. Significant service (such as war periods, duty stations, specific battles/engagements, etc.)
4. Miscellaneous military-related items (such as a nickname, awards, achievements, etc.)

Please call Ms. Johnson at 423-643-5963 for specific details on how to submit the accompanying \$75 donation.

VFW 4848 IS HAVING A SOCK HOP!!

Friday, 13 March,
8:00pm – 11:00pm
\$5 per person,
\$8 per couple.



Refreshments

available from the post canteen. The DJ will spin the platter with 50s & 60s tunes. Prizes will be awarded for best dressed & more.

VFW POST 4848 is located at 1491 Riverside Drive, Chattanooga, Tennessee (next to the Boathouse Restaurant). Phone: 423-624-6687.

CAVC Annual Installation and Awards Banquet

Chattanooga Area Veterans Council will hold its annual Installation and Awards Banquet Friday, 20 March, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Convention Center. The guest speaker will be Commissioner Many-Bears Grinder, Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs. The cost is \$30 per person or \$225 for a table of 8. Your attendance in support of the CAVC is needed and appreciated.

The RSVP form is the last page of this newsletter.

CAVC Calendar of Events

12 March	Veterans Career Fair - Nashville
13 March	Post 4848 Sock Hop
13 March	CAVC Member Meeting
14 March	Post 214 St. Patrick's Day Party
20 March	CAVC Banquet at Convention Ctr.
7 April	Parade Committee Meeting
16 April	Luke Zamperini at Chatt. Conv.Ctr.
21 April	Parade Committee Meeting
25 April	MOH Museum fundraiser dinner
25 April	Fishing with a Soldier
1 May	Armed Forces Day Parade
25 May	Memorial Day Service at National Cemetery

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is hiring

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency will be accepting applications from February 27, 2015 through March 16, 2015 for Border Patrol Agents (BPAs), Customs and Border Protection Officers (CBPOs), and Agriculture Specialists. The CBP Agriculture Specialist positions require a degree in the biological sciences, however, the BPA and CBPO positions do not require formal education to be considered for employment in these fields within CBP.

Non-veterans who apply have an age requirement in which they must be referred for consideration before reaching their 37th birthday, however, this age restriction does not apply to veterans' who are Preference Eligible

Go to www.USAJOBS.gov to search job openings.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is the premier law enforcement agency tasked with securing our nation's borders while facilitating legitimate travel and trade. Attached is an information flyer for one of our current open positions, Border Patrol Agents, which has many openings throughout the country with the primary location being along the Southwest border. If you would like additional information on this position please follow the link to the Job Announcement to learn more and apply.

KEY REQUIREMENTS:

- Be between the ages of 18 and 37 (waiver for qualified veterans)
- Be a U.S. citizen and a resident for the past three years
- Have a valid state driver's license
- Pass a thorough background investigation, polygraph test, medical examination, fitness test and drug test

If you're looking for important and rewarding work and an opportunity to serve your country, consider the career opportunities at U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). To learn more about CBP please visit the web site at www.cbp.gov/careers .

Jeffrey R. Jack, MHS, CRC
Veterans Program Manager
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Jeffrey.R.Jack@cbp.dhs.gov
202-281-8268

Veteran Information Items

* The next Honor Flight for World War II & Korean War (Era) Veterans will take place on SATURDAY, 2 MAY 2015. If you are a Veteran from one of these periods and would care to see your memorials in Washington, DC please contact Sergeant Major Larry E. Williams, US Army/ Retired at (931) 924-3000 (home) or (931) 224-3226 (cell) or via email attennesseans2@blomand.net for an application. The next flight after the 2 May 2015 flight will, as always, be on a SATURDAY in late September OR early October 2015 (two flight per year). Also, the money for the Honor Flights is derived entirely from donations (NO GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE); SO TO HELP RAISE THE NECESSARY FUNDS (\$ 18,500.00 PER FLIGHT) Larry Williams does Honor Flight Presentations for Churches, Groups, Organizations, Clubs, etc., etc... If you know of any such group, please offer them the provided contact information to arrange for a presentation.

* The American Legion Magazine dtd. March 2015, page #74, article: "Eligibility for VA special compensation". The article states that VA's Special Monthly Compensation (SMC) program may provide benefits in addition to, OR instead of, disability compensation if there is loss (or loss of use) of a limb, sight, speech, hearing, mobility or sexual organ, or for certain other disabilities. There also may be SMC eligibility if the Veteran is unable to leave the house or bed without help, or is in need of regular help from another person in performing the basic tasks of everyday life such as eating, bathing, dressing, toilet use and transferring.

For additional information with regard to this "earned benefit" please contact your nearest disabled veterans service officer or Bobby Clark @ (931- 967- 9322) or Sergeant Major Larry E. Williams, US Army/ Retired at (931) 924-3000 (home) or (931) 224-3226 (cell).

CAVC Executive Board

Patty Parks, Chairman	423-326-0839
Billy Hewitt, Chairman-Elect	423-894-3568
Mickey McCamish, Vice-Chairman	423-634-1771
Lester Norton, Immed. Past Chair.	706-861-2963
Mark Parks, Treasurer	423-326-0839
Carol Laing, Secretary	423-309-1457

Chattanooga Area Veterans Council Installation & Awards Banquet – Friday, 20 March 2015

Chattanooga Convention Center, Ballroom H
1100 Carter Street, Chattanooga

6 pm: Social Time ~ 6:30 pm: Welcome & Colors ~ 6:45 pm: Dinner

7:30 pm: Guest Speaker, Commissioner Grinder ~ 8:15 pm: Awards ~ 8:30 pm: Installation

Commissioner Many-Bears Grinder, Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs. Selected in January 2011 Commissioner Many-Bears Grinder is responsible for the operation of Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs' Field Offices, Claims Office, and four State Veterans Cemeteries. She is also an ex-officio voting member of the Tennessee State Veterans Home Board, which controls the three existing State Veterans Homes, and plans for future homes in Tennessee, and serves as the Southeast District Vice President for the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs.



The first female in Tennessee to serve in this capacity, Grinder retired from the Tennessee Army National Guard as a Colonel with over 35 years of service. She's an Operation Enduring Freedom combat veteran and traveled throughout Afghanistan, working with international diplomats and police as well as the Afghan leaders and local police officers to ensure standardized training and equipment for the Afghan Police.



Inducted into the Fort Benning Hall of Fame in 2004 Grinder is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College, the U.S. Army War College, and the Joint Forces Staff College. Her military awards include the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal.

Commissioner Grinder is a member of many veterans' organizations including AMVETS, Vietnam Veterans of America, Women Veterans of America, Military Officers Association, National Guard Association of the United States, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and Disabled American Veterans.

She holds a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies from the Army War College and a Master's Degree in Human Resources Development from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. A native of Salt Lake City, Utah, Grinder moved to Tennessee in 1989 where she met and married Ernie Grinder.

Submit completed reservation form with appropriate payment payable to "CAVC"

To: Mark Parks, CAVC Treasurer, 6920 Sawtooth Drive, Ooltewah TN 37363

POC Name: _____ Phone: _____ Organization: _____

\$225 Table (of 8) x _____ (# of tables) = \$_____ **\$30 per person** x _____ (# of people) = \$_____

Attendee Names & Meal Choices (*Beef, Salmon or Vegetarian/Circle one choice: 'B', 'S' or 'V' by each name*)

- | | | | | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|
| 1. _____ | B | S | V | 1. _____ | B | S | V |
| 2. _____ | B | S | V | 2. _____ | B | S | V |
| 3. _____ | B | S | V | 3. _____ | B | S | V |
| 4. _____ | B | S | V | 4. _____ | B | S | V |
| 5. _____ | B | S | V | 5. _____ | B | S | V |
| 6. _____ | B | S | V | 6. _____ | B | S | V |
| 7. _____ | B | S | V | 7. _____ | B | S | V |
| 8. _____ | B | S | V | 8. _____ | B | S | V |