

The Ohio National Guard Alumni Newsletter



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The Ohio National Guard webpage is: <http://www.ong.ohio.gov/>. Click on Community Outreach and then Alumni Relations to register for the data base and direct receipt of the newsletter. Please take a few minutes from time to time and explore the entire website, particularly the many recent news releases about your Guard.

Alumni Relations Program Evaluation Update. The response to the on-line evaluation was outstanding. As of today there are over 250 responses. Because of the high participation, we have purchased the survey service so that we can review every response as well as produce a detailed report of the findings and recommendations. If you have not filled it out due to the previous limitation of 100, please go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6FWH76C> and complete the ten question survey. A summary report will be distributed by email next week, with all results ultimately posted to the alumni website at <http://www.ong.ohio.gov/AlumniTest.aspx>. We will use this survey to tailor the alumni relations program and future newsletter editions.

New Ohio Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Field Committee Chair. Mr. John W. Hoppers will be sworn in by Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, Lt.Gen. (Ret) Dennis McCarthy, on Tuesday, December 15, as the Ohio ESGR Field Committee Chair. Mr. Hoppers has been a member of ESGR since November 1994. In 1996 he was appointed Ohio Ombudsman coordinator. He follows COL (ret) Robert Labadie in this volunteer position. ESGR volunteers provide free education, consultation and if necessary mediation for employers of Guard and Reserve personnel.

National Guard Birthday. In recognizing the December 9th birthday of the National Guard, Representative Robert Latta (R-OH) proposed House Resolution 940, titled "Recognizing and Honoring the National Guard on the occasion of its 373rd Anniversary." In a statement issued by his office, Representative Latta said: "From the American Revolution to the current Global War on Terror, these citizen soldiers have defended the peace and security of America. It is important that we recognize the sacrifices of these service members and provide continued support to ensure its readiness and success." The resolution passed the House by a vote of 401-0 on December 8.

Air National Guard Renewable Energy Projects. The 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, Ohio, has invested \$11.4 million of DoD Research and Development funds to design, build and evaluate the feasibility of on base electricity generation from renewable energy sources. This project is being accomplished to determine whether or not the construction of these facilities on small remotely

located National Guard installations can meet Air Force requirements for site renewable energy generation and carbon footprint reduction.

Over the past 3 fiscal years, the 180th has designed, constructed and operated a 783 KW Photovoltaic (solar) electric generation plant. Currently an additional 400 KW of electrical generation capacity is under construction and should be operational by July 1, 2010. The current operational 783 KW plant has the capability to generate approximately 30% of the 180th's annual electricity requirements or about 10% of the base's overall facility energy usage. In FY 2009 the base generated approximately 695 MW hours of electricity which was just over 21% of the base's total annual electrical consumption. This electrical generation saved the base \$120,000 due to the cost of displaced electricity, reduced demand charges and excess electricity which was sold to the local utility provider. The 180th FW has plans to expand this site to approximately 2 megawatts of peak electrical generation over the next 3 FYs. In addition, plans to develop on site energy storage capacity are in development. The 180th has been able to construct 95% of this solar field with products that are manufactured in Ohio and by using local contractors to assemble the system adding additional benefit to the local economy. Currently this Photovoltaic field is the largest operational solar field in the State of Ohio and the largest Air Force owned solar field in the inventory.

At Camp Perry, the 200th Red Horse Squadron currently has a similar renewable energy project operational. The \$3.37 million three phased project, authorized and funded in the 2009 Federal Military Construction budget, and completed in August, 2009, produced a 189 kW Photovoltaic Solar Field at Camp Perry Air National Guard Station, Port Clinton, Ohio. The Solar Field will produce approximately one third of the electrical demand for the installation. Excess power will be fed back into the electrical grid. The solar field is located on one acre of land and encompasses 2,592 panels. These panels were manufactured at First Solar located in Perrysburg, OH. Savings generated by the Solar Field resulted in 63,824 kilowatt hours, or \$6,346. This is enough power to provide electricity to six US homes for an entire year and avoids emissions of 46 Metric Tons of CO₂.

Red Horse engineers are currently evaluating the installation, demonstration and testing of a 500 KW Wind Turbine (\$1.55 million) and all associated impacts/studies as a potential phase four of the project. (Information for this article was provided by Lt. Col. Bill Giezie, P.E. Commander, 180th Civil Engineer Squadron and Maj. Mike A. Hrynciw III, P.E., 200 RHS Supervisory Civil Engineer.

Field Maintenance Shop 17 Receives NGB Award FMS 17, located at Camp Perry Joint Training Center and under the leadership of Shop Chief MSG Dennis Lidke, recently received the National Guard Bureau Award for Efficiency in Maintenance. This award is presented to the organizational maintenance shop in each state that achieves the highest degree of efficiency during the training year in maintenance of material and maintenance management.

In winning the award, the FMS 17 team met or exceeded the following criteria:

1. Demonstrated efficiency in maintenance operations and maintenance management procedures.
2. Showed that they assisted their supported units in obtaining a high state of readiness as evidenced by readiness reports, semi-annual SMM visits, COMETS, and CLRT-X visits.

3. Met all guidelines based on Ohio NGB goals and priorities to enhance readiness.
4. Demonstrated a high regard for environmental matters by adhering to all environmental rules and regulations.

MP Alumni Association Update. The 437th MP Battalion Alumni Reunion was held on Sep 27th, 2009 in Youngstown, Ohio. Eighty former members and family members attended. The reunion was also attended by LTC Eric Nagy, current commander of the 437th MP Battalion, who provided a briefing on the current activities and deployments of the battalion. For information concerning the 437th alumni group and their next reunion, please contact SFC (ret) Randy Stowell at Ranst01@aol.com or by phone at 330-219-8678.

ONG Joint Staff Leadership Changes

COL Michael Ore, Deputy Director of Installation Management and Resources, and Construction and Facilities Management Officer, replacing BG Robert Clouse.

LTC Homer Rogers, Director of Human Resources, ONG, formerly Deputy J1.

LTC Greg Betts, Deputy J1, formerly Service Member Support Services Division Chief

LTC (P) Chip Tansil, G3, formerly Commander of the Recruiting and Retention Battalion

COL Rick Curry, G4, formerly Commander of the 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

This Week in Guard History.

Dec. 7, 1747: Philadelphia, Pa. The Associated Regiment of Foot, ancestor of today's 111th Infantry, first parades under arms in front of the Philadelphia Court House. There they divide themselves into 11 companies by ward or township. They elect company and regimental officers, who are commissioned by the governor.

Each member carries his own privately purchased musket, sword and cartridge box. Local women design and fund the fabrication of company flags. The Associated Regiment of Foot is a privately organized and equipped, all-volunteer force acting as a public defense force with the consent of the governor and assembly. Due to Quaker control of the legislature, Pennsylvania has no governmentally organized militia. That would not change until 1777, two years after the start of the Revolutionary War.

This week in Ohio Guard History

7 December 1920: Company D, 1st Battalion, 145th Armored Regiment was organized at Ravenna as Troop L, Cavalry.

7 December 1993: Company A, 1st Battalion, 145th Armored Regiment was organized at North Canton as Company C, 1st Battalion, 147th Infantry
10 December 1874: Company E, 237th Support Battalion was organized at Findlay as the "Findlay Guards".

Changes of Command

371st Sustainment Brigade, January 10, 2010, Camp Perry Conference Center, 1300. Outgoing Commander, COL Dan Tack, Incoming Commander, LTC Maria Kelly,

237th Brigade Support Battalion, January 9, 2010, 1530, Green Road Armory, Cleveland. Outgoing Commander, LTC Gerard Garvey, Incoming Commander, LTC Glenn Worth.

37th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, January 10, 2010, 1000, Springfield Armory, Springfield, Ohio, Outgoing Commander, LTC John P. Dernberger, Incoming Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Kevin W. Lochtefeld.

Medical Command, February 6, 2010, Outgoing Commander, COL Terry Johnson, Incoming Commander, COL Brett Call, details to follow.

73rd Troop Command, April 11, 2010, Outgoing Commander, BG Jack Lee, Incoming Commander, COL Deborah Ashenhurst, details to follow.

Upcoming Events

Wildlights at the Columbus Zoo December 12, 2009. Please join us for Wildlights at the Columbus, a great event for Ohio's military families. Operation: Military Kids and the USO of Central Ohio will be hosting a warming station with snacks and drinks from 6 – 9 pm at the Education Auditorium (just inside the front entrance to the zoo and to the right) Operation: Military Kids will also be taking free family photos. Tickets can be purchased on December 12th during regular business hours at the Zoo ticket booths. Ticket prices: Adults \$6.00, Children 2-9 years. Seniors 60 years or older, \$3.50. Children two and under are free. Military ID must be shown to purchase tickets. Parking for this event is \$5 per car. For additional information, please contact Sue Ann Carroll, Ohio National Guard Youth Coordinator at 877-460-2177 or Erin Berry, Operation: Military Kids Youth Specialist at 614-336-7314.

16th Engineer Brigade Ball, January 9, 2010, 1800, Medallion Club, 5000 Club Drive, Westerville, Ohio. For additional information and reservations, contact SGT Madison: naynay.madison@us.army.mil, 614-336-6412, or SSG Carter: dale.e.carter@us.army.mil, 614-336-6000 ext. 17. Please RSVP NLT January 4. 2010.

174th Air Defense Brigade Ball, January 23, 2010, 1800, Fort Rapids Water Resort and Hotel, 4560 Hilton Corporate Drive, Columbus, OH 43232, please call CPT Lytton, 614-336-6727 or CW2 Heindel, 614-356-7955 with questions or for additional details. Deadline for reservations is January 14.

371st Sustainment Brigade Ball, January 23, 2010, 1800, Holiday Inn Worthington, 7007 North High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085. RSVP by January 15, 2010 to CPT Eric Kaiser 614-336-6461.

Ohio National Guard Association Winter Dinner Dance, Feb 27, 2010, details to follow.

Army Guard Officer Candidate School Dining Out, March 10, 2010, details to follow.

Call to Duty Ceremonies

OMLT 1.4, January 2, 2010, 1600 hours, Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church, Reynoldsburg, OH.

Welcome Home Ceremonies

1st Battalion, 137th Aviation Regiment, location and time TBA, however should be between 20 and 23 December, probably at St. John arena on the OSU campus.

Recent News Releases

Admiral Mullen: 16,000 troops have orders to Afghan war, Associated Press, Friday Dec 11, 2009. The Pentagon's top military officer says 16,000 troops have received their orders for Afghanistan since President Barack Obama announced his new war strategy. Adm. Mike Mullen said at a news conference Thursday that the first to go, a battalion of Marines, will arrive in southern Afghanistan next week. The Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman said tens of thousands of tons of construction materials, winter gear and other equipment also are in the pipeline. Officials are moving to get the bulk of the 30,000 additional troops into the war zone by summer.

Tax Statements Coming Next Week on myPay. Annual tax statements soon will be distributed to service members, military retirees, annuitants and federal civilian employees who are paid by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, but they will be available electronically up to two weeks earlier to DFAS customers with myPay accounts. The first W-2s, 1099Rs and 1099-INTs, along with retiree and annuitant annual account statements, will start becoming available on Dec. 16, DFAS says. The first wave of forms: Retiree Annual Statements and Retiree 1009R forms will be mailed that day.

W-2s for active-duty members of the Army, Navy and Air Force will go out from Jan. 23 through Jan. 29, but all will be available on myPay starting on Jan. 20. W-2s for reserve component members in those three services will be mailed from Jan. 4-7 and can be accessed starting on Jan. 4. Certain forms, including W-2s for VSI/SSB recipients, Vendor Pay 1099s, Vendor Pay MISC W-2s and Civilian PCS W-2s, will not be available on myPay, DFAS says. The full schedule can be found online at <http://www.dfas.mil/>

VA Reaching Out to 'Touch' Guardsmen. The Department of Veterans Affairs is reaching out to "touch" deployed National Guardsmen and Reservists at least seven times during a deployment cycle. Called the "Seven Touches of Outreach," the VA program wants to "engage Guard and Reserve veterans at least seven times during the deployment cycle with targeted messages and face-to-face encounters with VA staff members," VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki told the Guard's Joint Leadership Conference held recently in Washington, D.C.

"With this generation, a letter in the mail doesn't cut it anymore," he said. "There has to be personal contact for the message to get across." Those engagements start when service members arrive at the demobilization site from theater." They receive an overview on VA services and benefits and are enrolled in VA health care," the secretary said. "Members are assigned an (Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom) program manager to contact, who will set up their initial health and dental appointments at the VA facility of their choice." And during that demobilization process, service members are required to fill out the Post-Deployment Health Reassessment, meet with a health care provider and self-evaluate their health status as compared to how it was prior to the deployment. Additionally, the VA sends representatives to reintegration programs like the Yellow Ribbon and contacts veterans through the Combat Veteran Call Center to advise them of benefits and services.

It is with deep regret and sorrow that we announce the following deaths:

SFC (Ret) Walter Hunt, November 26, former member of Btry B 1-137th ADA Bn. (Nike Hercules).

Carol Garvey, November 28, mother of LTC Gerard Garvey, Commander of 237th BSB.

SGM Matthew Stevens, December 7, former member of the OHARNG.

James S. Abbott, WWII member of the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

ISG John C. Nix, former 1SG of Trp B 1/107th Armored Cavalry.

Websites of Interest:

http://www.dvs.ohio.gov/events_committees/women_veterans_advisory_committee.aspx Ohio Department of Veteran Services Women Veterans Link.

<http://www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm> provides information about special social security benefits for military retirees.

<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/index.htm> VA Compensation and Benefits Site. There are new diseases added to the Agent Orange Exposure Compensation Program including Parkinson's disease, Ischemic heart disease, and certain leukemias.

http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies/Documents/Gray_area6.pdf. Gray area retiree benefits.

<http://www.learnatest.com/LEL/index.cfm/> Ohio State Library Learning Center for many online training opportunities.

Where Are They Now?

CW4 (ret) Charles (Chuck) Anderson joined the Guard in April of 1974 after 4 years active duty at the rank of Captain, and was assigned to the Attack Troop of the 107th ACR at OSU Airport. He initially flew UH-1M and UH-1H helicopters. Chuck later transitioned into the AH-1S while in the 4th Squadron 107 ACR and then back to the UH-1H when the 2/137th Aviation Battalion was organized. Chuck commanded Det 1, Fourth Squadron, 107th ACR, for a year as a CW4 when no commissioned officers were assigned, ultimately retiring in September 1996.

Since retirement he and his wife Gay moved to Lima, Ohio, and built a home on Tamarac Golf Course. They spend the winter months in Melbourne Beach, Florida. Chuck is active in his church and volunteers with the Allen County Master Gardeners. If you would like to get in touch with him, please contact me and I will provide a link.

If you would like to be highlighted in the "where are they now" segment, or have other ideas for future newsletter content, please feel free to contact me at 614-336-7336, or by email at james.chisman@us.army.mil. The Ohio National Guard that proudly serves around the world today is a direct reflection of your service.

COL (ret) Jim Chisman
Alumni Affairs Coordinator
Government Contractor