

The Ohio National Guard Alumni Newsletter



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The Ohio National Guard webpage is: <http://www.ong.ohio.gov/>. Click on 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.

Statement by Secretary Gates on the Impact of Health Care Legislation on TRICARE. March 21, 2010. "As Secretary of Defense, the health and well-being of America's men and women in uniform is my highest priority. Our troops and their families can be re-assured that the health care reform legislation being passed by the Congress will not negatively impact the TRICARE medical insurance program, as it already meets the bill's quality and minimum benefit standards. This was clarified by a vote in the U.S. House of Representatives yesterday and is expected to be re-affirmed by the Senate. The President and I are committed to seeing that our troops, retirees and their families will continue to receive the best quality health care".

Ohio Army National Guard Hits \$8 Million Milestone for G-RAP Accessions, Story by Staff Sgt. Sara Vondran, Unit Public Affairs Representative. Company I, Recruiting and Retention Battalion. CLEVELAND, Ohio—Enlisting March 9, 2010, in the Cleveland Military Entrance Processing Station, Pvt. James Potteiger became the 4,000th Soldier to be enlisted in the Ohio National Guard through the Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (G-RAP). The G-RAP is a contracted program where individuals can apply online to become recruiter assistants and are paid \$1,000 for every enlistment they refer and an additional \$1,000 for their referrals' successful shipment to initial entry training.

Potteiger's enlistment pushed the OHNG's G-RAP to \$8 million in recruiter assistant accession payments since the program's inception in Dec. 2006. "I love the military and everything it has done for me, so it's easy to sell it to people," said Potteiger's recruiter assistant, Cpl. Scott Estep of the 237th Support Company. Estep has earned \$10,000 in Recruiter Assistant accession payments in less than two years. As of March 15, 2010, G-RAP recruiter assistants have nominated 6,372 potential Soldiers to speak with local Recruiting and Retention NCOs. Of those potential Soldiers, 4,012 have contracted, making G-RAP recruiter assistance referrals 63 percent effective. (Editor's note: ONG Alumni can qualify to become G-RAP recruiter assistants. For information go to <https://guardrap.com/>).

Fore Hope Golf Program for Veterans with Disabilities. Fore Hope Inc., is a nationally recognized, Columbus based, non-profit organization that uses golf as an instrument to improve quality of life. The organization was one of the first to provide a therapeutic approach to golf by creating a program for persons of all ages, disabilities and economic backgrounds, while assisting

them with their physical and emotional development. Mindy Derr, Executive Director, founded Fore Hope in 1989, in honor of her father, Guy. Fore Hope's priority is to serve those military men and women of all ages and from all conflicts in the central Ohio area.

Fore Hope provides therapeutic golf sessions for military service men and women which includes a five-step therapy golf program that focuses on cognitive, social and physical goals in mutual agreement set forth by the participant and recreation therapist, social worker, physical therapist and family member. Their ultimate goal is to provide improved quality of life. Fore Hope is nationally recognized and supported in part by The Memorial Tournament and The United States Golf Association. For additional information and eligibility criteria, please contact them at 614-784-1111, or on the web at www.forehope.org.

Bases Get New Names in Realignment. Some military installations are consolidating and getting new names as joint basing becomes a reality. The 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission's (BRAC) directive to consolidate 26 stateside military installations into 12 joint bases has brought names such as Lewis-McChord, Langley-Eustis, and even the trilateral McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst into the lexicon of military installations. Settling on new names was but a fraction of considerations undertaken, said Air Force Col. Michael "Mickey" Addison, the Defense Department's deputy director of joint basing. While each joint base has its own unique challenges and experiences, Addison said, the process created much-needed uniformity in directing 49 like functions for each base. "The Department of Defense now has common output level standards," he said. "Not having those standards was largely why we had difficulty doing this in the past."

"One of the benefits of joint basing is in learning how to talk to each other," he said. "We all had different languages. If you say 'emergency response' to a soldier, sailor, airman or Marine, you may get four different ideas of what that means." Joint basing isn't new, Addison pointed out. The military has used it for years in Iraq, Afghanistan and Bosnia. Still, he said, the concept met with some resistance stateside. "We know how to fight jointly," Addison said. "We've gotten really good at that in the past 10 or 20 years. What we aren't as good at yet is living together back in the [continental United States]." The BRAC commission created the joint bases to bring efficiencies, common practices and cost savings to bases that were duplicating efforts, even while most shared a fence line,

Some of the Joint Bases and their new names: Fort Lewis and McChord Air Force Base is now Joint Base Lewis-McChord, led by the Army; Charleston Air Force Base and Naval Weapons Station Charleston, S.C., is now Joint Base Charleston, led by the Air Force; Elmendorf Air Force Base and Fort Richardson, Alaska, is now Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, led by the Air Force; Lackland and Randolph Air Force bases and Fort Sam Houston, Texas, are now Joint Base San Antonio, led by the Air Force; Langley Air Force Base and Fort Eustis in Virginia is now Joint Base Langley-Eustis, led by the Air Force; and McGuire Air Force Base, Fort Dix and Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst, all in New Jersey, are now Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, led by the Air Force.

Recent News Releases

Iraq: The Wrong Type of Sand. New York Times, April 1, 2010. www.nytimes.com/ CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait. On the very long and expensive list of materials that the American military had to ship to Iraq since 2003, and is now shipping out, one might not have expected to find sand. Yet there it is. This might seem strange for a country that is 10 parts sand to 1 part water, 1 part oil and 0.1 parts electricity. However, American commanders overseeing the drawdown of forces and equipment currently under way from Iraq confirm that Iraqi sand was deemed inadequate for the blast walls that have become one of the defining visual features of post-invasion Baghdad and other cities, stretching for mile upon mile around government ministries, airports, military bases and other important buildings.

So, boatloads of more resilient desert had to be floated in from other countries — namely the United Arab Emirates and Qatar. “When you start to ask why does it cost what it costs for this war, you are like: ‘Hey, when we build a wall in the United States it only costs you about \$1,500 dollars, why are you paying \$3,500 or \$5,000?’ ” said Maj. Gen. Phillip E. McGhee, director of resource management for the U.S. Third Army during an interview at Camp Arifjan last month. “And so we were going, ‘Well, that’s a great question. And then you look to see that based on the specs that we have for blast walls, it takes a particular grain and quality of sand. That sand is not in Iraq, so you have to bring the sand in. So that sand actually has to get on barges down in U.A.E. or down in Qatar, has to come all the way up here. You can either do one of two things, you can make the concrete, or you can just bring the sand up into Iraq.”

General McGhee provides the engineering rationale: “This isn’t a wall that you would just put on an interstate some place. These are blast walls, so they have to be reinforced steel. They are real specific about what type of concrete, and the strength of the concrete. And the sand that is up there did not meet the specs for those blast walls, so you have to find the sand elsewhere.” His colleague Brig. Gen. John O’Connor, the Third Army’s director of logistics, said the problem went beyond building the vertical concrete slabs.

A 15-ton blast wall, said General McGhee, costs around \$3,500 to build. But to move it elsewhere in the region “could cost us, transportation-wise, about \$15,000,” making it probably more cost-effective to leave it in place and buy another one elsewhere. The same goes for shipping containers, he said. “Depending what port you move that same container out of, it could cost you \$3,000 or it could cost you \$15,000,” he said. “Everyday we have to make a determination of what port you are going to move it out of, and by the way, do you move it out by air? Air is going to be much more expensive to do.

It’s a similar story on bottled water for troops in Afghanistan, he pointed out, because of the lack of capacity to bottle water locally. The water has to be shipped into Pakistan via the port of Karachi and then spends 17 days on the road to Afghanistan. “We pay 45 cents for a bottle of water in Iraq,” he said. “We pay \$2.50 for that same bottle of water in Afghanistan.”

Going to War? We’ve Got an App for That. London Times, April 1, 2010. www.business.timesonline.co.uk/tol/business/. The iPhone is going to war. US military chiefs are considering plans to deploy Apple’s products widely on the battlefield in an attempt to give soldiers a technological edge over insurgents in Iraq and Afghanistan. Soldiers on patrol could soon be

using the iPhone to share up-to-the-minute maps of enemy hotspots, view video from drones or check photos of insurgent sympathizers. US Army technology experts visited Apple's headquarters in Cupertino, California last month. Major General Nick Justice, commander of the Army's Research, Development and Engineering Command was given a tour of the company's laboratories to help him and his staff to evaluate the iPhone, the new iPad and other Apple products for use in the field. "The Army is moving away from big-green-box solutions and toward those that will adapt along with our warfighters on the battlefield," General Justice said.

This Week in Guard History.

March 31, 1918: Bordeaux, Dijon, St. Nazaire, France — Infantry and machine gun units of the 32nd Division (Mich., Wis.) are ordered to reassemble from their different training areas to the vicinity of La Chapelle-sous-Rougemont. Once the division is reorganized, it moves to the front lines just north of the Swiss border near Belfort. Here in early June it experienced its first combat. By war's end the division earned five campaign streamers. One of its regiments, Wisconsin's 128th Infantry, gained such a reputation for spirited attacks that the French give it the nickname "Les Terribles" (The Terrible Ones), which the unit proudly carries today.

This week in Ohio Guard History

29 March 1954: Battery C, 1st Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment (Marysville) is organized at Sandusky as Howitzer Company, 3d Battalion, 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment.
1 April 1925: Company A, 237th Support Battalion (Cleveland) is organized at Cleveland as Troop G, 107th Cavalry.
1 April 1998: The 1485th Transportation Company (Coshocton) is constituted in the Ohio Army National Guard as Detachment 2, 1485th Transportation Company.

Changes of Command

73rd Troop Command, April 11, 2010, 1430, Building 931 Rickenbacker. Outgoing Commander, BG Jack Lee, Incoming Commander, COL Deborah Ashenhurst.

147th Regional Training Institute, April 11, 2010, 1600, Building 931 Rickenbacker, 8208 S. Perimeter Rd, Columbus, OH 43217. Outgoing Commander, COL Dana McDaniel, Incoming Commander, COL Stuart Driesbach.

1191st Engineer Company (Horizontal), 2 May 2010, 1100, 1620 Coles Blvd, Portsmouth, OH 45662. Outgoing Commander, CPT Dion Goins, incoming Commander, CPT Gene Hancock.

Change of Responsibility

Special Troops Battalion 37th IBCT, 16 April 2010, Springfield Armory, 1800 hours,. CSM Scott M. Barga outgoing CSM, CSM William A. Workley, incoming CSM.

Upcoming Events

ONG Annual Family Readiness Conference, 9-11 April 2010 at the Columbus Marriott Northwest, 5605 Blazer Parkway, Dublin, Ohio 43017, (614) 791-1000. All registrations will be processed online at www.ong.ohio.gov/family or directly at <https://www.regonline.com/nationalguard>. If you are unable to register online, please contact our Family Readiness Office at (800) 589-9914 or (614) 336-7358 or your Wing Family Program Coordinator (Air National Guard).

73rd Infantry Brigade Alumni Meeting and Dinner. Wednesday 14 April, 2010, 1800, at Hooter's Restaurant, Hilliard, 5225 Nike Drive, Hilliard, OH 43026. All former members of the 73rd or its subordinate units are invited.

Grimes Gathering of B-25s features flying tribute to legendary Doolittle Raiders. Record number of B-25 bombers to descend upon Urbana for historic celebrations. From April 15-18, 2010, the snarl of radial engines will fill the skies over Ohio as Urbana's Grimes Field hosts the largest gathering of privately-owned airworthy B-25 Mitchell bombers since World War II. As part of the events honoring the 68th anniversary of the Doolittle Raid – including a reunion of surviving Doolittle Raiders at the National Museum of the United States Air Force (NMUSAF) – at least 20 B-25s will land at Grimes Field beginning April 15 for the "Grimes Gathering of B-25s." For the first two days of their visit, Thursday and Friday, the twin-engine bombers will stage out of Grimes Field while practicing formation flights, offering rides and standing on static display.

On Saturday morning, April 17, the bombers will depart for a flight to the NMUSAF, where they will take part in ceremonies honoring the surviving crewmen of the famed 1942 raid on Japan. "This gathering will really help put Grimes Field and the city of Urbana on the map," said Chris Patton, executive director of the Champaign Aviation Museum and one of the organizers of the event. For more information on the Grimes Gathering of B-25s, visit www.champaignaviationmuseum.org/.

Military Families Kalahari Weekend. Friday/Saturday, April 16/17, 2010 - From \$114! Mark your calendar and be part of the tradition! Have a blast at the annual Weekend Getaway at Kalahari - America's largest indoor waterpark, Sandusky, OH. ! Take advantage of special rates for all Military families, and friends, without going too far from home! Friday - \$114, Special Saturday rate of just \$134! (Rates normally \$229 to the public!) Stay Friday or Saturday (or both!) To reserve your room call 1-877- 525-2427 and ask for the "Military Families Group". Call soon, limited number available.

Mobile Commissary and AAFES Site Sales. Where: DSCC, 3990 East Broad St., Columbus, OH, Bldg 17, Section 4. When: Saturday, April 17 (1000-1700), Sunday, April 18 (1000-1600). Who: Military personnel (Active, National Guard, and Reservists), retirees, and their dependants with a valid military ID card. Parking is located around Bldg 17 with designated handicap parking. Forms of payment: Visa, MasterCard, Star, American Express, Check and Cash. Items for sale: cereals,

laundry & paper products, canned goods, juices, diapers, fresh meat (hamburger, steak, roasts), and produce.

The Pass & ID Office, Bldg 52, will be open as an additional service in providing ID's from 1000-1400 both days to assist military, retirees, and dependents obtain Military and/or Dependent ID cards. To obtain a new ID card, Retirees (Self Sponsor) and Dependents over the age of 18 will need to bring two forms of valid identification with Sponsor present. Valid identification consists of: Military ID card and/or Military Dependent ID card Valid/Unexpired State License Valid/Unexpired State ID Valid/Unexpired Passport Original Birth Certificate with state seal Original SSN Card Original Voter Registration Card Unexpired Permanent Resident Alien Card.

Pass and ID will also be available to issue decals for vehicles. To obtain a vehicle decal you must have a valid unexpired State License and valid registration in the sponsor or spouse's name, and Military or Dependent ID card. For additional information contact 614-692-3141.

A second Commissary sale will be held at the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo Express Airport, on Saturday, April 24, 0900-1700, and Sunday, April 25, 0900-1300.

ONGA/ONGEA Joint Conference. The annual conferences of the Ohio National Guard Officers Association and the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association will be held on April 23 and 24 at the Faucett Center on the campus of The Ohio State University. For details and registration information, please go the following websites:

Officers: [http://www.ohionga.org/Guard%20Post/2010-01-Guard-Post-web\[1\].pdf](http://www.ohionga.org/Guard%20Post/2010-01-Guard-Post-web[1].pdf)

Enlisted: <http://www.ongea.org/2.html>

179th AW Shadow Flight Alumni Reunion. Invitation to all retirees including non-uniformed personnel and guests to attend the 18th Shadow Flight reunion. Saturday, May 1st, 2010, starts with a social hour at 1800 with dinner and reminiscing to follow. \$31.00 per couple (\$15.50 single), Dress is comfortably casual – sporty. Reservations must be made by April 26, 2010 with checks included. (donations accepted). Dinner to be catered by Port-A-Cook at The Baku Grotto Hall on 747 South Main Street in Mansfield (1-419-756-5742). For additional information and registration materials, please contact Pat Lozier at shadow@kosinet.com.

Retirement Celebration for Brigadier General Jack E. Lee, Commander, 73rd Troop Command Brigade. May 1, 2010 at the Ohio Statehouse, 1 Capitol Sq. Columbus, OH 43215. Social hour at 5:30pm followed by dinner at 6:30pm. Parking under the Statehouse is included with the cost of dinner. Dinner choices include: Chicken Picatta or Vegetable Lasagna for \$40 or Rib eye for \$45. Response is requested by April 12th, 2010. Respond to SFC Annette Wood at 614336-6094 or annette.wood@us.army.mil. Please make checks payable to 73rd Officer Mess Fund. Local lodging is available at the Hyatt on Capitol Square. Go to: <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/OhioArmyNationalGuard> before April 16th, 2010 to reserve a room. The Columbus per diem rate is honored. Uniform: Army Dress, Class A or appropriate civilian attire

Military Appreciation Day at OSU Baseball. Bill Davis Baseball Stadium, OSU Campus for the OSU vs. Illinois Game, Saturday, May 8, 2010. Friends, family, teams, groups are all encouraged to attend this event. As long as the group is tied to an Ohio Military Member, everyone can participate. Operation Military Kids will be hosting a Pre-Game Tailgate in the stadium parking lot (parking in the stadium lot is FREE), which will begin at 1100 on May 8th with City BBQ serving food at 1130. Pre-game activities include: City BBQ meal of pulled pork, 2 sides and a dessert. All kids can stand on the field with their favorite Buckeye Baseball player during the National Anthem. The game will begin at 1305. To purchase the special \$8.25 tickets, use the online ordering link below: <https://oss.ticketmaster.com/html/go.html?l=EN&t=buckeyes&o=6882571&g=74>. The promo code is: Heroes. Baseball tickets for children 6 and under are free. Please contact Erin Berry at 614-336-7314 to make meal arrangements for youth ages 6 and under. Please bring your ticket and meal voucher with you to the tailgate. No refunds will be made if the game is cancelled due to inclement weather. If you have any questions please contact Erin Berry at 614-336-7314

2/174th ADA Retirees 2nd Annual Golf Outing. A Four Person "Best Ball" Golf Scramble will be held Sunday, May 23, 2010 at Fuller's Fairways, Zanesville, Ohio. Registration begins at 7:30 AM with a Shotgun Start at 8:30 AM. Registration Fee is \$50 per person or \$200 per team (4 Man Scramble Best Ball Format and Scoring). Proceeds from the event will go towards operation of the Retiree Association and to help the Family Support Association to assist Families of deployed Soldiers in need. To register, contact CPT Bob Lytton at 614-336-6727. or by email at robert.lytton@us.army.mil Registration Fee includes: Green Fees and Cart for 18 holes, with Lunch and Beverages to be served during the presentation ceremony at the end of the event.

Military Appreciation Day at the Memorial Tournament, Tuesday, June 1, 2010. All active, reserve, National Guard, retired and immediate family will receive complimentary admission, simply show your military ID. Gates open at 7:00 A.M. Free exclusive PGA/Military golf clinic – 1:30 P.M. Honoree Ceremony – 3:00 P.M. (Seve Ballesteros). Jack Nicklaus Golf Clinic – 4:30 P.M.

COL Daniel L.Tack Retirement Celebration Luncheon, Thursday, June 3, 2010, Crowne-Plaza North, 600 Metro-Place North, Dublin, OH 43017. Time: 1130-1300. Cost: \$20 per person. Duty Uniform. RSVP to LTC Thomas Haidet at thomas.haidet@us.a.rmy.mil or 614-906-6482 NLT 15 May 2010. Please make checks payable to 371st SB Officer Mess Fund.

178th FW June Event Celebration and Reunion. The 178th Fighter Wing is holding a Hail and Farewell Celebration and Reunion on June 5, 2010. The 162nd FS will hold a Pilot Reunion on Friday, June 4, 2010 as well. This celebration is to commemorate the outstanding history of excellence by the 178th FW, which has flown U.S. aircraft since 1947. Due to BRAC, the wing will lose its American F-16s this fiscal year. A tail flash and nose art contest is in the works to commemorate this event as well. The Saturday celebration will culminate in a full unit reunion that evening for all former and present members. For information on this event and other retiree information from the 178FW, please go to www.178fw-alumni.com for full details. Please take the time to register on this site to ensure that you receive all the latest information for retirees and former members of the 178th Fighter Wing.

1/137 Aviation Regiment Commercial Point Welcome Home. The city of Commercial Point has been a source of much support to the Soldiers of the 1/137 during their recent deployment. They

will honor the unit on Saturday, 12 June 2010, with a parade starting at 1100. There will also be a helicopter flyover and landing at 1230. At 1300, there will be a "Welcome Home Event" at 26 W. Scioto St. in Commercial Point, Ohio 43146. The welcome home event will be a combined effort of the City of Commercial Point and the Battalion's Family Support Groups. Friends, alumni, and family members are encouraged to attend. For additional information please contact Maj. Wayne Thomas at wayne.allen.thomas@us.army.mil or by phone at 614-336-6459.

2010 Alumni Reunion Date Set. The date and location for the 2010 ONG Alumni Reunion have been established. The date is Saturday, September 18, at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base. We are currently developing the program and will have additional information including possible social activities for Friday, September 17, and discounted lodging at a nearby hotel. More information to follow.

Upcoming Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee Meetings Schedule – April 2010

Region 1 – RISFAC Meeting, April 29, 2010, 6:30pm – 8:00pm, Veterans Service Commission of Summit County, 1060 E. Waterloo Rd. Akron, OH 44306, Phone: 330-643-7636. Region 1 - Family Assistance Center Specialist: Joyce Stingel and Melissa Wise. Office Phone: 866-278-5756. Mobile: 330-730-9243
Email: joyce.stingel1@us.army.mil or melissa.wise@us.army.mil

Region 2 – RISFAC Meeting, 21 April, 2010, 6:00pm – 7:30pm, Ross County Service Center Conference Room A, 475 Western Avenue, Chillicothe OH 45601, 740-702-3120 (Roberta Tackett)
Region 2 - Family Assistance Center Specialist: Jennifer Moor, Office Phone: 866-270-8283, Mobile: 740-637-0340, Email: jennifer.l.moore2@us.army.mil

Region 3 – RISFAC Meeting, 26 April, 2010, 6:30pm – 8:00pm, Woodlawn Community Center, 10050 Woodlawn Blvd, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215, Phone: 614-336-6714, Region 3 - Family Assistance Center Specialist: Brian Via, Office Phone: 866-278-5757, Mobile: 513-869-9248, Email: brian.via@us.army.mil

Region 4 – RISFAC Meeting, 27 April, 2010, 6:30pm – 8:00pm, Dayton Area American Red Cross, 370 W. First Street Dayton, Ohio 45402, Phone: 937-222-6711. Region 4 - Family Assistance Center Specialist: Jerry Wiggins and Robin Robbins, Office Phone: 866-278-5759, Mobile: 937-751-8472, Email: jerry.wiggins1@us.army.mil or robin.robbins1@us.army.mil

Region 5 – RISFAC Meeting, 29 April, 2010, 6:30pm – 8:00pm, Richland County Red Cross Chapter, 39 North Park, Mansfield, Ohio 44902, Phone: (419) 524-0311. Region 5 - Family Assistance Center Specialist: Margret Szymanski, Office Phone: 866-278-5755, Mobile: 419-494-2959, Email: margret.szymanski@us.army.mil

Region 6 – RISFAC Meeting, 28 April 2010, 6:30pm – 8:00pm, National College, 5665 Forest Hills Blvd, Phone: 614-212-2800. Region 6 - Family Assistance Center Specialist: Angela Dyer and

Michelle McMillan, Office Phone: 800-589-9914, Mobile: 614-406-2148, Email: angela.dyer1@us.army.mil or michelle.c.mcmillan@us.army.mil

These are great opportunities for alumni to reconnect with units and learn about ways to support our Guard families.

Call to Duty Ceremonies – none currently scheduled

Welcome Home Ceremonies – none currently scheduled

With sorrow we announce the passing of the following members of the ONG family:

CPT (Ret) John M. Jones, March 20, 2010, former Commander of the 214th Maintenance Company, Coshocton, Ohio.

SFC (Ret) Patty Prater, March 21, 2010, former member of the OHARNG, Recruiting Command and wife of SGM (Ret) Danny Prater.

Kathryn Stewart, March 23, 2010 mother-in-law of LTC (Ret) John King, former member of the 16th Engineer Brigade.

Mr. Richard Linn, March 28, 2010, father of MSG Michael Linn, 371st SUST BDE and OHARNG Medical Training Team Coordinator

Website of Interest:

<http://www.defense.gov/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=13420>. Listing of all National Guard and Reserve Units currently activated.

Where Are They Now?

Donald C. (Pop) Porter, MSgt (ret) Ohio Air National Guard. Pop, as he is affectionately called by just about everyone, has had a long and distinguished career with the ANG. He served 39 years, starting in the Navy (1946-49), continuing into the USAF in Korea (1950-54), on to the USAFR in Pittsburgh (1955-65), and finally to Lockbourne/Rickenbacker (1965-84). MSgt Porter wanted to be around airplanes, jets to be exact. Every time you enter the gate at Rickenbacker you go by his A7-D on display there. While in Korea, Pop crewed F-86 jets and teamed with COL Francis (Gabby) Gabreski, third ranking ace in WWII, and a double Ace after his service in Korea. One of Pop's many talents is his ability to think outside the box and find creative solutions to problems that would stump others. For example, Pop wanted to get more speed out of his F-86 E. He did that by installing an A model tailpipe, making his F-86 the fastest in Korea. Pop and Col (ret) Don Griffith, former 121st Wing Commander served together in Korea in 1951 with the 4th Fighter Wing.

Pop and his wife Amy have been married for 56 years. Three of their four sons have served in the military and all are successful in their civilian careers. Pop credits his success to having good people work for him and giving them backing and support. These days Pop and many of his alumni associates from the 121st ARW work at an office in the Rickenbacker motor pool reconstructing the Air Guard's great history at that base. They also are involved in a book project which documents the history of Lockbourne/Rickenbacker AFB/ANGB. If you stop by on Thursday mornings, you will find them there and you can buy a copy. Pop was 81 at his last birthday and has no plans to slow down any time soon.

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