

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

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Alumni Affairs council plans for 2011

by Mr. James Moore, Contractor

The alumni affairs council meeting took place Feb. 11, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. at Bieghtler Armory

Mr. Don Biechler, Mr. Robert Marsh, Mr. Randy Stowell, Mr. Jim Chisman, Lt. Col. Kathryn Lowery and Mr. James Moore attended.

The main focus of the meeting was to decide on a location and itinerary for the upcoming alumni reunion in September.

After introductions, the council reviewed reunion summaries from 2009 and 2010. This generated a discussion on location as well as what seemed to be missing from the previous reunions. The summaries showed that Camp Perry and Columbus-based locations were the locations of choice and most attendees wanted to see more social time incorporated into the agenda.

The council suggested the following aspects be

incorporated into the reunion.

- A place for socializing in the community with overnight lodging available.
- Possibly hosting a golf tournament.
- Short tours of military equipment.
- Table top vendor displays such as VA, TRICARE, ONGA, ID card kiosk and Military One-Source.
- Short overview briefings by senior ONG leadership or stories about deployment experiences.

These ideas will be researched for feasibility and be included into the upcoming reunion itinerary, if possible.

The group chose Mansfield and DSCC as potential locations for the reunion.

Many alumni suggested Camp Perry but there are no dates available for 2011. To alleviate the non-availability of Camp Perry in

the future, Mr. Moore will request Camp Perry for Sept. 2012 if the council agrees on that location for next year.

Mansfield and DSCC locations will be explored to determine feasibility and amenities at each location. All information will be passed to the council for a vote.

The meeting ended with a discussion on how we, the alumni, can support military families.

Attending RISFAC meetings and offering a skill or discount to military families would be a great start. An example of this would be an alumnus that owns a car repair business and agreed to offer a discount to all military families or an alumnus that is an attorney could offer pro bono work.

The meeting ended at 4:00 p.m.

I look forward to working with you to create the 2011 reunion and devising strategies in support of military families.

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Editor's Note

If you would like to submit an article for the Alumni Newsletter please contact Mr. Moore before the 10th of each month.
Contact Mr. Moore at (614)336-7336.

NGAUS promotes bill to clarify definition of "veteran"

NGAUS expects sponsors to come forward in the House and Senate to put forth a bill that broadens the definition of "veteran".

The *Honor America's Guard and Reserve Retirees Act* died in the Senate during the 111th Congress after passing the House. One senator held up the bill, which had been "hot lined" through the chamber's legislative process.

The bill would have allowed anyone who served 20 years in the reserve component to be considered a veteran, something that

current law denies unless the retiree served significant time on federal active duty.

Although no additional benefits would come with the law and no money would be spent by the federal government, the idea had great support because of the honor and pride it brings to someone who can lawfully consider themselves a veteran.

Currently, no similar legislation has been introduced in either chamber, but NGAUS is confident sponsors and co

-sponsors will be found to put their names on the legislation.

12th Annual Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor induction ceremony
May 6, 2011
11:30 a.m.
Veterans Plaza, Columbus, Ohio State House
This year twenty Ohio Veterans will be inducted.

Little-known benefit aids veterans

The Aid and Attendance (A&A) Pension provides benefits for veterans and surviving spouses who require the regular attendance of another person to assist in eating, bathing, dressing or taking care of the needs of nature. It also includes individuals who are blind or a patient in a nursing home because of mental or physical incapacity. Assisted care in an assisting living facility also qualifies. To qualify for A&A it needs to be established by your physician that you require daily assistance by others to dress, undress, bath, cook, eat, take on or off of prosthetics, leave home etc. You DO NOT have to require assistance with all of

these. There simply needs to be adequate medical evidence that you cannot function completely on your own. The A&A Pension can provide up to \$1,632 per month to a veteran, \$1,055 per month to a surviving spouse, or \$1,949 per month to a couple*. Eligibility must be proven by filing the proper Veterans Application for Pension or Compensation. ([Form 21-534 surviving spouse](#)) ([Form 21-526 Veteran](#).) This application will require a copy of a DD-214 (see below for more information) or separation papers, Medical Evaluation from a physician, current medical issues, net worth limitations, and net income, along with out-of-

pocket Medical Expenses. A DD-214 is issued to military members upon separation from active service. DD-214s were issued to separated service members beginning in the 1950's. The term "DD-214" is often used generically to mean "separation papers" or "discharge papers", no matter what form number was used to document active duty military service. If the VA has a copy of a DD-214, it is usually because the veteran attached a copy (or sometimes, the original) to his or her application for disability or

education benefits. If you've lost your original DD-214 or a copy and you are receiving (or applied for in the past) disability or education benefits from the VA, they may have a copy (or the original, if you gave it to them) on file. At the very least, if you are currently receiving benefits (or did in the past), they should be able to provide a Statement of Service, which can be used instead of a "DD-214". To request a copy of a DD-214 visit www.vetrec.archives.gov.

Deployment activity

The following Army units are deployed:	There are 565 Ohio Army National Guard Soldiers deployed .	The 179th Fighter Wing has 44 Airmen deployed.
The Operational Mentoring & Liaison Teams 1.5 and 1.6.	This information comes from the deployed unit's dashboard.	The 180th Fighter Wing has 21 Airmen deployed.
The 112th Engineer Battalion	The Current Deployments for the Air National Guard by wing includes:	The 178th Fighter Wing has 81 Airmen deployed.
The 1-174th ADA Regiment	The 121 Air Refueling Wing has 23 Airmen deployed.	This information was gathered from the monthly Wing Status Reports.
The 292nd Engineer Detachment		
The 1937 SPT Detachment		

New commander chosen for 180th Fighter Wing in Toledo

Columbus, Ohio—Col. Mark Bartman, Ohio assistant adjutant general for air, announced Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

on Jan. 11 that the 180th Fighter Wing Vice Commander Steven Nordhaus was selected as 180th Fighter Wing Commander. Col. Nordhaus replaces Col. Bartman who was recently promoted to the position of Assistant Adjutant General for Air.

Col. Nordhaus is a United States Air Force Academy graduate and a command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours including 83 combat missions in Operations Southern Watch, Vigilant Warrior, Northern Watch,

Memorials

It is with deep regret and sorrow that this office announces the following death notifications:

Mrs. Thelma Sansom passed away on Jan. 23, the grandmother of Mrs. Tara Drzik and grandmother-in-law of Warrant Officer Thomas Drzik, 145th Regional Training Institute.

Ms. Helen MacKeverican, the grandmother of Capt. Jack MacKeverican, of Alpha Company 1-137th Aviation Regiment.

Dana Leroy Myers passed away on

Jan. 28, a former Marine and father of 2nd. Lt. Joseph Myers of Echo Company 1-137th Aviation Regiment.

Technical Sgt. (Ret.) Russel Doughty, step-father to Sgt. First Class Michael Mendenhall of the HHC 371st STB and a Surface Maintenance Mechanic with the CSMS (Columbus). Tech. Sgt. Doughty served 21 years of active duty in the Air Force and two tours in Vietnam.

Col. (Ret.) David E. Smith passed away on Feb. 10, previous commander of the 237th Support Battalion, 73rd Separate Infantry Brigade (1977-1980), and 371st Corps Support

Group (1983-1985).

Lt. Col. (Ret.) William B. Fuller, USAF, passed away on Feb. 13, served over 30 years with the Ohio Air National Guard and United States Air Force, previous deputy commander for maintenance of the 160th Air Refueling Group and retired in 1985.

New mailing address
for all retirement
applications:
HUMAN RESOURCE
CENTER OF
EXCELLENCE
ATTN: AHRC-PDR-
RCR
1600 SPEARHEAD
DIVISION AVENUE
DEPT 420
FT. KNOX. KY 40122
-5402

Are you eligible for a veterans bonus?

Your military service may be worth more than you think. As a veteran, you could qualify for assistance with health or education, a loan for a new home and many other benefits. If you served after Oct. 7, 2001, you may also be eligible for the Ohio Veterans Bonus. The Ohio Department of Veterans Services wants to connect you to what you've earned. Contact the County

Veterans Service Network at 1-877-OHIO-VET (1-877-644-6838) or visit <http://www.dvs.ohio.gov> on the web

43215, the phone number is 614-728-0235 or visit <http://www.va.gov> on the web.

For more information on what is owed to you for your service, go to the Department of Veteran Affairs. If in the Columbus area visit the Ohio Department of Veterans Services at 77 South High Street, 17th Floor, Columbus, Ohio

Motorcycle safety

The popularity of motorcycling grows more and more every year. Dealers are experiencing increasing sales, and the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles is reporting an increase in motorcycle registrations and endorsements. However, there can be a negative consequence to this trend as well; more cyclists sharing the roads have led to a recent increase in the number of motorcycle crashes and fatalities in Ohio. Motorcycle statistics remained steady in Ohio from 2000 to 2004, averaging 3,900 crashes, 3,300 injuries and 130 fatalities per year. However, in 2005 those totals rose sharply to about 4,400 crashes, 3,800 injuries, and 180 deaths. The motorcycle's operators were found mostly at fault for these crashes, while half the fatalities showed alcohol had been involved.

Last year, 17 Army National Guard Soldiers across the nation were killed or seriously

injured in motorcycle-related crashes. Due to the significant increase in crashes, the Motorcycle Ohio Program of the Ohio Department of Public Safety is strongly encouraging all cyclists to get properly licensed and trained and ride responsibly.

Rider personal protective equipment (PPE) includes a Department of Transportation approved helmet, a face shield or impact-resistant goggles attached securely to the helmet, sturdy over the ankle footwear, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long pants, full-fingered gloves or mittens designed for motorcycles, brightly colored outer garments such as a vest, belt, riding jacket and a retro-reflective upper garment for night riding. These requirements are spelled out under the Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 5055.4, the DoD Traffic Safety Program and AR 385-55, Prevention of motor vehicle accidents. In the 16-hour Basic Rider

Course, young riders learn how to manipulate the roads, take curves, and basic understanding of shifting.

The program also offers a six-hour Experienced Rider Course for those who are experienced but may need a refresher course on safe riding techniques.

Motorcycle Ohio remains the premiere motorcycle safety and education program in the state, having enhanced the riding skills of more than 90,000 motorcyclists since it was established in 1987. For more information on the Motorcycle Ohio courses, please contact 614-995-7127 or 1-800-83-RIDER. Training locations and schedule can be found on Motorcycle Ohio's Web site at http://motorcycle.ohio.gov/basic_rider.stm.

Ohio National Guard

Community Outreach Office

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[HTTP://ONG.OHIO.GOV](http://ONG.OHIO.GOV)

April 2011 RISFAC Meetings:

Region 1 - April 21
Region 2 - April 20
Region 3 - April 21
Region 4 - April 26
Region 5 - April 19
Region 6 - April 20

For questions regarding the time or place of RISFAC meetings, contact Mr. James Moore at (614) 336-7336.



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FaceBook <http://www.facebook.com/TheOhioNationalGuard>

Flickr <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ohionationalguard>

Twitter <http://twitter.com/ohnationalguard>

YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/OhioNationalGuard>

When called, we respond with ready units to execute federal, state and community missions.

2010 Community Outreach summary

Thanks to great collaboration and support, Community Outreach was very productive in 2010. Overall, Outreach reached out 8, 633 times to members of key communities and led or supported 57 events that were attended by 610 people. The events were Joint Employer, Annual Training, Call to Duty, Welcome Home, Yellow Ribbon Reintegration, the Alumni Reunion, Orientation Flights, VIP Civic Leader and Association Outreach. Ninety-four civilians attended five orientation flights. A major accomplishment of the Outreach office was winning first place in the 2009 Army National Guard Category B

Community Outreach contest.

Although the alumni affairs program experienced some transition in 2010, fourteen alumni newsletters were distributed and 103 attended the Rickenbacker Alumni Reunion.

Employer outreach helped organize 42 events that 302 employers attended. In 2010, we increased our contact with employers by 30% from the previous year. We initiated several communication strategies to help Soldiers and Airman strengthen their relationship with employers.

The "Succeeding at Work" brochure distributed to 6000 service members provided

helpful hints to sustain the employer/employee relationship. A quarterly postcard mailing was started to employers of deploying 37th IBC T members to keep them informed. Patriot award recipients were also mailed letters informing them about the employer outreach office and providing website brochures to help them find service members to hire.

The most significant outreach tool developed in 2010 is the key community "Ask." This product specifically targets audiences providing concrete suggestions about ways to connect with the organization.

This product will help us better cultivate Ambassadors.

Thank you for what you do to support Ohio National Guard Outreach. Our staff looks forward to working with you again in 2011.