

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.

AGO Pam 10-3 (ARMY), Ohio Army National Guard Command Structure. Many Army retirees have inquired about the current organization of the Army Guard. AGO Pam 10-3, which outlines the command structure and organization of the OHARNG is available on the alumni website at <http://www.ong.ohio.gov/AlumniTest.html>.

Ohio National Guard Earns Honors in National Media Contests. The Ohio National Guard recently garnered four first-place finishes in the 2009 National Guard Bureau media contest. This year's competition included more than 700 print stories and about 140 broadcast packages. Ohio winners included the Buckeye Guard magazine, published by the state public affairs office and edited by 1SG Steve Toth, which earned first place honors in the print magazine category for the second year in a row. This marks the 16th time since 1992 that the Buckeye Guard has been judged among the top three state magazines in the National Guard, including 12 first place finishes. Ohio competed against 16 other National Guard magazine publications this year, including Kentucky's Bluegrass Guard, which took second place and Michigan's Wolverine Guard, which took third.

The state's Office of Community Outreach won first place in Community Relations Category B, with Minnesota's Red Bull Nation earning second place honors. Sgt. Joel Gottke of the 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, which recently mobilized for its second deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, took an individual first place award in the television sports report category. The 196th was another repeat winner, earning consecutive first place finishes in the local television newscast category, with "Eye on Ohio," which this year also took first place honors in the Department of Army's Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware public affairs competition. The DA-level competition is judged by the U.S. Army's Office of the Chief of Public Affairs and sponsored by the Secretary of the Army. The package will now go on to compete in the military's most prestigious media competition – the Defense Department's Thomas Jefferson Awards.

Working to Preserve the Legacy of a True American Hero. In an effort to ensure that the legacy of a true American hero lives on, Sen. Voinovich recently introduced a bill (S.2933) to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Colonel Charles Young Home as a unit of the National Park System (NPS). Sen. Voinovich was pleased to travel to Xenia, Ohio to discuss the legislation

with the local community. Col. Young made significant military and public service contributions to Ohio and the nation. He was a distinguished African-American officer in the United States Army, the third African-American to graduate from West Point, and a commander of combat troops in the Spanish-American and Mexican Wars. His service in the Army between 1884 and 1922 illustrates the changing nature of race relations in the United States during a period spanning from the end of the Civil War to the beginning of the Civil Rights movement. As the commander of an Army unit assigned to protect and develop Sequoia National Park and General Grant National Park in California, Col. Young was recognized as the first African-American to be the Superintendent of a National Park. He also taught at Wilberforce University and was an accomplished linguist. Sen. Voinovich's bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating Col. Young's home in Xenia as a unit of the NPS. The legislation was heard during a March 17 National Parks Subcommittee hearing. Central State University (CSU), one of two Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in Ohio, has taken over ownership of The Colonel Charles Young Home. Sen. Voinovich's support of Ohio's HBCUs dates back to his tenure as governor of Ohio and mayor of Cleveland. As a U.S. Senator he continues to support Ohio's HBCUs and is pleased to assist CSU in its efforts to move forward in designating Col. Young's home as an official site in the NPS.

Recent News Releases

Army Drops Bayonets, Revamps Training. FORT JACKSON, S.C. — New soldiers are grunting through the kind of stretches and twists found in “ab blaster” classes at suburban gyms as the Army revamps its basic training regimen for the first time in three decades. Heeding the advice of Iraq and Afghanistan combat veterans, commanders are dropping five-mile runs and bayonet drills in favor of zigzag sprints and exercises that hone core muscles. Battlefield sergeants say that's the kind of fitness needed to dodge across alleys, walk patrol with heavy packs and body armor or haul a buddy out of a burning vehicle.

Trainers also want to toughen recruits who are often more familiar with Facebook than fistfights. “Soldiers need to be able to move quickly under load, to be mobile under load, with your body armor, your weapons and your helmet, in a stressful situation,” said Frank Palkoska, head of the Army's Fitness School at Fort Jackson, which has worked several years on overhauling the regime. “We geared all of our calisthenics, all of our running movements, all of our warrior skills, so soldiers can become stronger, more powerful and more speed driven,” Palkoska said. The exercises are part of the first major overhaul in Army basic fitness training since men and women began training together in 1980, he said. The new plan is being expanded this month at the Army's four other basic training installations — Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., Fort Sill, Okla., Fort Benning, Ga., and Fort Knox, Ky. For more information on the new basic combat training program go to http://www.armytimes.com/news/2010/03/ap_basic_training_overhaul_031610/

Campaign Stars Approved for Latest OIF Phases. The following Military Times article, published on Thursday March 11, 2010,, describes changes to the Iraqi Campaign Medal. Bronze campaign stars recognizing the 2007-08 surge of American troops into Iraq, as well as current stabilization efforts, have been authorized for wear on the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Pentagon announced Thursday. The surge campaign phase has been established as running from January 1, 2007, to

December 31, 2008; the second campaign star, for the phase identified as "Iraqi Sovereignty," began January 1, 2009, and will continue through a date to be determined.

Although all who have served in "direct support" in the Iraq war on or after March 13, 2003, are authorized to wear the medal, the stars recognize designated campaigns during the war. Four previous phases had been identified, and service members who have qualified for the Iraq Campaign Medal can display a bronze campaign star on their medal for each designated campaign phase in which they took part. The other four phases, announced previously, are: Liberation of Iraq: March 19, 2003, to May 1, 2003; Transition of Iraq: May 2, 2003, to June 28, 2004; Iraqi Governance: June 29, 2004, to December 15, 2005; and the "National Resolution" phase: December 16, 2005, to January 9, 2007. The respective military departments are currently working specific implementation guidance.

Phase Two of the process to remove printed Social Security numbers from retiree identification cards set to begin early this year has been delayed until further notice.

When a new plan is made available to the Services, information will be advertised through Air Force retiree news outlets and other public affairs media.

There are more than 1,500 ID card centers worldwide. To find the nearest center, visit the RAPIDS site locator at www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/owa/home. Officials urge cardholders to call first to ensure duty hours and determine what documents are required. People must present two forms of identification and one must be an unexpired federal- or state-issued photo ID.

Update on the Ohio Veteran's Bonus. The Ohio Department of Veterans Services (DVS) is diligently creating an application process so that eligible veterans can request the bonus that was overwhelmingly approved by Ohio voters last November third. DVS has drafted a comprehensive set of rules that will be reviewed in the Ohio Legislature by the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review. At the same time, the Ohio Public Facilities Commission is taking the necessary steps so that the bonds which will finance the bonuses can be created, advertised and sold to investors.

Several other crucial but time-consuming steps also are underway:

1. Computer software and programs are being created to review the applications and determine eligibility.
2. Staff must be hired and trained to process the applications that could come from an estimated 200,000 veterans who are Ohio residents.
3. When applications are submitted, all information must be verified with military and other records to ensure that veterans are eligible and that they are applying for all that they have earned.

Nobody can accurately predict when DVS will tell eligible veterans to begin applying for the bonus and when the first checks will be mailed. Based on the experiences of other states however, DVS hopes to be mailing the first checks in October. Then, the process will continue for several months as applications are received and processed. DVS wants to ensure that the application process is user friendly for Ohio veterans and that our veterans get the service they deserve. DVS will use the news media, their Web site (www.dvs.ohio.gov) and various other communication vehicles to advise eligible veterans when it is ready to receive their bonus applications. The Ohio Department of Veterans Services wants the bonus application and approval process to be easily understood, accurate and efficient.

This Week in Guard History.

March 19, 1945: Wattweiler, Germany — Colorado's 157th Infantry, an element of the 45th Infantry Division, seizes this town after breaching the Nazi defense barrier known as the Siegfried Line. The 45th Division entered combat in July 1943 when it took part in the invasion of Sicily. It later made assault landings at Salerno and Anzio in Italy and on the Riviera in southern France.

By war's end it would capture Nuremberg, the symbolic home of the Nazi movement, and Munich, where Adolf Hitler got his start leading the Nazi Party.

This week in Ohio Guard History

18 March 1910: Battery B, 1st Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment (Woodlawn) is organized at Hamilton as Company M, 1st Infantry Regiment.

24 March 1942: The 216th Engineer Battalion is constituted in the Army of the United States as Headquarters, 14th Ordnance Battalion.

11 March 1993. An Air Force report on Base Realignment and Closure recommended that, contrary to the recommendations of the 1991 commission, the 121st Air Refueling Wing (ARW) and 160th Air Refueling Group, Ohio ANG, should remain at the Rickenbacker ANG Base, Ohio.

12 March 1976. A KC-135A from Ohio's 145th Air Refueling Squadron became the first ANG tanker to participate in a Strategic Air Command (SAC) over water air refueling. The Guard aircraft helped SAC KC-135s refuel A-7s deploying from California to Hawaii.

Changes of Command

A Battery 1-134th Field Artillery Regiment 20 March 2010, 1300, 2561 Harding Highway East Marion, OH. Outgoing Commander, Captain Don Stranathan. Incoming Commander, Captain Brandon Skiver.

371st Sustainment Brigade Change of CSM Responsibility, 21 March 2010, 1400, Kettering Armory. CSM Scott M. Barga succeeds CSM William A. Myers, who retires on 31 March 2010 after more than thirty years of military service.

1st Battalion, 137th Aviation Regiment, 28 March 2010, 1400, Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, Army Aviation Support Facility #2, 7750 S. Access Rd, Bldg 918. Outgoing Commander LTC Anthony P. DiGiacomo II, Incoming Commander LTC Stephen L. Rhoades.

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.

Upcoming Events

Army Guard Officer Candidate School Dining Out, March 20, 2010, 1800, 1800, Fawcett Center, on the campus of The Ohio State University, 2400 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, OH 43210. For registration or information contact OC Donnell Carrington: donnell.carrington@us.army.mil, or by mail: Donnell Carrington, 66111 Pasqual Ave., Columbus, OH 43213. Cost is \$40 per person or \$75 per couple.

Cincinnati Recruit/Military Veteran Opportunity Expo. A free hiring event for veterans who already have civilian work experience, men and women who are transitioning from active duty to civilian life, members of the National Guard and reserves, and military spouses. Veteran-friendly employers, franchisors, and educational institutions will be in attendance offering a variety of opportunities. The Expo will be held at Great American Ballpark Cincinnati, OH 45202, Thursday, March 25, 2010, 11 am to 3 pm. To register for the event or for more information on RecruitMilitary Veteran Opportunity Expos, please visit www.recruitmilitary.com.

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).

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.

179th AW Shadow Flight Alumni Reunion. Invitation to all Retirees including non-uniformed personnel and guests to attend the 18th Shadow Flight reunion. WHEN: Saturday, May 1st, 2010, starts with a social hour at 1800 with dinner and reminiscing to follow. COST: \$31.00 per couple (\$15.50 single), Dress: Comfortably Casual – Sporty. Reservations must be made by April 26, 2010 with checks included. (Extra donations permitted). 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

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>

2/174th ADA Retirees 2nd Annual Golf Outing. 16 May 10 at Fullers Fairways in Zanesville. More information to follow.

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

Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT 1.5), July, 2010, details to follow.

Welcome Home Ceremonies

C Troop, 2-107th Cavalry, Monday, March 22, 2010, 1000, Dayton Masonic Center, 525 West Riverview Ave, Dayton, Ohio 45405.

B Troop, 2-107th Cavalry, Monday, March 22, 2010, 1300, Urbancrest Baptist Church, 2634 Drake Road, Lebanon, Ohio 45036.

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

Glendal Dick Belt, February 14, 2010, mother of COL (ret) Dick Belt, 112th Medical Brigade.

Ronald A. Stephenson, March 6, 2010, step-father of SFC Heath Stephenson (Sr. Human Resources NCO, HQ, 1-145 AR RGMT).

Websites of Interest:

www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/doolittle.asp The Doolittle Tokyo Raiders will celebrate their 68th reunion with many free public events, April 16-18, at the Air Force Museum in Dayton, OH..\\

www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov. The National Resource Directory is an online tool for wounded, ill and injured Service Members, Veterans, their families and those who support them. It provides access to thousands of services and resources at the national, state and local levels to support recovery, rehabilitation and community reintegration.

<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/womenshealth/>. Female Veteran Healthcare Information.

Where Are They Now?

SFC (ret) Chris Bell

SFC (ret) Chris Bell served as the AMEDD recruiter from Nov 00 until his retirement in June 05. Prior to that, he served in a wide variety of positions within the 684th Medical Company and the 112th Medical Brigade of the OHARNG during his 26 year career. When Chris retired from the military, he went to work as a civilian contactor for the Army Guard in the Recruiting and Retention Command as the R&R Statistician and Training Coordinator, a position he still holds. Chris and his wife, Geri, have 7 children with 3 still at home. Their middle daughter, Katie, is a Platform Diver at The Ohio State University, who just recently placed 3rd at the USA Diving's Winter National Championships, following her 1st place finish at last Year's USA Diving Summer National

championships. She is on track to hopefully represent the USA at the 2012 Summer Olympics. Chris also has a son living in Sana Cruz, CA learning to be a farmer, a daughter living in Hawaii, and a married daughter in the Columbus area.

Chris is an active member of the 112th Medical Brigade Retiree/Alumni Association.

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