

The Ohio National Guard Alumni Newsletter



VOLUME 1, Edition 13

August 14, 2009

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 and explore the entire website, particularly the many recent news releases about your Guard.

By now, everyone should have received the registration packet for the Ohio National Guard Alumni Reunion to be held at DSCC in Columbus on September 19th. If you have not received it and desire to attend, please contact COL (ret) Jim Chisman.

Assistant Adjutant General for Air Selection. On July 7, the Adjutant General, Maj.Gen. Wayt announced the selection of COL Mark Bartman, Commander of the 180th Fighter Wing, as the Assistant Adjutant General for Air Designee. COL Bartman will assume the position in November, 2010, upon the retirement of current Assistant Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. AJ Feucht. In making the announcement, Maj. Gen. Wayt noted that COL Bartman has served with distinction in a number of key assignments and brings a wealth of experience and leadership to the position.

Ohio Air National Guard Names New Command Chief. Chief Master Sgt. Tamara Phillips has been chosen as the new senior enlisted Airman for the Ohio Air National Guard. She replaces Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy, who was recently selected for the top enlisted job at the national level. Phillips is both the first female and first African-American state command chief in the Ohio Air National Guard. Phillips made history in 2005 when she became the first female chief for the Springfield-based 178th Fighter Wing.

“Chief Master Sgt. Phillip’s extensive background in personnel makes her a superb choice to serve as the senior enlisted advisor on our Air team,” said Maj. Gen. Harry “A.J.” Feucht, Ohio’s assistant adjutant general for Air. “Maj. Gen. (Gregory L.) Wayt, (Ohio adjutant general) and I will rely on her judgment and advice, much the same as we did with Chief Master Sergeant Muncy.” As the state command chief, Phillips serves as a mentor and guide for the 5,000 Airmen in the Ohio Air National Guard. She said she believes her personnel background will be extremely beneficial because she knows what it takes to manage an Air Force career from beginning to end; something she feels will help her when assisting Airmen throughout Ohio.

Announcement of the 2009 National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) Award Recipients. Maj. Gen. Wayt announced the following NGAUS awards to be presented to Ohio Army and Air Guard members during the NGAUS annual conference to be held in Nashville, TN, September 11-13, 2009.

Patrick Henry Award	Mr. David Allen (174 th ADA Bde)
Meritorious Service Award	COL John C. Harris Jr. (JFHQ-J1)
Meritorious Service Certificate	COL(R) James H. Chisman (Fort Ohio)
Valley Forge Cross for Heroism	SPC Ryan Kilgour (16 th EN Bde)
Valley Forge Cross for Heroism	CPT Jill M. McLoughlin (JFHQ-DIMR)
Valley Forge Certificate	Maj James R. Parry (179 th AW)
Roosevelt Leadership Award	CPT David Haynes (174 th ADA Bde)
Roosevelt Leadership Award	CPT Aaron Mix (371 st Sus Bde)

In making the announcement, Maj. Gen. Wayt noted, "These are extremely prestigious awards and I would like to convey the extreme pride that not only I, but the entire Leadership Team of the Ohio National Guard have in their accomplishments".

This Week in Guard History: Aug. 11, 1965: Los Angeles, Calif. - What should have been a routine traffic stop in the Watts neighborhood of South Central Los Angeles developed into one of the worst race riots in American history. Tensions between the black community and city law enforcement erupted into a near war as snipers and arsonists attacked the police and fire department personnel sent to quell the disturbance.

In one of the largest deployments of aid to civil authority in American history up to that time, 12,758 California Guardsmen, drawn from two divisions - 7,560 troops from the 40th Armored Division and 5,198 from the 49th Infantry Division - were put on the streets to help restore order and protect people and property. Air Guard units from California and Arizona flew a total of 18 C-97 and five C-119 transport aircraft to airlift the 49th Infantry Division's men from Northern California to the Los Angeles area. While a number of Guardsmen returned sniper fire, it remains unclear if any civilians were killed by the Guard.

After six days and nights of civil insurrection, the city's streets were restored to peace, but at a very high cost: 34 dead, more than 1,000 injured, including several Guardsmen, 4,000 arrested and over 1,000 buildings destroyed. Government and civic leaders, including some in the black community, praised the Guardsmen for their courage, devotion to duty and fair treatment of citizens regardless of race. Four Guardsmen were awarded the California Military Cross for bravery.

Upcoming Events.

Northwest Ohio Air Show, Sat/Sun August 29-30, 2009, Toledo Express Airport.
General Admission Tickets: www.northwestohioairshow.com Military and retirees receive free admission with valid ID. For additional information and tickets, call 419-699-3439.

TAG Rifle Matches, Camp Perry Joint Training Center, 29-30 August 2009
Awards ceremony is 1400, 30 August.

Mobile Commissary Schedule

Woods King Armory, 4303 Green Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44128, 14 and 15 November.
For additional information: www.commissaries.com

Upcoming ONG Retiree/Alumni Events

180th FW Retirees will hold their annual picnic on August 15, starting at 1100, at the 180th's base in Toledo.

148th Infantry Reunion (27th) – Camp Perry – August 28-29.

37th Division Reunion – Camp Perry – August 28-29. Associated with the Camp Perry events, there will be a golf outing on August 28. For more information, contact CW4 (ret) Jerry Wilson at 614-486-4186.

The first meeting of the 73d SIB Association will be conducted at Camp Perry on the afternoon of August 28. Check in at the cottage with the 73d SIB Association sign in front, before 1400 hours for the exact time and location of the meeting. Questions can be directed to Len Stayton at 614-579-2519 or len2500@wideopenwest.com.

The Ohio National Guard Alumni Reunion – DSCC, Columbus – September 19.

2-174 ADA Reunion – McConnellsville – September 20. Time is 1PM at the McConnellsville Armory, 4497 Hawk Drive, McConnellsville, Ohio 43756. All former 2-174th, 210 ARCAT and 997th Ord Co. members and their families are invited to attend.

Friday, 25 September, 2009, retirement dinner in honor of Maj. Troy L. Shoffstall and Chief Master Sgt. Wesley A. Smith of the Ohio Air National Guard. Details to be published.

437th MP Bn. reunion (8th) - Sunday, Sep 27th, 2009, at the armory, 475 Victoria Road, Youngstown, Ohio. Time is 12-6 PM. All former members of the 437th MP Bn. are invited.

147th Infantry Retirees Association – Friday, Oct 2, 2009, at the Sharonville, Ohio, VFW post. More details to follow.

The First Cleveland Cavalry Steak Roast will be held Saturday, 10 October at 1700, at the Green Road Armory in Cleveland.

Call to Duty Ceremonies

HHC 16th Engineer Brigade, September 1, 2009, 1 p.m., Vineyard Church, 6000 Cooper Road, Westerville, OH 43081.

HHB 1/174ADA Bde., September 4, 2009, 4 p.m., Hastings Middle School, Upper Arlington

Welcome Home Ceremonies

Operational Mentor and Liaison Team 9.1, August 25, 3 p.m., Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church, 1636 Graham Rd. Reynoldsburg, 43068.

Recent News Releases

No COLA This Year is Looking More Likely. Army Times, August 14, 2009.

<http://www.armytimes.com/news>. Friday's announcement that consumer prices continue to fall makes the proposed 2010 military pay raise look even bigger while dimming chances of a cost-of-living adjustment for military retirees this December. The Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics, which tracks the price of goods and services, reported that prices fell by 0.2 percent in July and by 2.1 percent in the last 12 months. The main reason for the drop is a 28 percent decline in energy costs in the last year. Energy costs climbed slightly last month but are still down for the year. Falling consumer prices would give the 3.4 percent military pay raise that is pending in Congress more buying power.

The Obama administration had requested a 2.9 percent military pay increase that would have matched the 2008 private-sector increase. For military retirees — as well as federal civilian retirees, Social Security recipients and other beneficiaries of federal benefits linked to consumer prices — the July report adds credence to the possibility there will be no Dec. 1 cost-of-living adjustment. By law, Social Security and government retirement automatically increase each year to keep pace with the rise in the Consumer Price Index, a measure of the cost of goods and services. The annual Dec. 1 increase is determined by comparing costs in the last quarter of the fiscal year — July, August and September — to costs in the last quarter of the previous fiscal year. If costs fall from one year to the next, retired pay and benefits are not cut; they are simply frozen at their current level. The fate of the 2009 cost-of-living adjustment, which would take effect on Dec. 1 and first appear in January checks, will not be known until mid-October. But the 2.1 percent drop in prices in July 2009 compared to the same month last year is a strong indicator of what to expect.

President Obama: Fixing VA could take years. Army Times, August 14, 2009.

<http://www.armytimes.com/news>. President Barack Obama not only wants to improve the treatment of America's veterans, but also to reach out to homeless veterans, as well as those who have turned their backs on — or are unaware of — the benefits they've earned.

"What we're trying to do is just break down the hurdles that exist between veterans and VA," Obama told Military Times and a small group of other defense reporters in an Aug. 4 meeting in the White House Roosevelt Room. But lowering one of those hurdles — creating what Obama called "a VA that is consumer-friendly, that is oriented not towards keeping people out but bringing people in" — will not happen quickly, he said.

"It's fair to say that this is a multiyear project," Obama said. "We are going to be working vigilantly. We're going to keep on pushing. We're going to keep on prodding to make sure that both VA and DoD understand these very human issues are dealt with in the most thoughtful and effective way as possible." As evidence of that effort, Obama and Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki touted a boost in VA funding, an increase of 4,000 claims adjusters since January 2007, a total of 18,000 mental health providers, a national suicide hotline, technological improvements in the benefits claims process, the ongoing effort to create electronic medical records that VA and the Pentagon can easily share and a more proactive and helpful attitude at both agencies.

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

Brigadier General Edward J. Power, July 30, 2009, father-in-law of Maj. Gen. A.J. Feucht. Brigadier General Power's military career spanned 40 years; he was the Assistant Adjutant General for Air from 1979 to 1983

MSG (Ret) Joseph Lynch, August 3, 2009, former member of the OHARNG.

MSG William "Scott" Peterson, August 4, 2009, Battalion Motor Sergeant, 112th Transportation Battalion and Surface Maintenance Mechanic at Field Maintenance Shop 6.

Websites of Interest:

<http://www.militaryscholar.org> Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) Scholarship Program. The DeCA 2010 scholarship season begins November 1, 2009.

<http://www.dfas.mil/rna-news/july2009/RAJuly09Newsletter.pdf> July DFAS Retired Pay Newsletter..

Links to the National Guard social media websites:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/TheNationalGuard>

<http://www.facebook.com/TheNationalGuard>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/TheNationalGuard>

<http://www.twitter.com/thenatlguard>

If you have ideas for future newsletter content or other alumni programs and would like to communicate with me directly, please feel free to call 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