

The Ohio National Guard Alumni Newsletter
VOL 1, Edition 8 – May 22, 2009

The Ohio National Guard webpage remains operational at: <http://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.

Recently a question was raised asking whether non-uniformed civilian employees of the Ohio National Guard qualify as ONG Alumni. The answer is yes. Everyone who has served our Guard, qualifies to be an alumni and to continue to be active in supporting the ONG into the future.

Joint Force Headquarters, Ohio Army National Guard Wins in the Army Chief of Staff's Deployment Excellence Award Competition for 2009.

JFHQ-OHARNG has been selected as the winner of the Army National Guard Supporting Unit Category. This national competition recognizes units and installations for outstanding deployment achievements, and for developing initiatives to improve the Army's deployment process. Receiving special recognition at the award ceremony in Washington, were LTC Mark Cappone, J4-LMO; MSG John Shultz, HHD JFHQ, CPT Judy Sallerson, J4-Acting Defense Movement Coordinator; WO1 Kyle Gettys, J4 Traffic Mgt Specialist, CW2 Kevin Barbee, J4 Traffic Mgt Specialist, MAJ Matt Crawford, JFHQ Cdr, and 1SG Lee Smith, USP&FO Commercial Transportation Manager.

www.armytimes.com/news/2009/05/army_deploy_awards_051009w/

Upcoming Events:

Major General Wayt's Town Hall Meeting. May 28, Woodlawn Community Center, 7:00-9:00pm, 10050 Woodlawn Blvd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

Bob Hope Stamp Unveiling. On May 29, at 1000, at Beightler Armory in Columbus, the USPS will unveil a new stamp honoring Bob Hope. This event will not be public, however retirees are invited and encouraged to attend. Please make plans to participate in this national event honoring one of the great friends of the military. Each attendee will receive a special commemorative program that will contain a pictorial stamp cancellation. If you are attending, please plan to arrive prior to 0930. Refreshments will be served.

Memorial Golf Tournament Military Appreciation Day. On Tuesday, June 2, there will be free admission for all current military and retirees with valid ID at

Muirfield Golf Club, Dublin, OH. A retiree ID will also cover immediate family (spouse and children) admissions as well. Doors open at 0700. The day features practice rounds by the tournament players on the famed Muirfield course. There will be a military guest golf clinic with PGA professionals at 1330, the traditional Honoree ceremony featuring military recognition and reserved seating at 1500, and Jack Nicklaus' golf clinic at 1630. This will be a really fun day and we hope to have a large number of retirees attend.

Cedar Point Discounts. Cedar Point is showing its appreciation for the military with some special deals for all members of the military during the three-day Memorial Day Weekend. With a valid military ID, all members of the military, including retirees, can purchase the All-American all-you-can-eat picnic meal (one discount per ID) at half-price for only \$5.50 (plus tax). This delicious meal-deal will include unlimited Southern Fried Chicken, hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, cookies, ice cream and assorted Pepsi products. Members of the military can also receive a double-scoop ice cream cone in the park for only \$1, courtesy of Toft's Dairy of Sandusky and Cedar Point (one discount per ID).

Plus, all weekend and each day of the season, all members of the military, including retirees, can save \$10 on an adult admission ticket for them and each member of their family. Cedar Point will be open Memorial Day Weekend, Saturday and Sunday, May 23 and 24 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Monday, May 25 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information: cedarpoint.com, or by phone at 419-627-2350.

Upcoming Retiree/Alumni Events

121st ARW/160th AREFG – Rickenbacker – June 7.

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.

NIKE reunion (13th) – Camp Perry – September 11-13.

The Adjutant General's Alumni Reunion – DSCC, Columbus – September 19.

2-174 ADA – McConnelsville – September 20.

Call to Duty Ceremonies:

1192 EN Co, Newton Falls-June 12, 1000, Harding High School, 860 Elm Road NE, Warren, Ohio 44483.

OMLT 09-3, (Operational Mentor and Liaison Team), Columbus, June 15, 1600, Groveport Madison High School.

Recent News Releases:

New York Adjutant General to become Director of the Army Guard

Pending confirmation in the Senate, Maj. Gen. Joseph Taluto, Adjutant General of the New York National Guard, will become the next Army Guard director at the National Guard Bureau. Taluto's name was listed as the sole nominee for the position on the Senate's Web site earlier this week. If confirmed, he will take over the position from Lt. Gen. Clyde Vaughn, who served as ARNG director from 2005-09. ngaus@ngaus.org

Lt. Gen. McChrystal Nominated to take over Afghanistan Command

Citing a need for a "fresh look" in Afghanistan, Defense Secretary Robert Gates has tapped Army Lt. Gen. Stanley McChrystal to command NATO and U.S. forces in the country. The decision took some in defense circles by surprise. Gen. David McKiernan, the outgoing commander, served only 11 months in the position. Gates requested McKiernan's resignation Monday. Though Gates has chosen McChrystal, NATO and President Barack Obama are ultimately responsible for naming the replacement, according to a DoD press release.

McChrystal, currently the director of the Joint Staff, comes from a Special Forces background. Before he took his current position, he led the Joint Special Operations Command. He's spent the majority of his military career commanding special operations and airborne infantry units. Gates also tapped his own senior military advisor, Lt. Gen. David Rodriguez, for a new position under McChrystal as deputy commander of U.S. Forces Afghanistan. ngaus@ngaus.org

TRICARE Publishes new Behavioral Health Resource Guide

No one questions the need for medical care when someone is physically injured, but when people experience emotional problems, they may feel embarrassed and afraid to seek help when the troubling signs first surface.

During Mental Health Month in May, TRICARE is reminding beneficiaries about the new publication A TRICARE Guide: Understanding Behavioral Health. The 80-page booklet is available online to all TRICARE beneficiaries at the TRICARE Smart Site: www.tricare.mil/tricaresmart

Websites of Interest:

Were you aware each branch of service has a newsletter available online? Below are the website addresses for these newsletters: <http://www.dfas.mil/rna-news/march2009/newsletters.html>

<http://www.ready.gov/america/index> – Homeland Security Information including h1n1 virus information.

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

CW4 Donald “Don” Fitzgerald, 79, April 28, in Ft. Myers, Florida.

We are continuing the planning for the Adjutant General’s Alumni Reunion to be held at DSCC in Columbus on September 19. Please hold that date as we will be sending out registration materials soon. 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