

# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



## OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

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### NGAUS appoints a new voice to assist the National Guard on Capitol Hill

By Staff Sgt. Nicholas Pavlik  
Ohio National Guard Public Affairs

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The National Guard Association of the United States might have appointed a new vice chair for Army to its board of directors, but one thing that won't change is the association's dedicated support to Army and Air National Guard members by working to provide them the resources needed to successfully complete their missions.

Maj. Gen. Deborah A. Ashenhurst, Ohio adjutant general, was sworn in as the new vice chair for Army Sept. 12, 2012, at the annual NGAUS conference, held last year in Reno, Nev., becoming only the second female to hold the position.

As vice chair for Army, she represents the Army National Guard component of the association, and is responsible for updating the board of directors with the latest issues concerning the budget, equipment and training that affect National Guard Soldiers in all 50 states and four U.S. territories.

NGAUS is the nation's oldest military association lobbying solely for the benefit of the National Guard and educating the public about the Guard's role and history in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Maj. Gen. Steve Danner, Missouri adjutant general and current NGAUS chairman of the board, said he has a great deal of respect for Ashenhurst and thinks she'll be a wonderful asset for the Guard in the coming years.

"It's important to have someone who not only is knowledgeable of the business that we are about as adjutants general in our own states, but has that broader knowledge of the United States and has the capability to communicate that knowledge to the board," Danner said. "These qualities prove to be invaluable right now, in our efforts to lobby Congress on specific issues affecting the National Guard."

NGAUS worked regularly with congressional leaders on how the National Guard could help reduce budget costs that coincided with the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act, the underlying legislation by which the National Guard operates, which was signed by President Barack Obama at the beginning of this year.

Danner said that as far as costs go, he believes the National Guard is America's best value.

"We provide a professional military force at less than one-third of the cost per person as the active component. For taxpayers, you get more for a lot less with the Guard. We have a tradition in America of being a militia nation. It's a tradition of a small standing Army that is there at the tip of the spear to meet immediate needs," Danner said. "I think now that we are getting to times of budgetary constraints and so forth, that America again will look back to its roots and see that we really are engrained in a militia nation and I think that's what we'll return to in these coming years."

Moving forward, Ashenhurst said she envisions the National Guard playing a dynamic role as the active-duty components are required to downsize.

"I see us being the receivers," Ashenhurst said. "We hate to lose that talent and experience of those who have to leave the active-duty component because of cost cuts. What we see is the ability for them to transfer into the National Guard so that we maintain that experience and develop an even stronger Guard."



Maj. Gen. Deborah A. Ashenhurst, Ohio adjutant general, welcomes home Soldiers from the Ohio Army National Guard's 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in October 2012 after the unit's yearlong deployment to Afghanistan. Last September, Ashenhurst was sworn in as the vice chair for Army of the National Guard Association of the United States, becoming only the second female to hold the position. NGAUS is the nation's oldest military association lobbying solely for the benefit of the National Guard and educating the public about the Guard's role and history in the U.S. Armed Forces. (Ohio National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Nicholas Pavlik)

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## Ohio National Guard units currently deployed

### Air units:

121st Air Refueling Wing  
 123rd Air Control Squadron  
 178th Fighter Wing  
 179th Airlift Wing  
 180th Fighter Wing  
 251st Combat Communications Group  
 269th Combat Communications Squadron  
 Joint Force Headquarters

### Army units:

Military Advisory Team - 1  
 Military Advisory Team - 2  
 Det 21  
 323th Military Police Company  
 1486th Transportation Company  
 HHB/174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade

As of Jan. 17, 2013, approximately 692 Ohio National Guard Airmen and Soldiers are currently deployed

## Air National Guard names new command chief

(Jan. 9, 2013) - Chief Master Sgt. James Hotaling from the Continental U.S. NORAD Region-1st Air Force at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., was named as the Air National Guard's next command chief.

As Air National Guard command chief, Hotaling will serve as the senior advisor to Lt. Gen. Sid Clarke, the incoming director of the Air National Guard, on matters concerning the readiness, morale, welfare, proper use and progress of more than 90,000 enlisted Airmen.

Hotaling succeeds Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy, a former Ohio Air National Guard member, who retired last September after serving almost four years as the Air National Guard's command chief.

"This is a bittersweet moment for my family and I," Hotaling said. "On one hand I am excited to be moving on to bigger challenges serving our Air National Guard, but on the other I will miss the camaraderie and friendships I have established during my short time here at First Air Force."

Hotaling will be the Air Guard's 11th command chief. Prior to July 1998, the title was senior enlisted advisor.

Hotaling serves as command chief for the Continental U.S. NORAD Region-1st Air Force (Air Forces Northern). He spent nearly 24 years in various Air Force Special Tactics and leadership positions. He also serves as a member of the Air Guard's Enlisted Field Advisory Council and the Combat Control Association.

Hotaling is a native of North Carolina where he enlisted in the Air Force in 1987. He joined the Oregon Air National Guard in 2003.

Source: <http://www.ngaus.org/newsroom/news/air-guard-command-chief-named>



## Why volunteer with Operation: Military Kids?

Your time is valuable and when you choose to volunteer, you want to feel like you're making a difference and having a little fun in the process! We want to work WITH you to utilize your unique skill set and interests to further our programs.

Haven't been involved with our programs before, but are interested in getting plugged in? A variety of opportunities are available, some of the following include

- **Yellow Ribbon Events:** Are you energetic, creative, and ready to lead hands-on activities? We are looking to utilize your skills in leading activities, crafts, and learning modules at our 30- and 60-day reintegration events/Soldier and family mobilization briefings.
- **Hero Camps/Day Camps:** Does the thought of spending a day exploring at the natural history museum, participating in a sports camp or exploring the zoo sound appealing to you? If so, join us to assist in leading youth in one of our hero camps!
- **Corporate Groups/Group Volunteering:** Are you part of an organization that is interested in volunteering together for a day of service? We welcome large groups to volunteer for our events!

These are just some examples of what we could use your help with.

For more information contact: [Amanda.m.fogle.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:Amanda.m.fogle.ctr@mail.mil) and make sure to "Like" *Ohio Operation: Military Kids* on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @OhioOMK for opportunities and updates on all our programs.

**Past January events:**

**January 2 -**  
Headquarters, 37th IBCT Change of Command welcomed incoming commander CPT Christopher Ballard

**January 4 -**  
Military Advisor Team - 2  
Call to Duty took place at Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church.

**January 14 -**  
Col. (Ret.) Paul R. Meyers received the Legion of Merit. It is given for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements.

**Dates to Remember:**

**February 2 -**  
Brig. Gen. Rufus Smith's Retirement Celebration at 5:30 p.m. at Hilton Columbus at Easton, 3900 Chagrin Drive.

**February 2 -**  
Support Company, 216th Engineer Battalion Change of Responsibility at 8 a.m. at 10050 Woodlawn Blvd. in Cincinnati. Incoming 1SG Danny Vinson, Outgoing interim First Sergeant SFC Craig McGue.

**February 8 -**  
437th Military Police Bn. Change of Command at 3 p.m. at Bldg. 931 at Rickenbacker. Incoming Lt. Col. Susan Kusan, Outgoing Lt. Col. Erik Nagy.

**February 10 -**  
684th ASMC Change of Command at 2 p.m. at 85 N. Yearling Road Bldg. 24, DSCC. Incoming CPT David Rosenberger, Outgoing CPT Brad Kennedy.

**February 15 -**  
Brig. Gen. Robert Clouse's Retirement Celebration at 6 p.m. at Brookside Golf and Country Club, 2770 W. Dublin Granville Rd; R.S.V.P. by 8 Feb to Capt. Hergenroeder at (614) 336-6150.

**February 23 -**  
Ohio National Guard Winter Dinner Dance at 6 p.m. at Hilton Columbus Polaris; R.S.V.P. by 18 Feb to ONGA. For questions, contact CW5 Markely at (614) 336-6618.

## New copays for TRICARE pharmacy customers

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – New copayments for prescription drugs covered by TRICARE will go into effect soon. The Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act requires TRICARE to increase copays on brand name and non-formulary medications that are not filled at military clinics or hospitals. There is no increase to copays for generic medications. Increases will be effective sometime in February, depending on when system changes can be made, and the publication of a required Federal Notice.

TRICARE Pharmacy copays vary based on the class of drug and where beneficiaries choose to fill their prescriptions. The copay for generic medications stays at \$5 when a prescription is filled at a network pharmacy. There is no co-pay when generic prescriptions are filled through TRICARE Home Delivery. The new copay for a 30-day supply of a brand name medication purchased at a retail network pharmacy will be \$17, up from the current \$12. Beneficiaries using TRICARE Home Delivery will pay \$13 for brand name drugs, up from \$9. However, the Home Delivery price is for a 90-day supply.

The greatest change in copays applies to non-formulary medications. The \$25 copay for these drugs increases to \$44 at retail pharmacies and \$43 through Home Delivery. The TRICARE Uniform Formulary is a list of all the medications TRICARE covers.

For fiscal 2014 and beyond, the new law directs that copays increase annually by the same percentage as [retiree cost-of-living adjustments](#). In years when a COLA increase would total less than a dollar, it will be delayed a year and combined with the next adjustment so increases will always be \$1 or more.

Pharmacies at military hospitals and clinics will continue to provide medications with no copays. Visit [www.TRICARE.mil/costs](http://www.TRICARE.mil/costs) for more details.

Source: <http://www.tricare.mil/CoveredServices/BenefitUpdates/Archives/PharmacyCopayChanges.aspx>

## Call for Vietnam era photos from Ohio Veterans

COLUMBUS, Ohio – As a tribute to veterans of the Vietnam War, the Ohio Department of Veterans Services is requesting photos of Ohio veterans who served our nation during this time period.



Selected photos will be used as part of a video collage which will appear on our YouTube site during the "Welcome Home" celebration that will be held in honor of our Vietnam Veterans, March 26- 29, 2013, and in commemoration of Vietnam Veterans Day on March 30.

A link will be posted on our department Facebook and Twitter pages when the tribute is available to view.

To be part of this tribute please email a photo\* of you or your loved one by Feb. 15, 2013, to [vetsvcs@dvs.ohio.gov](mailto:vetsvcs@dvs.ohio.gov).

\*Minimum photo requirements: 4 x 6 or 5 x 7 inches, .jpg or .jpeg format only, one-to-three photos per submission. Photos should be in uniform, and have been taken during the Vietnam War time period. No mail-ins please. Photos will not be accepted after Feb. 15, 2013.

We hope you'll join us in honoring Ohio's Vietnam Veterans.

Source: <http://dvs.ohio.gov/Portals/0/library/odvs/news/archive/2013/CallForVietnamPhotosRelease.pdf>

## OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

### Community Outreach Office

Alumni Affairs  
2825 W. Dublin Granville Road  
Columbus, OH 43235  
(614) 336-4135

## SPACE-A SCHEDULE - RANGB

Another great opportunity to travel Space-A!  
Please check the Space-A travel recording at 614-492-3143 for updates. You may sign up online at [www.takeahop.com](http://www.takeahop.com)

Print and bring a copy or fax your request to 614-492-3475

Questions/comments can be directed to:

TSgt. Bob Koteles: 614-492-3476

### 2013 Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee Meetings:

*Region 1 - April 25*

*Region 2 - April 17*

*Region 3 - April 23*

*Region 4 - April 30*

*Region 5 - April 23*

*Region 6 - April 10*

For questions regarding the time or place of RISFAC meetings, contact Staff Sgt. Michael Carden at (614) 336-4135

### Retirement Packets

Retirement packets are mailed to your last known mailing address. If you change addresses before your 59th birthday, make sure you contact the office below so they will know where to send your packet.

You will need to send the packet back to receive your retirement pay. Make sure you include the following forms: NGB Form 22, DD Form 214(s), NGB Form 23, 20yr letter and SBP election. If you are missing any of the above documents, please contact Ms. Jeanette Coughenour at 614-336-7038 (ONG HQs) for assistance.

**U.S. Army Human Resources  
Center of Excellence - Ft. Knox  
ATTN: AHRC-PDR-RCR**

## Ohio adjutant general for Air receives second star

Story by Bill Pierce, ONG

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Ohio has a new star. Brig. Gen. Mark E. Bartman was promoted Jan. 10 to the rank of major general. He is now Ohio's third assistant adjutant general for Air to receive a second star.

For Bartman, it is always about paying particular attention to the Airmen.

"In the flying business, we talk about being a wingman or leader," he said. "It really comes down to two things, taking care of your Airmen who work for you, and taking care of your bosses who you work for."

Maj. Gen. Deborah A. Ashenurst, Ohio adjutant general, was in attendance and applauded Bartman as a natural leader.

"It's amazing the difference in respect that you get with that second star," Ashenurst said. "The work he's doing for us at the national level, as well as the state level, opens doors for him to go into other meetings where he could not go into as a one star."

Bartman's Family joined him onstage during the ceremony, as his wife, Christi, pinned on his additional star. Also present were his children Ashley, Nathan and Aubrey. His brother Kerry, along with his brother's wife Mary Ann and daughter Niki, traveled from North Carolina to be at the ceremony.

"To be where I am at right now is truly a testament to people that I served under, and those that have worked for me and who have mentored and helped me along the way," Bartman said.

