

The Ohio National Guard Alumni Newsletter



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August 13, 2010

The Ohio National Guard webpage is: <http://www.ong.ohio.gov/>. Click on Alumni Affairs to register for the data base and direct receipt of the newsletter.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke appointed Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt in July to serve on the Board of Overseers for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. The Board of Overseers consists of distinguished leaders representing all sectors of the U.S. economy and the organizations eligible for the Baldrige Award (manufacturing, small business, service, health care, education and nonprofit). Appointed by the Secretary of Commerce, these leaders evaluate the Baldrige Program, provide policy guidance and assess how the Award serves the national interest. Overseers are appointed to three-year terms. Wayt serves alongside 11 other leading experts selected from industry, professional, charitable and trade organizations; education; health care and government.

Named after Malcolm Baldrige, the 26th Secretary of Commerce, the Baldrige Award was established by Congress in 1987. Awards may be given annually to organizations in each of six categories: manufacturing, service, small business, education, health care and nonprofit. The Award promotes innovation and excellence in organizational performance, recognizes the achievements and results of U.S. organizations, and publicizes successful performance strategies. Since 1988, 80 organizations have received Baldrige Awards.

Thank you for supporting COL (Ret) James Chisman as the Ohio National Guard Alumni Affairs coordinator. It is with much gratitude that we say thank you and farewell to this great leader and friend; he resigned from his position on June 25, 2010. This position will be reestablished as an Outreach Coordinator, to include reaching out to alumni and other community groups. If you are interested in applying, please submit your resume to hr@bpsicorp.com no later than Aug. 16, 2010.

The Ohio National Guard Alumni Reunion will be held at the Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base on Sept. 18, 2010 from 0900 to 1630. This one day event will showcase new Ohio National Guard missions and deployments. The Homeland Response Force accomplished by the JTF 73, the MQ-1 Predator mission and expansion of the National Air and Space Intelligence Center (NASIC) mission at the Springfield base will be highlighted. Tours of the new Security Forces building at Rickenbacker and Army/Air equipment static displays will also be provided. Maj. Gen. Kambic, presiding senior officer, and Brig. Gen. Heady will provide service updates. TRICARE, Delta Dental, Ohio Department of Veterans Affairs, the Ohio National Guard Association, the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association and the RAPIDs ID card machine will be available to provide services and/or answer questions. There is a \$20 cost per person to cover lunch and beverages.

For additional information, please contact LtCol Kathy Lowrey at (614) 336-7002 or Kathy.lowrey@us.army.mil. Please register by September 8, 2010 by sending your check and providing the information below to Alumni Affairs Reunion, Office of Community Outreach, 2825 W. Dublin Granville Road, Columbus Ohio 43235.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "DAVIDUCC CAFÉ"

NAME/RANK _____

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ NUMBER IN PARTY _____

Box Lunch Choices: Turkey and Bacon Croissant _____ Club on Wheat _____

Italian Sub _____ Roast Beef and Cheddar on Onion Bun _____

TOTAL AMOUNT PAID _____

State Partnership Program Exchange with Serbia was held Aug. 5-10, 2010 at Camp Ravenna.

Six personnel from the Serbian military CBRNE/NBC and Emergency Preparedness/Response capabilities team traveled to Ohio to observe Talon Shield 2010; a multi-agency full scale exercise and the first of its kind. The purpose of their visit was to facilitate the development of an integrated disaster management response capability that encompasses the Serbian military as part of a larger Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear Event Management (CBRNE) event management response.

Talon Shield 2010 - Portage County Public Safety Agencies and the Ohio National Guard conducted a full scale exercise at Camp Ravenna Joint Military Training Center (CRJMTC)

from Aug. 6-8, 2010. Talon Shield 2010 simulated the destruction of buildings and public infrastructure. Training was conducted on a structurally collapsed simulation in a fictional town to test the interoperability of key agencies as well as capabilities of local, regional, state and national emergency responders.

"Camp Ravenna provides multiple training venues that will enable agencies to work in a very real and complex training environment," said Maj. Gen. Greg Wayt, Ohio adjutant general.

The exercise included about 200 local responders and rigorously tested the Ohio National Guard's ability to support local and state civilian authorities, incident and unified commanders and the state's emergency management agencies. "The emphasis of all response planning is that all emergencies start at the local level and additional resources are called in to assist local efforts. Having the ability to exercise collectively as a group and work together under local authority is what it's all about," said John Mason, Portage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

The training also highlighted the Ohio National Guard's newly authorized Homeland Response Force (HRF). The HRF consists of approximately 570 Soldiers and Airmen, trained and equipped to identify, respond to and mitigate the effects of all hazards and natural disasters.

On Tuesday July 6, 2010, the new photovoltaic solar field was celebrated at the Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beightler Armory in Columbus. The ceremony also formally acknowledged recently completed solar fields in Toledo and Newton Falls. All three projects, including the 374-panel solar array in Columbus, were funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Rep. Mary Jo Kilroy from Ohio's 15th Congressional District joined Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general, for the event.

"This solar field is only the latest of the Ohio National Guard's efforts to 'go green' and ultimately, save Ohioans money," Wayt said. "We currently have five solar fields in operation and we are determined to continue our efforts to explore renewable energy sources and move toward energy independence."

The recently completed 75-kilowatt solar array is expected to save the Ohio National Guard more than \$11,500 and 135,000 kilowatt hours during its first year in operation. The three projects combined represent an estimated first year savings of more than 360,000 kilowatt hours and nearly \$62,000.

The Woodlawn-based Support Company, 216th Engineer Battalion, competed on July 17 for regional honors in the 43rd annual Philip A. Connelly Food Service Competition, which recognizes excellence in Army Food Service. The unit earned the right to compete after taking first place honors for the state during their annual training period in August 2009. They won the regional competition and advance to the Department of the Army competition in the National Guard category on Oct. 23, 2010.

The kitchen is set up in a tactical wooded environment and simulates the stress of feeding troops in a combat environment. The competition included site set up, including the kitchen, fighting positions, field latrines, soakage pits, burn and garbage pits, as well as camouflage. The teams are graded in several areas including supervision, accountability of rations, sanitation, appearance of personnel and food quality.

Ohio's Governor Ted Strickland opened the 2010 National Matches at Camp Perry Joint Training Center (CPJTC) in Port Clinton on July 12. The National Matches are hosted each year by the Ohio National Guard in partnership with the National Rifle Association (NRA) and the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP).

"I have seen firsthand the cooperative work between the Ohio National Guard, Civilian Marksmanship Program and the National Rifle Association," Strickland said. "Their efforts result in a first class event which has an economic impact of \$20 million to the region."

Known as the "Super Bowl" of competitive shooting, the five-week event brings more than 6,000 national and international competitors, volunteers, spectators, vendors and family members to CPJTC each summer. The event concludes on 18 August. In addition to the world's largest

shooting range, CPJTC offers unspoiled beaches, newly constructed cottages and a state-of-the-art conference center that is open to the public.

Ohio's 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team received their alert order in May to deploy about 3,600 Soldiers to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, in Spring 2011. This is the largest mobilization for the 37th since the Korean War in 1952. The 37th will replace the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) conducting counter-insurgency operations alongside Afghan National Security Forces.

"There is a calm sense of purpose throughout the command that tells me that we are well on our way to preparing for our mission at hand," said Col. James Perry, commander of the 37th.

Soldiers of the 37th will train on more than 200 military tasks, including small unit counter-insurgency operations and supporting tasks and complete a final mission readiness exercise to validate the brigade's readiness. The full deployment, including mobilization training, will last one year.

115-plus pilots celebrated the 162nd Fighter Squadron's 62 years and flying five types of fighter planes at the 178 FW Hail and Farewell, June 4, 2010. It was a night for current and former pilots to meet and share the camaraderie that has been a fighter pilot tradition since the inception of fighter operations in World War 1. It was also a night to solemnly remember the 13 pilots who gave their lives while flying for the 162nd and to salute the return of two from the shackles of POW camps in Vietnam and Iraq. Original P-51 pilots were also in attendance. Many special guests supported the event from around the base, both past and present, which have ensured that 162nd pilots always had the best maintained aircraft and the best support available anywhere in the world.

The State Family Programs has had a busy summer serving military youth and couples. The Youth Program served 260 military kids from all branches this summer at Camp Kelly's Island and Camp Patmos. The camps taught leadership skills and resiliency. With the help of the Strong Bonds Program, couples throughout Ohio are participating in Marriage Retreats such as PREP, LINKS and Laugh Your Way Through.

Employment is an issue for many Ohioans and our Service Members are not immune from losing their job. Through collaboration with the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services, Ohio AmVets and our own Transition Assistance Advisors, there are several tools on the web for our service members to help them prepare for and locate new employment. Please visit OhioVetsCan.com, OhioMeansJobs.com, and/or jfs.ohio.gov/workforce for more information.

The Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee (RISFAC) is a place for community resources and military units to join forces and discuss their unit's initiatives and concerns with supportive community participants. Upcoming meetings will be held Oct. 14-28, 2010 in various regions of the state. If you would like to get involved with any of these programs please contact the State Family Program Office at 1-800-589-9914 or visit the website at www.ong.ohio.gov/family.

Recent News Releases

General John Lavelle exonerated of Vietnam-era disgrace. A U.S. general stripped of two stars in 1972 over unauthorized bombings in Vietnam was exonerated after a probe found then-president Richard Nixon ordered the missions, the Pentagon said Thursday, August 5. U.S. President Barack Obama has nominated General John Lavelle, who died in 1979, for reinstatement to his four-star rank, the U.S. Defense Department said in a statement. Lavelle had been punished in April 1972 after being charged of having authorized bombings of North Vietnam without permission from higher-ups and of having authorized forged documents to conceal the missions.

"In 2007, newly released and declassified information resulted in evidence that Lavelle was authorized by President Richard Nixon to conduct the bombing missions," the Pentagon said.

"Further, the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records found no evidence Lavelle caused, either directly or indirectly, the falsification of records, or that he was even aware of their existence," it said.

The Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force approved C-27J operations and training candidate bases on July 29, 2010. Operations candidate bases are Boise Air Terminal AGS, Idaho and Great Falls International Airport, Mont. Training candidate bases are Mansfield Lahm Regional Airport, Ohio and Key Field Air Guard Station, Miss. The Air Force will conduct site surveys at the candidate locations and initiate the environmental impact analysis process in preparation for a final selection.

The C-27J is a twin turboprop engine aircraft designed to meet an Air Force requirement for a rugged, medium size air land transport. The C-27J gives U.S. military troops a unique, short-take-off-and-landing capability, providing access to airstrips otherwise unusable by fixed-wing aircraft.

Changes of Command

Echo Company, 237th SPT BN, 1Lt Paul M. Estrada will assume command from CPT Jason E. Hoeltge on Aug. 14, 2010 at 1000, 855 South Collett Street Lima Ohio.

HQ Company, 1-148th Infantry Regiment, CPT Charles Buchanan will assume command from CPT Michael D. Wood on Aug. 13, 2010 at 1300, 28846 Tracy Road, Walbridge, Ohio 43465.

Alpha Company, 148th Infantry Regiment, CPT William Cousins will assume command from CPT Charles Buchanan on Aug. 13, 2010 at 1000, 28846 Tracy Road, Walbridge Ohio 43465.

E-Company, 1st Battalion, 137th Aviation Regiment, CPT Jason R. Douthwaite assumed command from CPT SIR Montreal S. Toomer on Aug. 7, 2010.

179 AW, Col Gary A. McCue assumed command on July 11, 2010 from Col Gregory Schnulo.

Delta Company, 148th Infantry Regiment, CPT Benjamin J. Klosterman assumed command from CPT Aaron A. Combs on July 9, 2010.

Charlie Company, 148th Infantry Regiment, CPT Aaron A. Combs assumed command from CPT Craig K. Colton on July 9, 2010.

FY 2010 Ohio National Guard Awards

- **Ohio National Guard - Ohio Partnership for Excellence (OPE) - Gold Level “Achievement of Excellence” award winner**
- **Ohio National Guard – Command Logistics Review Team (CLRT) Award of Excellence – 2009 Runner-Up**
- **Med Command – Highest PHA Completion Rate for a Large State (94%)**
- **UTES 1 – NGB Eagle for being the 2009 Chief of Staff, Army Award for Excellence**
- **Supply Excellence Award Winners:**
 - Camp Perry – TDA Property Book Operations – Region IV Winner**
 - 147th RTI – TDA Organizational Level BN/SQD – Region IV Winner**
 - 1486th Trans – MTOE PBO – Region IV Winner**
 - Co. B 237th BSB – MTOE Co/Trp/Det – Region IV 1st Runner Up**
 - HHD JFHQ – TDA Co/Trp/Det – Region IV 1st Runner Up**
- **216 Engineer Battalion, 43rd annual Philip A. Connelly Food Service Competition regional award winners July 17.**

Further congratulations to

- **180 FW receiving an Excellent rating on their Operational Readiness Inspection, Aug. 3, 2010**
- **121 ARW receiving an Excellent rating on their Compliance Inspection, June 16, 2010**
- **179 AW Master Sgt. Joseph Pryor and his wife Master Sgt. Sheila Pryor and their family were recently named as the 2009 Ohio Adjutant General’s Family of the Year**

Upcoming Events

Historic Commemorative Event at 179 AW, last C-130 departs and first C-27 arrives on August 14, ceremony at 1400. Retirees and their families welcome. For additional information, contact Capt Nicole Ashcroft, Chief of Public Affairs at (614) 336-7077.

The 132nd General Conference of the National Guard Association of the United States will be held in Austin, Texas, August 20-23. Registration information can be found on the Ohio National Guard Association website at www.ongas.org or by phone at 800-642-6642.

180 FW retiree reunion, August 21, at the Toledo Express Airport, 2660 South Eber Road Swanton, OH. Details to follow.

Brig. Gen. Tom Botchie's Retirement Party on August 28, at Hoover Y Park on Rohr Road at 5 pm. Tickets are \$10.00. Final head count due to Major Holly Mitchell 9 August at holly.mitchell@ang.af.mil.

28th Annual Adjutant General's Golf Outing, August 30, 2010, 0730, East Golf Club, www.eastgolfclub.com, 6140 Babbit Road , New Albany, OH 43054, 614-855-8600. Four Person Scramble - \$75.00/person entrance fee, Includes 18 holes w/cart, cookout and two beverages of choice. Participation is open to active and retired Ohio National Guard members, their families and employers, employees of the Adjutant General's Department and Corporate Members of the Ohio National Guard Association. Cash prizes for First, Second and Third. POC: Bill Pierce - bill.k.pierce@us.army.mil, or 614-336-7000, or James Sims - james.simsii@us.army.mil, or 614-336-7126. Registration Deadline is Aug. 15, 2010. Space is limited.

37th DVA/148th Infantry Regiment Annual Reunion, August 27-28, Camp Perry Joint Training Center, Port Clinton, OH. For 148th Infantry information and registration materials contact Bruce Eberly at 937-773-8625 or mabeberly@aol.com For 37th DVA registration materials contact Mandy Oberyszyn at 614-228-3788 or mandy@37thdva.org

2/174 ADA Reunion, Sept. 19, 2010. McConnellsville Armory, 4497 Hawk Drive McConnellsville, Ohio. Activities include military displays and a world class potluck meal. Come join us for a time of renewing old friendships, fun and good food beginning at 1400hrs. RSVP to one of the following by Aug. 1, 2010: Bob Kirkwood, 740-697-0303 or kirkrb77@att.net; Bob Foster, 740-982-6796 or rlrark6720@yahoo.com; or Al Minnich, 740-455-2069.

Retiree's of the Howitzer Battery, 2/107th ACR, of the Alliance Armory Reunion Event. The U.S. Armed Forces Retirees Club of the Alliance Armory, Ohio Army National Guard, is planning a reunion party for all former and retired members on Sept. 25, 2010 at the Alliance armory, 1175 West Vince Street, Alliance, Ohio from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. For more information on the reunion, please contact either of the following individuals: Dave Leasure at 330-206-2311 or Dwayne Bigler at 330-904-0524.

2010 Northeast Regional Air National Guard Bowling Tournament, 9-10 October, at Columbus Square Bowling Palace, 5707 Forest Hills Boulevard, Columbus, Ohio, 43231. For additional information, please contact TSgt (Ret) Keith "Skeeter" Coe at 614-693-7771 or keith.coe@dfas.mil.

Save the Date – Steak Fry/OSU Tailgate Party and Organizational General Meeting of the Northwest Ohio Chapter of the AUSA, 16 October, Findlay, Ohio. Details to follow.

Save the Date - Retirement Dinner for Maj. Gen. Harry "A.J." W. Feucht, Jr., assistant adjutant general for Air, Saturday, Oct. 30, 2010, National Museum of the United States Air Force, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. More details to follow.

Call to Duty Ceremonies

1-174 (C-RAM) – 15 Sept 10

292 EN Det – 21 Sept 10

1-174 ADA (RADAR) – 18 Nov 10

The following units also recently deployed:

112th Engineer Battalion (180 Soldiers) – 7 July 10

174 ADA Defense Artillery Brigade (30 Soldiers with OMLT) – 2 July 10

Welcome Home Ceremonies

HHB 174 ADA – 3 Sept 10 (Tentative)

200th Red Horse Squadron – 12 Oct 10 (Tentative)

The following units were also welcomed home:

585th Military Police Company – 13 Aug 10

OMLT 1.3 – 4 Aug 10

16th Engineer Brigade – 26 June 10

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

Mr. Billy G. Madden, Aug. 8, 2010, father of SGT Billy G. Madden II, ADOS Supply Support NCO for E Co 237th BSB.

Robert D. Vondran, Aug. 5, 2010, father of SSG Sara Vondran, AGR RSP Cadre for India Company in Walbridge, Ohio.

Connie L. Habrat, Aug. 3, 2010, mother of SFC Gregory Habrat, former readiness NCO for G C 237th BSB and currently the S4 for 134 FA BTN.

Gary L. Buchanan, Aug. 2, 2010, father of CPT Charles Buchanan, Training Officer for 1-148th IN RGT.

Anita Sue Seifert, July 31, 2010, wife of LtCol Steve Seifert, 121 ARW.

COL (Ret) Benjamin D. Rowe, July 29, 2010, former commander of the 137th MP BN and Deputy Brigade commander of the 416th EN GP.

LTC (Ret) Ronald L. Nutter, July 28, 2010, former member of 166th Infantry Co. F and 2/174th ADA.

Geraldine Kirtos, July 26, 2010, mother of SFC Michelle Kirtos, HQ 155th Chemical Battalion.

CSM (Ret) Richard L. Smith, July 24, 2010, former Command Sergeant Major from 1990-1992 and full time technician in Newark maintenance facility.

Sarah Catherine Stagers, July 22, 2010, mother of SFC Joseph Stagers, grandmother of SGT John Stagers and SPC Monica Stagers in the (from the 211 and 212 Maintenance Companies).

SSG Ronald Phillips, July 18, 2010, former member of Co C 2/19th SFG.

Mae Dowdy Roberts, July 17, 2010, mother of TSgt Terry Dowdy, 121 ARW and Counterdrug Task Force.

Websites of Interest:

<http://www.defense.gov/> Defense Link

<http://ohmr.ohio.gov/> Ohio Military Reserve

<http://navalmilitia.ohio.gov/> Ohio Naval Militia