

The Ohio National Guard Alumni Newsletter



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

179th Airlift Wing Assists Haiti Relief Efforts

As many stood poised around the country ready to answer the call, the Ohio Air National Guard provided two C-130 "Hercules" cargo aircraft from the Mansfield-based 179th Airlift Wing within hours of the earthquake providing immediate assistance to Haiti. The 179th was originally deployed to Puerto Rico during a planned rotation in support of Operation Coronet Oak—a U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) theater airlift support mission—on Dec. 26, 2009. The current rotation of 45 Airmen arrived Saturday, Jan. 9, 2010. They are under command and control of SOUTHCOM and the mission is federally funded.

Three days after the current rotation of Airmen arrived in Puerto Rico, the powerful magnitude 7.0 earthquake hit neighboring Haiti. The same evening, SOUTHCOM placed three crews from the 179th on alert and early Wednesday morning, January 13, activated the first crew, which was airborne within three hours. The aircraft flew to Florida to collect search and rescue teams and communication crews and delivered them to Port-au-Prince. Shortly after, a second crew was alerted and airborne.

The first crew, led by Lt. Col. Kenneth Pecoraro, arrived in Port-au-Prince as the sun was setting last Wednesday evening and landed successfully, despite challenging terrain and a downed communication tower. The Ohio National Guard C-130 was the first such aircraft to land in Port-au-Prince. The second crew, commanded by Lt. Col. William Baukmon, arrived after sunset with three pallets of communication materials to improve departure and approach communication at Port-au-Prince airport. In addition, three Puerto Rico Air National Guard aircraft have been tasked to the 179th Airlift Wing for this operation. Thursday morning, January 14, 179th crews arrived in Florida in two of these aircraft to pick up and deliver additional supplies and personnel. (Additional information and pictures are available on the ONG website at <http://www.ong.ohio.gov/>.)

Ohio Army National Guard Appoints First Female Brigade Commander (Story by Spc. Ryan A. Cleary, 196th MPAD). Soldiers, family members, special guests and Ohio National Guard senior leaders filled the Camp Perry clubhouse Jan. 10 to witness a historic change of command ceremony for the 371st Sustainment Brigade. Lt. Col. Maria E. Kelly, the brigade's deputy

commanding officer, took the reins from Col. Daniel L. Tack, becoming the first female brigade commander in the Ohio Army National Guard.

“I am going to provide for you with unwavering leadership, with support, guidance and direction, strategic resources and a way forward,” Kelly said to her new brigade troops. “Give your best to yourself, to your families, to your Soldiers and your duty.” Kelly, a West Jefferson, Ohio, resident, commanded the brigade’s rear detachment for 18 months during the unit’s 2008-2009 deployment to Iraq. She brings with her a wealth of command and organizational experience and knowledge including two combat deployments to Iraq, first in 2004 as a plans officer with the 371st Corps Support Groups and again in 2006 with the 237th Forward Support Battalion where she served as the base commander for Forward Operating Bases Marez and Diamondback and Mosul Army Airfield. She has also served as a public affairs officer, an Officer Candidate School instructor, detachment commander, battalion operations and training officer and battalion executive officer.

“Diversity is one of this organization’s top priorities, and is an issue we’ve been committed to promoting for many years,” said Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general. Although Lt. Col. Kelly has only now become the first female brigade commander in the Ohio Army National Guard, Wayt said the organizational culture has been evolving for some time. “You cannot just create a brigade commander, they have to be grown, nurtured and given opportunities over the span of his or her career,” Wayt said. “But we recognize that by providing those opportunities to all of our members—women and minorities included—we allow the best the organization has to offer to rise to the top. It makes us stronger and the selection of Lt. Col. Kelly as commander of the 371st demonstrates the validity of this ideal. “She may be the first,” Wayt said, “but there are many powerful, intelligent women advancing in our ranks.”

Col. Tack began his career in 1970 and is retiring from the Army National Guard with 40 years of service. During his time with the 371st, the brigade was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation and the Global War on Terrorism campaign streamers. Tack also received the Legion of Merit award during the ceremony.

Ohio Army National Guard Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay Information (RSLSP)

The Ohio National Guard recently published the following information concerning eligibility to receive retroactive Stop Loss Pay. This program is applicable to all former and current members of the Ohio Army National Guard who meet eligibility requirements based on service during the period commencing 11 September 2001 and ending on 30 September 2009. Soldiers who had their period of obligated service involuntarily extended, or eligibility for retirement suspended, are eligible. Family members or legally appointed representative of a deceased Soldier are eligible to make an application on behalf of the Soldier for this payment. RSLSP will only be paid pursuant to a claim and all claims must be submitted on or before 21 October 2010.

A claim must be submitted to <https://www.stoplosspay.army.mil>, which is a Department of the Army web-based system. Additional documentation may be required to support your claim. Current members of the OHARNG should contact your unit for assistance. Former members who do not have access to the Internet Personnel Electronic Records Management System (iPERMS) should

contact the State Headquarters Archives Department, Ms. Jeanette Coughenour, at (614) 336-7038 or retiredrecordsoh@ng.army.mil.

Documents needed to support a claim include:

For Enlisted Soldiers: DD Form 214 (Certificate or Release or Discharge from Active Duty), DD Form 4 (Enlistment/Reenlistment/Extension Contract), DD Form 1966 (Record of Military Processing), DA Form 4187 (for Stop Loss Adjustment of ETS), NGB 22 (Separation Document), and for Indefinite Enlisted Soldiers, Memorandum showing approved retirement was denied or suspended.

For Officers: DD Form 214 and Memorandum showing approved retirement was denied or suspended.

RSLSP is \$500 per month for every month (or portion of a month) served on active duty orders during the period commencing 11 September 2001 and ending on 30 September 2009. Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) will process these payments, not the OHARNG Field Finance Offices. If you received any stop loss special payment while serving on active duty in a designated Combat Zone Tax Exclusion, it may be considered tax free. Tax exclusion is determined by DFAS. DFAS will adjust accordingly payments if any previous payments were made. Point of contact for Retroactive Stop Loss inquiries is CW2 Julie Chapman for enlisted issues at (614) 336-7103 and CW4 Carol Hudy for officer issues at (614) 336-7172.

Army Guard Puts Cornhusker in Top Enlisted Slot

Command Sgt. Maj. Richard J. Burch of the Nebraska National Guard has been named the new Command Sergeant Major of the Army National Guard. He is scheduled to begin his new job in February and is looking forward to the experience. "It's a huge honor for me to be selected by the leadership of the Army National Guard," Burch said. "With that honor comes responsibility. I've never been one to shirk responsibility."

Burch, who has been in the Army Guard for more than 30 years, has worked in several different career fields, including quartermaster, recruiting and retention, human resources and with an area support group. One goal of his is to work with the Army to integrate the Army National Guard into the Army Career Tracker system. "The integration of the [Army Guard] into [this] system will allow us to take credit for what we have already done," he said. "The Army Career Tracker system provides a place where soldiers can go and track the things that they have done, not only in the military, but on the civilian side, as well, such as college and universities."

ONG Airman wins Air Force Award

Senior Airman Kyle T. Dussel, of the Ohio National Guard's 180th Fighter Wing, won the 2009 Air Force Outstanding Security Forces - Air Reserve Component Airman Award this month. In December, the U.S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) announced Dussel as the 2009 Outstanding Security Forces ARC Airman award winner. USAFE consists of five major commands (MAJCOM) located in the United Kingdom, Italy, and Germany. "Winning this award means a lot to me and I am thankful that my leadership thought enough of my abilities to recommend me. It is a privilege to represent both my unit and the State of Ohio," said Dussel.

He initially joined the Ohio Air National Guard in 2006 for educational benefits. "I joined Security Forces because I have always been interested in law enforcement and thought I would enjoy this career field the most," Dussel said.

Dussel, who is temporarily stationed in Germany, was selected from the ARC Airmen assigned to the 86th Security Forces Squadron, Ramstein Air Base. He volunteered to go to Germany after several of his supervisors at the 180th Fighter Wing told him about their positive experiences while deployed there. Dussel's supervisor submitted a summation of his annual achievements, broken down into three categories: specific duty achievements, self-improvement efforts (career-oriented), and participation in military and civilian activities. After winning the USAFE award, Dussel competed against approximately seven other ARC Airmen at the Air Force level. Dussel will receive his first award at the annual USAFE Chiefs of Security Forces Conference banquet in March, and the AF level award at the SFS Worldwide Conference in April in San Antonio, Texas

Update on the Delay in the Implementation of TRICARE for Gray Area Retirees To get an update from Congress on the implementation date of TRICARE for Gray Area Retirees, the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) met with legislative assistants for Sen. Ben Nelson, D-Neb., and Rep. Robert Latta, R-Ohio, the two senators who led the effort to authorize the coverage in the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). They indicated that the monthly premium for TRICARE coverage was still being determined by the Defense Department. They did not expect the coverage to be available until Oct. 1. TRICARE Management Activity had reported last month that the coverage would not be available for another 11 to 18 months because pricing for the coverage had yet to be determined.

Congress was able to include TRICARE for Gray Area retiree coverage in the 2010 NDAA because it was reported as cost neutral to the government. The new law requires beneficiaries to pay the full cost for TRICARE Standard coverage incurred by DoD, with the monthly premium to be equal to the cost of coverage that the defense secretary determines on "an appropriate actuarial basis." The secretary, through his staff, has been engaged for the last two months in an extended process to determine that cost of coverage.

When the bill was passed, the hope was that the price for the TRICARE Standard coverage for this new group would be in the range of the full cost of TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) to the DoD. However, it appears that the pricing formula will most likely produce a cost higher than the base cost of TRS because of the older demographics of the covered group of Gray Area retirees. We do not know how much higher the monthly premium will be, but we would like to find out as soon as possible or at least monitor the process to make sure the pricing mechanism is fair.

An Opportunity to Help the Troops Coming Home and Your Fellow Vets. You are invited to participate in a research study about the effects of Social Intensity Syndrome on military personnel's relationships with their friends and family being conducted by researchers through San Francisco State University. This idea is to explore the relationship differences between military personnel and their unit, military friends, family and significant others. A confidential survey has been prepared that should take approximately 45 to 60 minutes and can be completed at your convenience. The survey

is anonymous. This is not a commercial survey. In order to participate in this study you must have served or be serving in the military, currently residing in the United States, be 18 or older, male and be able to speak and read English.

To access the informed consent and the survey, please go to <http://sites.google.com/site/sisstudy/http://capwiz.com/ngaus/utr/1/IKZXLWJMVN/NMUTLWJNAW/4530401411> . If you would like to learn more about the study, or have a question, please feel free to contact Sarah Brunskill at sbrunskill@gmail.com. You can also contact Anthony Ferreras, who is the primary investigator of the study at ferreras@sfsu.edu.

ONG Alumni Advisory Committee

A key objective of the Alumni Affairs initiative is to include alumni in the planning and direction of the program. To that goal we are asking for interested alumni to participate in the Alumni Affairs Advisory Council. This group will meet as needed to provide input and advice to the program staff. If you are interested in participating and willing to attend 2-3 meetings a year, please contact COL (ret) Jim Chisman at 614-336-7336 or by email at james.chisman@us.army.mil. The first meeting will be held in early March.

This Week in Guard History.

Jan. 11, 1991: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq — Operation Desert Storm opens with a blistering air assault on key Iraqi command and control, communications and other vital military targets as the war to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation begins. Among the first combat units flying sorties are the South Carolina Air National Guard's 169th Tactical Fighter Group and New York's 174th Tactical Fighter Wing, both armed with F-16 aircraft. Other Guard units participated in support roles, from in-air refueling to cargo transportation.

This week in Ohio Guard History

25 January 1968. Maj. Gen. Errol H. Zistel, Ohio ANG (Ret.), died. He had begun his military career as a fighter pilot in Britain's Royal Flying Corps and then transferred to General Pershing's American Air Service during World War I. In 1927, he was among the organizers of the Ohio National Guard's first aviation unit, the 112th Observation Squadron, which ultimately became the 180th FW. Zistel had retired in 1957 while serving as Chief of Staff of the Ohio Air National Guard.

Changes of Command

Ohio Army Guard Medical Detachment, February 6, 2010. DSCC Building 11. Outgoing Commander, COL Terry Johnson, Incoming Commander, COL Brett Call, details to follow.

1-145 Armor Regiment, February 7, 2010, 1100, Stow Armory Drill Floor, 4630 Allen Rd. Stow, Ohio 44224. Outgoing Commander COL Jeffery Ziol, Incoming Commander LTC Corwin Lusk.

73rd Troop Command, April 11, 2010, 1400, 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 Gordon Ellis.

Upcoming Events

Silver Star Medal Award Ceremony. The Silver Star will be presented to Sergeant First Class Mark A. Wanner, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Ohio Army National Guard. The ceremony will be conducted Saturday, Feb. 6, 2010, at noon at The Ohio Statehouse, 1 Capitol Square, Columbus, OH 43215.

Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee Meetings– January 2010. These are great opportunities for alumni to re-engage and to volunteer in support of ONG units, soldiers, and airmen. If you are able, please attend the meeting in your area and learn more about how you can continue to serve the ONG as an alumni ambassador.

Region 3 – RISFAC Meeting, January 26, 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: 866-278-5757, Cell: 513-869-9248. Email: brian.via@us.army.mil

Region 4 – RISFAC Meeting, January 26, 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 Specialists: Jerry Wiggins and Robin Robbins, Office: 866-278-5759, Cell: 937-751-8472, Email: jerry.wiggins1@us.army.mil or robin.robbins1@us.army.mil

112th Engineer Battalion Ball, Saturday, February 13, 2010, 1900, The Crowne Plaza Hotel Cleveland Airport. 7230 Engle Road, Middleburg Heights, Ohio. Registration and additional information is online at: <http://events.SignUp4.com/112engineerbattalionball2010>. or call 1LT Eric Holtzapple at (614) 336-6000 ext. 8753.

Ohio National Guard Association Winter Dinner Dance, Saturday, February 27, 2010, 1800, Villa Milano Banquet Center, Columbus. Details at: <http://www.ohionga.org/Winter%20Dinner%20Dance%20Page.htm>. Questions may be directed to CW5 James Markley, 614-336-6618.

Army Guard Officer Candidate School Dining Out, March 20, 2010, 1800, Makoy Center in Hilliard, OH, details to follow.

37th Annual ONGEA Conference and Awards Banquet, Longaberger Alumni House, OSU Campus, Columbus, Ohio, May 8, 2010. Register on-line at www.ongea.org

Call to Duty Ceremonies

200TH REDHORSE Squadron and Det 1, OANG, 1600, February 28, 2010, Mansfield Senior High School, 124 N. Linden Rd. Mansfield, Oh 44906

196TH Public Affairs Detachment (Mobile), March 7, 2010, details to follow.

Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT 1.5), April 25, 2010, details to follow.

Welcome Home Ceremony

Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT 1.2). February 22, 2010, details to follow.

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

SSG (ret) Lucian (Lou) Dixon, January 6, 2010, former administrative supply technician for 122nd Army Band during 1950-1960s. A memorial service will be held Sunday, April 11, 2010 at 1030 at the Glenville Seventh Day Adventist Church, 737 E. 105th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44108.

Mr. George Underwood, January 6, 2010, father of SGT Greg Underwood, J1 Security Clearance Manager.

Mr. Tony Gernert, January 14, 2010, brother of SSG Mark Gernert, 1-147th RTI.

1LT (Ret) Richard "Dick" Criss, January 19, 2010, former member of 3/107th CAV.

Websites of Interest:

ONG Twitter site: <http://twitter.com/ohnationalguard>

Maj. Gen. Wayt Twitter site: <http://twitter.com/mgwayt>

Ft. Knox Retirement Services Office: <http://www.knox.army.mil/garrison/dhr/ag/mpd/rso/index.asp>

Where Are They Now?

COL (ret) Robert Clark. Bob served the Ohio National Guard from October, 1950 until his retirement in July, 1989. He originally enlisted in the 166th Regt Combat Team, advancing from Pvt to Platoon Sergeant. He was a member of the 1st Ohio OCS Class earning his commission in 1958 as an Air Defense Officer, assigned to Battery B, 2-174 ADA Bn., New Lexington. In 1967 he became a Federal Technician holding positions of increasing responsibility until his retirement as 112th Medical Brigade Chief of Staff in 1989. Bob has continued his career of public service with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency up to the present.

Three of COL (ret) Clark's four children have served in the ONG: Maj. (ret) David Clark of Lancaster 2-174 ADA and OAC, MSG (ret) Christine Manning of Lancaster, 684th Med Co. and OHARNG Recruiter, and Joe M. Clark of Reynoldsburg (former 73rd Infantry Brigade Aviation Section member). One interesting side note: As Battery B Commander, Bob sent PFC David Hartley to OCS. Bob hopes that Maj.Gen. (ret) Hartley has since forgiven him as he didn't think PFC Hartley appreciated it at the time.

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