

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

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Introducing Ohio's new Assistant Adjutants General

Col. John C. Harris assumed the duties as the assistant adjutant general for Army, Joint Force Headquarters, Ohio Army National Guard on Jan. 11, 2011. As assistant adjutant general for Army, he is responsible for establishing policies, priorities, and oversight for the readiness of over 11,400 Soldiers. Harris has recently served as the Ohio Army National Guard chief of staff, the adjutant

general's principle assistant for directing, coordinating, supervising and training the staff of the Ohio Army National Guard. Serving in the Ohio National Guard since 1981, he has held numerous staff and command positions throughout the organization, including deputy chief of staff for personnel, commander of Task Force Lancer at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo and commander of the 2nd Squadron

107th Cavalry. He is a graduate of Army War College, Command and General Staff College, Inspector General course and Aviation Officer Advanced course. In addition, he holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of New York. He is decorated with many awards, including the Legion of Merit.



Senior leader reception Feb. 4.



Col. John C. Harris

Col. Mark E. Bartman is the assistant adjutant general for Air and also serves as the commander for the Ohio Air National Guard. He is responsible to the adjutant general for directing Air National Guard operations and establishing policy to ensure mission readiness for over 5,000 personnel in four flying wings and eight support units. Serving in the U.S. Air Force since 1982 and the Ohio National Guard since

1981, he has held numerous staff and command positions. Most recently, he served as the Commander of the 180th FW in Toledo. He is a command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours, including 29 combat missions in operations Provide Comfort, Northern Watch and Southern Watch. Bartman is a graduate of the Air National Guard Senior Leadership Seminar, Air War College, Naval War College, Air Command and

Staff College and Squadron Office school. He holds a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Boston University and a Bachelor's degree in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from the Ohio State University. He is decorated with many awards including the Meritorious Service Medal with one oak cluster.



Col. Mark E. Bartman

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Warning to Veterans

An organization called Veterans Affairs Services (VAS) is providing benefit and general information on VA and gathering personal information on veterans. This organization is not affiliated with VA in any way. Websites with the name "vaservices" immediately after the "www" ARE NOT part of the Department of Veteran Affairs, the U.S. Government agency.

Do not go to them, or if approached or called, do not offer them any information concerning yourself or data on other veterans. Keep in mind that the real VA websites end in ".gov." Also be aware that the Department of Affairs does not randomly call veterans, nor does it ask veterans for information which it

does not already have, such as social security numbers. In particular, if you have not dealt with the VA previously, and you receive a call from someone claiming to be with the VA or something similar, hang up the phone. Also, do not respond to emails which suggest that they are from the VA. The VA never conducts official business nor asks for personal information by email.

VAS may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the VA name and seal. Our legal counsel has requested that we coordinate with DoD to inform military installations particularly mobilization sites, of this group and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by VA to provide any

services. In addition, General Counsel requests that if you have any examples of VAS acts that violate chapter 59 of Title 38 United State Code, such as VAS employees assisting veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits, please pass any addition information to Mr. Daugherty at the following address:

Michael G. Daugherty

Staff Attorney

Department of Veteran Affairs

Office of General Counsel (022G2)

810 Vermont Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20420

Editor's Note

If you would like to submit an article for an Alumni Newsletter please contact Mr. Moore before the 10th of each month.

Contact Mr. Moore at
(614)336-7336.

VA's final regulation aides Veterans exposed to Agent Orange

Veterans exposed to herbicides while serving along the demilitarized zone (DMZ) in Korea will have an easier path to access quality health care and benefits under a Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) final regulation that will expand the dates when illnesses caused by herbicide exposure can be presumed to be related to Agent Orange.

"VA's primary mission is to be an advocate for Veterans," said Secretary of Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "With this new regulation, the VA has cleared a path for more Veterans who served in the demilitarized zone in Korea to receive access to our quality health care and disability benefits

for exposure to Agent Orange."

Under the final regulation published today in the Federal Register, VA will presume herbicide exposure for any Veteran who served between April 1, 1968 and Aug. 31, 1971, in a unit determined by VA and the Department of Defense (DoD) to have operated in an area in or near the Korean DMZ in which herbicides were applied. Previously, VA recognized that Agent Orange exposure could only be conceded to Veterans who served in certain units along the Korean DMZ between April 1968 and July 1969. In practical terms, eligible

Veterans who have specific illnesses that the VA presumes to be associated with herbicide exposure do not have to prove an association between their illness and their military service. The "presumption" simplifies and speeds up the application process for benefits and ensures that Veterans receive the benefits they deserve.

Go to these links to learn about Veterans diseases associated with Agent Orange at www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/diseases.asp. VA encourages Veterans with covered service in Korea who have medical conditions that may be related to

Agent Orange to submit their applications for access to VA health care and compensations as soon as possible so the agency can begin processing their claims. Individuals can go to website, www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/AO/claimherbicidie.htm to get a more complete understanding of how to file a claim for presumptive conditions related to herbicide exposures, as well as what evidence is needed by VA to make a decision about disability compensations or survivors.

The regulation is available on the Office of the Federal Register website at <http://www.ofr.gov/>.

Deployment activity

Current **Army** units deployed:

The 196th MPAD
Ohio Military Liaison Team 1.5
112 Engineer Battalion
1-174th Air Defense Artillery
292nd Engineer Detachment
Ohio Military Liaison Team 1.6

*As of January 11, about 561
 Soldiers are deployed*

Current **Air** deployments:

121st ARW-35 deployed
 179th AW-44 deployed
 180th FW-27 deployed
 178th FW-92 deployed

A total of 198 Airman are
 currently deployed.

Source: Wing Status Reports

In 2011, roughly eight more
 OHARNG units will be deploy-
 ing, to include the 37th IBCT.

More than 2100 Ohio Army
 National Guard Soldiers from
 the 37 IBCT will be deploying
 late summer.

Upcoming events

Call to Duty Ceremonies:

1937th SPT Detachment's
 Call to Duty is on Feb. 14 at
 1000 hours at the Reynolds-
 burg United Methodist
 Church; 1636 Graham Road
 Reynoldsburg, OH 43068.
 Military uniform: ACU's, Civil-
 ian Dress: Business Casual.

Welcome Home Ceremonies:

The **196th MPAD** is **tenta-
 tively** scheduled to arrive
 home on the Feb. 26. The

location has yet to be deter-
 mined.

Change of Command:

Maj. David Mason Jr., Com-
 mander of the 155th Chemi-
 cal Battalion invites you to
 attend this ceremony for the
HHD 155th Chemical Battal-
 ion on Sunday, Mar. 6, 2011
 at 1000 at the P.L. Kessler
 Armory in Middletown, Ohio.

Outgoing CDR - Capt. Shane Harlor
 Incoming CDR - 1st. Lt. William Kihn

The Ohio National Guard Asso- ciation Winter Dinner Dance

Will be held on Feb. 19, 2011 at
 Hilton Polaris Columbus at
 1800. RSVP by Feb. 14 at
[http://ohionga.org/images/
 winterdance11.pdf](http://ohionga.org/images/winterdance11.pdf). POC is to
 Chief Warrant Officer 5 Markley
 at (614)336-6618.

Memorials

It is with deep sorrow that we
 share the passing deaths of:

Ms. Donna Phillips passed
 away on Jan. 11. She was the
 grandmother of Capt. Eric
 Holtzapple, 216th Engineer
 Battalion.

Former ANG member, *Deborah
 Newton*, passed away on Jan.
 12. She was a member of
 Logistics Readiness Squadron

and Operations Support Flight
 for many years at Rickenbacker.
 She left Rickenbacker in 2007 to
 finish her career at
 Wright-Patterson AFB.

Ms. Belinda Boggs passed away
 on Jan. 13. She was the mother
 of Sgt. 1st Class Michelle White,
 737th SPT Co.

Mr. John Calloway Jr. passed
 away on Jan. 14. He was the

father of Sgt. Theodore Venable of
 the 1194th Engineer Company.

Mr. Lloyd Jenkins passed away on
 Jan. 15. He was the grandfather of
 Staff Sgt. Jarrod Kreitzer, SPT Co.
 216th Engineer Battalion.

Ms. Maxine M. Davis passed away
 on Jan. 19. She was the mother of
 Sgt. Bernadine Poindexter and
 mother-in-law of Chief Warrant Offi-
 cer 2 Byron Poindexter.

Helpful Links

<http://www.tricare.mil>
TRICARE.

To receive TRICARE benefit updates via e-mail, go to

www.tricare.mil/subscriptions

<http://www.trdp.org> TRI-CARE Retiree Dental Program

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

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

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

<http://www.iava.org> Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America

<http://www.usaa.com>
USAA Military Bank

<http://www.VA.gov>
United States Department of Veteran Affairs

<http://ohionga.org/> The Ohio National Guard Association

<http://www.ngaus.org/>
The National Guard Association of the

New mailing address
for all retirement
applications:
HUMAN RESOURCE
CENTER OF
EXCELLENCE
ATTN: AHRC-PDR-
RCR
1600 SPEARHEAD
DIVISION AVENUE
DEPT 420
FT. KNOX. KY 40122-
5402

VA developing innovative patient-centered model of care

The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) is creating a new office to develop personal, patient-centered models of care for Veterans who receive health care services at VA's more than 1,000 points of care across the nation.

"VA has become one of the Nation's leaders in quality health care and is increasingly cited as the standard to emulate," said VA Secretary for Health Dr. Robert A. Petzel. "However we must always continue to find ways to deliver more with our systems to the incredible patients we are honored to serve. We need to be data-driven, providing the treatments and therapies with the best clinical evidence. And we need to be patient-centered, never losing sight that we have been given the noble mission to care for our Nation's Veterans, families and survivors."

The new VA Office of Patient Centered Care and Cultural Transformation began operations on Jan. 17 based in Arlington, Va. The office's director, Dr. Tracy Williams Gaudet, comes to VA from Duke University Medical Center where she has served as the executive director of Duke Integrated Medicine since 2001. Dr. Gaudet received her Bachelor of Arts and medical degrees from Duke University.

"The VA's vision and commitment to cultural transformation comes at a pivotal moment for health care in this country, and I'm deeply honored to be joining the VA in this important work," said Dr. Gaudet.

The Office of Patient Centered Care and Cultural Transformation will be a living, learning organization in which the VA will discover and demonstrate a new

model of care, analyze the results, and then create strategies that allow for their translation and implementations across the VA. The VA will continue to be a national leader in innovation, improving the future of high-quality health care to our Veterans.

The VA Office of Patient Centered Care and Cultural Transformation will have four regional implementation teams at select VA medical centers across the county: Birmingham, Ala.; East Orange, N.J.; Dallas; and Los Angeles. Each VA medical center was selected for excellence already demonstrated in producing cultures of patient-centered care based on established criteria. These regional teams, comprised of patient-centered care consultants will be responsible for facilitating the culture change for patient-centered care.

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Community Outreach Office

Alumni Affairs
 2825 W. Dublin Granville Rd.
 Columbus, OH 43235

[HTTP://ONG.OHIO.GOV](http://ong.ohio.gov)

April 2011 RISFAC Meetings:

Region 1 - April 21

Region 2 - April 20

Region 3 - April 21

Region 4 - April 26

Region 5 - April 19

Region 6 - April 20

For questions regarding the time or place of RISFAC meetings, contact Spc. Kylie Perrine at kylie.perrine@us.army.mil or at (614)336-4135.



Visit us on:

FaceBook <http://www.facebook.com/TheOhioNationalGuard>

Flickr <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ohionationalguard>

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

YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/OhioNationalGuard>

When called, we respond with ready units to execute federal, state and community missions.

Introducing Mr. James Moore, Alumni Affairs Coordinator

Greetings all,

Just wanted to say hi and let you know I'm the new kid on the block. I just retired from the Ohio National Guard after serving 32 years, most of it as an AGR Soldier.

I am married to my wonderful wife, Kim, and have two great kids, Brady and Koree.

I graduated from Franklin University with a Bachelors of Science in Applied Management. While serving in the 1-134th Field Artillery, I was appointed as the Battalion FRG liaison. In that role, I attended all of the RISFAC meetings since their incep-

tion. I learned a lot from the local volunteer organization, schools, VFWs, AMVETS, businesses and the other civic-minded individuals who participated. I look forward to carving out a role, through RISFAC, where our alumni can actively support the our brothers and sisters in arms currently serving.

My goals as Alumni Affairs Coordinator are to continue producing a quality and professional newsletter, provide information on demand for anyone who contacts my office, coordinate our annual alumni reunion, and leverage alumni talent and connections in support of re-

gional family readiness groups. I look forward to working with you and getting to know you.



Please reach out to me at:

Phone:(614) 336-7336

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