

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

VOLUME 4, EDITION 9 – SEPTEMBER 1, 2012

Lt. Gen. Frank J. Grass to be next National Guard Bureau chief

WASHINGTON (July 27, 2012) — The National Guard Association of the United States released the following statement by retired Maj. Gen. Gus L. Hargett Jr., the association president:

“National Guard leaders across the country applaud the Senate’s action last night to confirm Lt. Gen. Frank J. Grass to be the next chief of the National Guard Bureau and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.



Lt. Gen. Frank Grass

“General Grass is the right leader with the right set of experiences to move the National Guard forward. With nearly 43 years in the Army National Guard - as an officer and an enlisted man, both full time and part time - he truly knows the force and its obligations. Every Guardsman nationwide will be able to look toward NGB and know one of their own is in charge.

“But the NGB chief today has an added responsibility with his new seat on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He must advise the nation’s civilian leaders directly on matters of homeland security. General Grass brings much to this role as well.

“As the former deputy commander of U.S. Northern Command, he has a wealth of knowledge of both the Guard resources available and a unique insight into the state-federal unity of effort required to protect lives and property in the event of a major disaster. His advice will be coveted and invaluable.

“General Grass has big shoes to fill. Gen. Craig R. McKinley, the current NGB chief, was a true trailblazer. He was the National Guard’s first four-star general. He was also the first Guard officer to sit with the Joint Chiefs. Being first is difficult, especially at the Pentagon. It requires a special kind of leadership. General McKinley was such a leader.

“His patience, his confidence and his competence have blazed a clear trail for General Grass and other future NGB chiefs to follow.”

Source: NGAUS.org

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Ohio National Guard units currently deployed

Air units:

121st Air Refueling Wing
123rd Air Control Squadron
178th Fighter Wing
180th Fighter Wing

Army units:

Operational Mentoring & Liaison Team 1.8, 1.9
290th Engineer Detachment
296th Engineer Detachments (Fire fighting)
37th NATO Training Mission Afghanistan
684th Medical Company
2-174 Air Defense Artillery Regiment (Avenger)
37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (1-134th FA BN)
Company B, 3-238th Aviation Regiment

There are about 2,600 Ohio National Guard Soldiers and Airmen deployed

(total number of deployed Soldiers and Airmen is current as of 9/1/12)

TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR) mandatory payments options change January 1, 2013

Your monthly premium payments must be made by either recurring Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) or recurring Debit/Credit Card (Visa/MasterCard only) beginning no later than Jan. 1, 2013. Contact your TRICARE regional contractor IMMEDIATELY to set up your automatic monthly premium payments, if you have not done so already.



DO NOT DELAY. If you fail to establish one of these automated payment methods, coverage will be terminated. Contact information for your TRICARE regional contractor can be found at www.tricare.mil/contacts. If you have questions or need clarification, please contact Staff Sgt. Tiffany Miller, G1 MOB/TRICARE Coordinator, Ohio Army National Guard, 614-336-6000 x1778, Fax 614-336-6586.

Good oral health is linked to longevity; do you have dental insurance?

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program is available to all military retirees (including gray area retirees) and their eligible family members, un-remarried surviving spouses and their eligible children, as well as MOH recipients and their eligible immediate family members and survivors. The program covers cleanings, exams, fillings, root canals, gum surgery, oral surgery and dental accidents on the first day that coverage becomes effective; after 12 months of being in the program, it then covers major services (crowns, bridges, partials, braces and dental implants and orthodontics). However, if you enroll within four months after your retirement date, Delta Dental will waive the 12-month waiting period on major services.



The Enhanced TRDP provides every enrollee an annual maximum of \$1,200 per person (\$1,000 for Basic Program enrollees), a \$1,000 annual maximum for dental accidents and a \$1,500 lifetime maximum for orthodontics. It is important to note that the money that the TRDP pays out for preventive and diagnostic services doesn't count against the annual maximum – those benefits are in addition to the \$1,200. Retirees can find more information on the program, as well as enroll 24/7/365, online at rdp.org. To find a network provider use the **Consumer Toolkit** visit trdp.org.

Source: Delta Dental of California, trdp.news@delta.org

Dates to Remember:**September 8 -**

-945th Eng Co. Change of Command at 8:30 a.m., Norwalk Armory; 1Lt. Nathan Anderson replaces Capt. Rosario Carbone

-371st STB, 212th SMC Change of Command at 11:00 a.m. in Medina; Capt. Bryan Eschbach replaces Capt. Claudio Garcioacastro

-112th Engineer BN Change of Command at 11:00 a.m., Brook Park Armory; 1Lt. Garland Fleming replaces Capt. Jennifer hergenroeder

September 9 -

1485th Trans Co Change of Command at 11:00 a.m., in Coshocton; 1Lt. Sean Minor replaces Capt. Scott Detling

September 29 -

ONG Alumni Reunion at Camp Perry 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Register by 20 September. POC: LtCol Lowrey at ong.outreach@ng.army.mil

September 29 -

The 437th MP Battalion invites you to their Ball; Ramada Plaza Hotel, 20 West Mill St., in Akron; Rooms available for \$79. Call 330-384-1500 for reservations. POC: Capt. Teresa Weinheimer at 716-803-2828.

October 6-7 -

NE Regional Air National Guard Bowling Tournament in Bangor, Maine is open to all service members and retirees. POC: Tech Sgt. (Ret) Keith Coe at 740-973-9636 or kcoe@columbus.rr.com

October 26 -

Col. William Zieber's Retirement Celebration at 6:00 p.m.; Brookside Country Club, Columbus. POC: Col. Dernberger, 614-336-7202

Veteran Entrepreneur Portal Franchising Opportunities

Is Franchising Right for You?

Do I have other priorities in my life? How do I feel about dealing with the public? How do I feel about being stuck in one place? Is my territory the right one for this franchise?

Things to know about franchising

You should know about the status of the franchisors in the market before investing your money into the company. The type of training and support that the franchisor would provide should be clearly known.

What is VetFran?

To honor those men and women who have served in the U.S. military, the Veterans Transition Franchise Initiative, known as "VetFran," was developed to help them transition to civilian life. The idea of the late Don Dwyer Sr., founder of The Dwyer Group, VetFran is a voluntary effort of International Franchise Association member-companies that is designed to encourage franchise ownership by offering financial incentives to honorably discharged veterans. See more information at www.vetfran.com.

There are also other franchise opportunities available to veterans under the VetFran program. Visit <http://www.vetbiz.gov> for more information. Also, contact your local small business development center by visiting <http://www.asbdc-us.org/index.html>.

NEARLY 1400 VETERAN-FRANCHISEES AND GROWING

Taking advantage of the financial incentives offered by participating companies, veterans, by early 2009, had acquired nearly 1400 franchises through the VetFran program and more than 200 were in various stages of negotiation.

FINANCIAL INCENTIVES

Due to the wide variety of franchises, the criteria for financial incentives is determined by the franchise system in a manner that allows the greatest flexibility for the system and, at the same time, offers veterans a better deal than is offered to otherwise qualified investors. Typically, VetFran participants offer discounts of their initial fees, but that is not a requirement. A current list of participating companies and the discounts these franchise systems offer is available on this Web site, www.franchise.org, under "[VetFran Directory](#)."

Source: <http://www.va.gov/osdbu/>

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

Community Outreach Office

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(614) 336-4135

ONG.OHIO.GOV

2012 Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee Meetings:

Region 1 - October 25

Region 2 - October 17

Region 3 - October 23

Region 4 - October 30

Region 5 - October 16

Region 6 - October 10

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



SOCIAL MEDIA

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youtube.com/OhioNationalGuard

ong.ohio.gov

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
1600 Spearhead Division Avenue
Dept 420
Ft. Knox, KY 40122-56402
1-800-318-5298 or 502-613-8950

TRICARE Awareness Week held 13-16 August 2012

Governor John Kasich, Maj. Gen. Deborah Ashenhurst and the Ohio National Guard Community Outreach office asked for support from healthcare providers during TRICARE Awareness Week, Aug. 13-16, 2012.

In collaboration with more than 11 healthcare associations across the state, this campaign built awareness about our need for physicians, behavioral health and other healthcare providers to accept more TRICARE beneficiaries. The need for TRICARE providers is particularly strong in the rural areas of Ohio.

Messages were sent to healthcare provider associations to forward to their members and the educational event at Rickenbacker Air National Guard base showcased Ohio Army National Guard equipment on static display. A continuing medical education course was also provided by Dr. Chrisanne Gordon from *Resurrecting Lives*, explaining how to recognize symptoms of mild Traumatic Brain Injury.

Please speak with the health care professionals you know about accepting more TRICARE beneficiaries. Invite them to join the other patriotic healthcare providers who treat the more than 155,500 Ohio Service Members, Families and Retiree beneficiaries who sacrifice to protect our freedoms.

For additional information about TRICARE Awareness Week, visit <http://ong.ohio.gov/TRICARE.html>.

