

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

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Inaugural OHARNG Modern Army Combatives Tournament draws solid group of participants

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. George B. Davis
Ohio National Guard Public Affairs

CAMP RAVENNA JOINT MILITARY TRAINING CENTER, Ohio — The Ohio Army National Guard hosted its first statewide Modern Army Combatives tournament March 1 at Camp Ravenna, as 64 competitors took to the mats to test their grappling and submission skills.

The competition, open to both male and female Soldiers and Airmen meeting physical fitness and health requirements, was gender neutral, as several female Soldiers faced off against males in their comparable weight classes. In all, Ohio National Guard members competed in seven weight classes, ranging from flyweight (males, 125 pounds and under; females, 134 pounds and under) to heavyweight (males, 206 pounds and over; females, 220 pounds and over).

There was a wide array of competitors at varying skill levels, as some of Ohio's newest, youngest guard members as well as some older than 40 participated. Some matches ended in submissions with others being decided by technical points scored during the matches.

Korean War veteran and martial artist Ronald F. Balas was the guest speaker and related his experiences in the war and as martial artist to the participants before the event.

Ohio National Guard senior leaders attended the event and awarded medals to the top three placers in each weight class.

"I believe there is no better tool for instilling confidence, discipline and the warrior spirit in our Soldiers than combatives training and competition," said Brig. Gen. John C. Harris Jr., Ohio assistant adjutant general for Army.

One highlight of the tournament occurred in the final bout, as Spc. Jesse P. Maloy, of the 211th Maintenance Company, landed a flying arm bar on Spc. Dustin Nolan, of the 812th Engineer Company, to win the tournament heavyweight championship.

The impressive submission maneuver brought those in attendance to their feet, and was an exciting conclusion to the day's competition.

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(right to left) Maj. Gen. Deborah A. Ashenurst, Ohio adjutant general and Brig. Gen. John C. Harris Jr., Ohio assistant adjutant general for Army, greet Soldiers at the Ohio Army National Guard's inaugural statewide Modern Army Combatives tournament, March 1, 2014, at Camp Ravenna Joint Military Training Center, near Newton Falls, Ohio. In all, 64 guard members competed in seven weight classes, ranging from flyweight to heavyweight.

MODERN ARMY COMBATIVES

Ohio National Guard units currently deployed

Air units: JFHQ 121st Air Refueling Wing 123rd Air Control Squadron 178th Fighter Wing 179th Airlift Wing 180th Fighter Wing
251st Cyberspace Engineering and Installation Group
Army units: 371st Sustainment Brigade

As of Mar. 31, 2014, about 88 Ohio National Guard Airmen and Soldiers were deployed supporting GWOT



Air National Guard director addresses senior-level commanders

by Tech. Sgt. David Eichaker
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. — Air Force Lt. Gen. Stanley E. Clarke III, the director of the Air National Guard, met with senior-level commanders at a recent Air National Guard Commander's Development Course at the Pentagon.

During the nine-day course, Army and Air National Guard senior officers representing 36 states were exposed to a variety of issues that can be expected as commanders, explained Air Force Brig. Gen. Marcus Jannitto, director of the ANG CDC.

While most attendees come from the Air Guard, senior Army Guard officers are invited to attend the ANG CDC to gain an enhanced understanding of how the Air National Guard functions.

When addressing the group, Clarke explained the importance of the course and what he wants these leaders to gain while attending. He touched on a variety of topics, including the relationship between the Air Force and the Air National Guard.

"We are a proven choice," said Clarke, noting that the Air Force placed value and long-term investment in ensuring the reserve components could perform equally alongside the regular Air Force.

And that meant a focus on unit readiness.

"They put the money in for weapons systems sustainment, man-days, eligibility for schools, weapons instructor's course (and equal participation in (training exercises)," said Clarke, adding that has been ongoing for years.

Clarke said that although there may be challenges to commanders, they need to have a good plan and the right people focused on missions that need to be accomplished.

The course culminated with a briefing from Gen. Mark A. Welsh III, chief of staff of the Air Force.



Air Force Lt. Gen. Stanley E. Clarke III, the director of the Air National Guard, addresses senior level commanders during a recent Commander's Development Course at the Pentagon, March 14, 2014. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. David Eichaker)

DID YOU KNOW?

April is the Month of the Military Child! This special celebration is a legacy of former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger – established to underscore the important role children play in the Armed Forces community. Army Garrisons, State Youth Program Coordinators, Army Reserve CYS Services Coordinators, and Operation: Military Kids (OMK) State Teams plan numerous events ranging from picnics and parades to recreational fairs and fun festivals – all to recognize and applaud Families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make in supporting America's Army.

APR 6**Change of Command for 73rd Troop Command**

Rickenbacker Army Enclave, Bldg. 931, 1530 hrs.

Outgoing Commander:
Brig. Gen. Dana McDaniel
Incoming Commander:
Col. Glenn Gmitter

Change of Responsibility for the 137th Signal Company

1257 Hollar Lane, Newark, Ohio, 1500 hrs.

Outgoing First Sergeant:
1SG Rick W. Gruver
Incoming First Sergeant:
1SG Robert M. Barnes

APR 24-27

ONGA/ONGEA Spring Events Weekend, Hyatt Regency, 350 North High St., Downtown Columbus.

APR 26

ONG Alumni Muster (Reunion), Hyatt Regency, 350 North High St., Columbus, 0930-1130.

MAY 3

Retirement Ceremony for Brig. Gen. Mark L. Stephens, Director of Joint Staff, Columbus Airport Marriott, 1375 North Cassady Ave., 1800hrs. Cost is \$50 per person. RSVP by April 25 to Jacqueline Sciotto at 614-336-4556.

MAY 5

USO Hero Drive Golf Outing, Golf Club of Dublin, 5805 Eiterman Rd, Dublin. Contact Larry Titus at 614-795-3945 with questions. Sign up deadline is April 21.

MAY 17

The 2-174th Air Defense Artillery 5th Annual All Ranks Ball, VFW Post 1058, 1308 Putnam Ave., Zanesville, 1730hrs. RSVP by May 5 to Sgt. Justin Spring at justin.m.spring.mil@mail.mil.

Mobile App helps Veterans find resources

Ohio Department of Veterans Service

Everywhere you look today it seems that a lot of people spend a significant amount of time looking at their phones.

It stands to reason that connecting Veterans to benefit information through something they could view on their phones is the logical next step of outreach.

This next step became a reality last November with the launch of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services mobile app, designed for Androids, iPhones and similar devices that use those operating systems.

For the first time ever in Ohio, a Veteran can look at an app on their smartphone and read a brief summary of the major benefits available to them. The app also displays the contact and directional information to find every county Veterans service office in the state, where Veterans can apply for their benefits. If a Veteran needs to find a VA facility, the same contact and directional information is there. The app also contains links to job and job training information, educational benefits and other benefits such as temporary financial assistance.

The future is here...the Ohio Department of Veterans Services mobile app.



Source: <http://dvs.ohio.gov/HOME/Welcome>

Veterans in Higher Education

Research shows that Veterans graduate at significantly higher rates than other nontraditional students, while performing at a level comparable to traditional students.

President's 2015 budget request favorable to Veterans

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The President's vision for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is to transform VA into a 21st Century organization that is Veteran-centric, results-driven, and forward-looking.

The President's 2015 Budget includes \$163.9 billion for VA in 2015. This includes \$68.3 billion in discretionary resources and \$95.6 billion in mandatory funding. Our discretionary budget request represents an increase of \$2.0 billion, or 3.0 percent, over the 2014 enacted level.

The Department of Veterans Affairs 2015 budget provides the resources necessary to meet its priority goals to increase Veteran access to benefits and services, eliminate the disability claims backlog, and end Veteran homelessness. The Budget will help ensure that Veterans, their families, and survivors receive the highest quality benefits and services we can provide and which they earned through their sacrifice and service to our Nation.



Source: <http://www4.va.gov/budget/products.asp>

2014 Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee Meetings:

Region 1 - 17 Apr

Region 2 - 16 Apr

Region 3 - 29 Apr

Region 4 - 29 Apr

Region 5 - 8 Apr

Region 6 - 9 Apr

For questions regarding the time or place of RISFAC meetings, contact Staff Sgt. Ikia Perry 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 to include the following: NGB Form 22, DD Form 214(s), NGB Form 23, 20-year letter and SBP election. If you are missing any documents, contact Ms. Jeanette Coughenour at 614-336-7038 (ONG HQs).

**U.S. Army Human Resources
Center of Excellence - Fort Knox
ATTN: AHRC-PDR-RCR
1600 Spearhead Division Ave.
Dept. 420
Fort Knox, KY 40122-56402
1-800-318-5298 or 502-613-8950**

If you are an Army Guard/Reserve or an Air Force Guard/Reserve retiree, and need help completing your retirement pay packet, contact Sgt. 1st Class Richard Wright at 614-336-7277.

The ONG Biathlon Team attends Championship



The Ohio National Guard biathlon team competed in the Chief of the National Guard Bureau Biathlon Championships March 2-6, 2014, at the Ethan Allen Firing Range in Jericho, Vt. More than 140 athletes from 21 states participated in the competition. The mission of the National Guard Biathlon program is to develop the highest levels of skiing and rifle marksmanship necessary to improve the combat ability of individual Airmen and Soldiers. Members of the National Guard All-Guard Biathlon Team were represented on the 1988, 1992, 1994, 1998, 2002, 2006 and 2010 U.S. Winter Olympic Biathlon Team. The National Guard Biathlon program is the only Department of Defense organization that consistently sends Soldiers to the Olympics. (Staff Sgt. Nicholas Pavlik, ONG)