

# The Ohio National Guard Alumni Newsletter



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**November 2, 2010**

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

**New Report on the Guard and Reserve.** The Center for a New American Security released a 44-page report outlining the challenges that the National Guard and Reserve components face after nearly a decade of fighting in two wars. *An Indispensable Force: Investing in America's National Guard and Reserves* urges the Defense Department to move Guard and Reserve funding from war supplementals to the baseline budget. The authors say the move would recognize the fact that these part-time Airmen, Marines, Sailors, and Soldiers are no longer just a strategic reserve. Gen. Craig McKinley, National Guard Bureau chief, said during the report's rollout event in Washington, D.C., he's encouraged by this document as well as the 12 ongoing studies on future capabilities of the reserve components.

"It's almost as if the moons and the planets are aligning so we might be able to get some things done," McKinley said. "I'm more optimistic now than I have been in the last five or six years."

To review The Center for a New American Security report, go to:

[http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS\\_AnIndispensableForce\\_NagISharp.pdf](http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS_AnIndispensableForce_NagISharp.pdf).

**The Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center Mobile Health Unit.** The mobile health unit will be at Columbus State Community College on Nov. 12, just outside Davidson Hall from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The unit will be able to enroll veterans in VA health care, provide primary health care, counseling and general information about VA benefits. It will be open to all veterans and will be staffed by an enrollment specialist, nurse practitioner, nurse and social worker. Contact Jason DiGiannantoni, Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center OEF/OIF Outreach Coordinator, at (614) 257-5393 for more information.

**The Military Injury Relief Fund.** The MIRF provides grants to service members injured in the line of duty, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), while serving under Operations Iraqi Freedom (OIF) or Enduring Freedom (OEF). The grant amount will vary, based on contributions from Ohio taxpayers collected for the tax year and number of grants approved. For more information contact your county veterans service office or call the Ohio Department of Veterans Services at: 1-888-296-7541 (option 5) or visit their website at <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/veterans>.

**TRICARE Retiree Dental Program Reminder.** Current enrollees and uniformed services retirees, including gray area retirees, who are interested in finding out more about the dental benefits available to them under the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP), should pay a visit to the website dedicated specifically to the program at [www.trdp.org](http://www.trdp.org) or call 1-888-838-8737. Even if you

are a uniformed services retiree who is employed and has dental coverage through your employer, you can benefit by joining the TRDP. Most dental carriers cooperate with one another to allow you to make use of both programs--sometimes paying up to 100 percent of your dental bill.

In addition to detailed benefits information, program costs, an expansive list of participating network dentists and a function that allows secure online enrollment, the website [www.trdp.org](http://www.trdp.org) features a Consumer Toolkit® for looking up an enrollee's eligibility and claims information as well as an online customer service inquiry form that allows users to get prompt answers to their questions via e-mail.

**Federal Benefits for Veterans.** The 2010 edition of VA's Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors booklet is available online. The booklet provides the rates for certain federal payments and outlines many programs and services provided by VA and other federal agencies. It also includes toll-free numbers, Internet addresses and a directory of VA facilities throughout the country. Go to [http://www1.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits\\_book.asp](http://www1.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp) .

**ONGEA 2-For-1 Membership Drive.** Until Dec. 31, any new or renewing E6 and above, retiree, associate, or new life member may sponsor an E5 and below for free. Whether you are renewing soon or in 2011, if you are an E6 and above, retiree or associate member, you can sponsor an E5 and below for free. Simply go to [www.ONGEA.org](http://www.ONGEA.org) and print off the membership application. You can mail the completed application to the ONGEA office at 1299 Virginia Ave., Columbus, Ohio, 43212, or scan and e-mail it to [membership@ongea.org](mailto:membership@ongea.org). If you have questions, please contact Mike Schaefer, ONGEA President, at [president@ongea.org](mailto:president@ongea.org) or 1-800-642-6642.

**The October 2010 Issue of Soldiers Magazine is online.** To view the current issue of Soldiers, the official U.S. Army magazine, just log on to: <http://www.army.mil/soldiers> . You can view back issues (electronic issues only) by clicking on "back issues" on the scroll bar.

**The September/October 2010 Issue of Airman Magazine is online.** View the current issue of Airman Magazine at: <http://www.airmanonline.af.mil/> . If the link does not work, copy it to your Internet browser. You can view back issues (electronic issues only) by clicking on "archives" on the scroll bar.

**The Thank You Foundation License Plate.** Ohio residents can now say thank you to our nation's heroes by purchasing a new specialty license plate. Proceeds from plate sales will support Ohio veterans, service members, and their Families. Visit [www.militarythankyouplate.com](http://www.militarythankyouplate.com) or your bureau of motor vehicles for more information.

## **Ohio Air National Guard Wing Events**

### **121st Air Refueling Wing:**

Space available flight information:

Schedule recording (614) 492-3143

Sign up on-line at: [www.takeahop.com](http://www.takeahop.com)

121st ARW Website: [www.121arw.ang.af.mil](http://www.121arw.ang.af.mil)

4 Nov                   ESGR Flight  
4-10 Nov               Global Thunder NORI  
5 Nov                   Veteran's Day Parade  
6 Nov                   Military Ball  
Currently deployed: 30  
For additional information contact:  
Major Holly Mitchell at holly.mitchell@ang.af.mil or (614) 492-4371.

**178th Fighter Wing:**

8 Nov                   Miami Valley Military Affairs Association (WPAFB)  
30 Nov                  Last Local Fly Date for the Dutch  
6 Dec                   AFA Executive Council Meeting (WPAFB)  
Currently deployed: 24  
For additional information contact:  
Major Laura Powers at laura.powers@ang.af.mil or 937-525-2557.

**179th Air Lift Wing:**

13 Nov                  179<sup>th</sup> Wing Annual Awards Banquet  
14 Nov                  179<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Hometown Heroes Celebration  
Currently deployed: 3  
For additional information contact:  
LtCol Robert Dunlap at robert.dunlap@ang.af.mil or 419-520-6305.

**180th Fighter Wing:**

3 Nov                   Logistics Compliance Assessment Program  
Significant events: Alternative Energy Project: phases 1, 2, 3 and 4 are completed. Since inception in Sept. 2008, the system has produced 1,725 Megawatt hours of electricity saving approximately \$277,000.  
Currently deployed: 8  
For additional information contact:  
Major Gary Bentley at gary.bentley@ang.af.mil or 419-868-4380.

**Recent News Releases**

**McKinley promotes new NORTHCOM deputy**

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo., (10/4/10) - Army Lt. Gen. Frank J. Grass received his third star in a ceremony hosted by the commander of North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command and the chief of the National Guard Bureau here at the Garden of the Gods Club Oct. 3, 2010.

U.S. Navy Adm. James A. Winnefeld, Jr., and U.S. Air Force Gen. Craig R. McKinley joined with more than 60 state National Guard representatives here for the NORAD and USNORTHCOM National Guard Bureau Senior Leader Conference, to honor Grass' achievements. Winnefeld took advantage of this occasion to announce that Grass, director of operations for Northcom since 2008, would assume the deputy commander position for Northcom effective immediately.

"I'm delighted to have Frank as my USNORTHCOM deputy," he said. "He's an exceptional team player who brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the job, and his National Guard credentials are a great fit."

Grass enlisted in the Missouri Army National Guard in October 1969. He attended the Missouri Army National Guard Military Academy Officer Candidate School and was commissioned in the Engineer Corps in 1981. Grass has served in a variety of command and staff positions as a traditional National Guard soldier, in the Active Guard and Reserve program and on active duty. In his first general officer assignment, Grass served as the deputy director of the Army National Guard in Arlington, Va.

Prior to his assignment at Northcom, he served in a joint assignment as the director of mobilization and reserve component affairs for U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany. Northcom is the joint combatant command formed in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks to provide homeland defense and defense support of civil authorities.



### **Ohio Guard hosts bilateral defense consultation with partner Serbia**

COLUMBUS, Ohio—One week after U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton praised the Ohio National Guard’s partnership with the Serbian military, the Ohio Guard hosted a bilateral defense consultation Oct. 18 at its joint force headquarters in northwest Columbus.

“We have this unique relationship between the Serbian military and the Ohio National Guard, which is a real model,” Clinton said according to an interview transcript on the state department website.

Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, the Ohio adjutant general, hosted Serbian and U.S. defense delegations in the state capitol in part to review the previous year’s cooperative events, but mainly to plan for the future. In recent meetings with Serbian officials, including President Boris Tadic and Defense Minister Dragan Sutanovac, Wayt said discussions have centered on moving past familiarization to conduct more small unit exchanges and collaborate in Partnership for Peace

exercises. "Quite frankly, where we all agree is, we want to get more involved in exercises together versus briefings," Wayt said.

The event offered the Serb delegation, led by Dr. Zoran Jeftic, the Serbian state secretary for defense policy, the opportunity to discuss issues and areas of interest for future cooperative events and even to clear up some misunderstandings and misperceptions, Jeftic said. It is a partnership he considers not only successful, but valuable to the Serbian people.

"We worked with Ohio on humanitarian assistance in [the] southern part of Serbia," Jeftic said. "It was a great thing for the citizens of the local community there. And now we are ready to go with some other courses of cooperation. We started with military-to-military cooperation, and today we discussed military-to-civilian and civilian-to-civilian cooperation."

The Ohio National Guard and Serbian military have worked very closely together through the National Guard Bureau State Partnership Program – a part of the larger NATO Partnership for Peace program – since they first partnered more than four years ago. In 2011, the Ohio Guard and Serbian military partnership activities will comprise by far the greatest single percentage of activities among the U.S. and Serbia in the Partnership for Peace program, at 44 percent.

"Success is not the number of activities, [although] we have an appropriate number of activities, but what we did and how we established relations," Jeftic said. Dr. Joseph McMillan, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs and leader of the U.S. delegation, applauded Serbian cooperative efforts within the State Partnership Program, especially considering the partners' unique challenges. He also spoke of the "political courage" demonstrated by Serbia at a time when popular support might have waned.

"In the case of Serbia, we have a very different situation than we do with a lot of other state partners who have aspirations to join NATO. Serbia is looking for a way forward working with the west without joining NATO, and this program has some special challenges that some of the other state programs don't face," McMillan said. "Ohio has managed those very adeptly, and they are tailoring what they do to meet the Serbians' needs very effectively."

Jeftic said the focus for 2011 is the opening of a new base in southern Serbia. The delegation visited Ohio's Camp Ravenna Joint Military Training Center Oct. 18 and has been working closely with an Ohio delegation to gather expertise and knowledge aimed at developing the camp as a base from which the Serbian military can stage and deploy in support of peacekeeping missions. The final phase in military to military cooperation – a joint peacekeeping operation – looms near, Jeftic said.

Since the Ohio National Guard first partnered with Serbia in September 2006, that relationship has grown steadily, despite periods in which larger political issues may have impeded U.S.-Serbian relations, Wayt said. "The plan we have laid out today for 2011 and beyond will continue to deepen our friendship," he said.

## **‘Most beautiful six months of my career:’ Hungarian describes deployment with Ohio Guard**

BUDAPEST, Hungary (10/5/10) – It is perhaps the highest compliment yet to the National Guard State Partnership Program. When the Central European nation of Hungary – which, after 17 years partnered with the Ohio National Guard, has gone from being a former Soviet Bloc country to full North Atlantic Treaty Organization and European Union membership – chose to deploy on a NATO mission to Afghanistan, leaders had a request: Deploy us with our Ohio National Guard partners.

For almost two years, Hungarian-led Operational Mentor and Liaison Teams have rotated through Afghanistan, and each unit has been 50 percent Hungarian, 50 percent Ohioan. “That was ... the most beautiful six months of my career,” said Hungarian 1st Sgt. Tamas Galgoczy, the acting sergeant major for OMLT 1.3.

OMLTs are up to 60 noncommissioned officers and officers, whose duties include acting as mentors, liaison and advisors to a kandac – a battalion – of the Afghan National Army and providing their own force protection.

“Think back seventeen years,” said Army Maj. Gen. Gregory Wayt, the adjutant general of the Ohio National Guard. “Could anybody have ever imagined that we would be jointly deploying to Afghanistan to train the Afghan National Army in the middle of a war? It’s amazing to think how far we’ve come in this partnership.”

Three OMLTs have deployed to and returned from Afghanistan, a fourth is in theater and a fifth is training for deployment. Additional rotations are contemplated. Hungary and Ohio are not the only partners in the almost 20-year-old, 62-nation SPP to co-deploy, but their OMLTs are the most enduring such partnership. The long-term goal is for the OMLTs to be solely Hungarian.

“It’s been going extremely well,” said Army Brig. Gen. Rufus Smith, commander of the unit that provides command and control for OMLTs in Ohio. “Not only has the mission been going well, but the partnership between our two countries has significantly improved the last two years, since we’ve been working together. “It’s a great example of what it is when you have countries who are focused on a single mission. ... It’s great for the country ... that we’re partnered with other countries to assist in that global war on terror. ... [Ohio] benefits because of the expertise and the training our Soldiers receive. ... The teams and the Soldiers ... gain experiences that will last them a lifetime.”

OMLT members must overcome challenges. Hungarians and Ohioans train together six months, working through language and cultural differences to become a team. Last month, Wayt recognized Hungarian soldiers here, pinning them with Ohio commendation medals and giving additional recognition to standouts, including a gubernatorial proclamation.

## **Ohio National Guard breaks ground on new Joint Operations Center.**

COLUMBUS, Ohio (10/18/10) - The Ohio National Guard conducted an official groundbreaking for a new Joint Operations Center which will be located at Beightler Armory in Columbus.

The Joint Operations Center is an integral part of the Ohio Army National Guard and Ohio Air National Guard Homeland Security and peace time mission. The addition of 5,590 square feet to the existing 1,260 square feet of space will provide the necessary capacity for the center to meet current space requirements. The project is scheduled for completion on Oct. 18, 2011 at an estimated cost of about \$2 million.

### **Ohio National Guard breaks ground on new supply warehouse**

ZANESVILLE, Ohio (10/25/10) – The Ohio National Guard conducted an official groundbreaking ceremony for a new supply warehouse at the 220<sup>th</sup> Engineering Installation Squadron in Zanesville, Ohio.

The 4,900-square-foot addition will allow the 220<sup>th</sup> to store required mobility equipment and supplies. It will also contain a 400-square-foot area that will be used for Air Force physical fitness training and testing. The facility design includes a solar array to help meet green federal design standards, and will achieve Leadership Energy and Environmental Design silver certification once complete. Rep. Zach Space from Ohio's 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District was instrumental in securing funding for the warehouse and joined Maj Gen Greg Wayt, adjutant general, for the event.

### **Changes of Command, Change of Responsibility and other Personnel Changes**

The 371<sup>st</sup> Special Troops Battalion announces a change of command ceremony for the 371<sup>st</sup> Special Troops Battalion Headquarters & Headquarters Company at 1800 on 5 Nov 2010 at the Camp Perry Joint Training Center Theater Building, Port Clinton, Ohio. Outgoing commander is MAJ Jean-Paul Kruse; incoming commander is CPT Brian K. McGinniss.

The 371<sup>st</sup> Special Troops Battalion announces a change of command ceremony for the 684<sup>th</sup> Medical Company at 1600 on 7 Nov 2010 at the Defense Supply Center, Columbus, Ohio. Outgoing commander is MAJ Joshua P. Stauffer; incoming commander is CPT Brad A. Kennedy.

The 112<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion announces a change of command ceremony at 1000 on 7 Nov 2010 at HQ 112<sup>th</sup> MTB, 5990 West Airport Dr., North Canton, Ohio. Outgoing commander is CPT A.C. LaDriere; incoming commander is CPT Davena Milich.

The 112<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion announces a change of command ceremony for the 1487<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company at 1000 on 9 Jan 2011, 623 E. Ash St., Piqua, Ohio. Outgoing commander is CPT Michael Ketcham; incoming commander is 1LT Stephen Sturgill.

The 112<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion announces a change of command ceremony for the 1485<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company at 1000 on 23 Jan 2011, 24680 Airport Rd., Coshocton, Ohio. Outgoing commander is CPT Daniel Mueller; incoming commander is 1LT Scott Detling.

### **Call to Duty**

1-174<sup>th</sup> ADA Radar Detachment, 19 Nov 2010 at 1100. Tricounty Assembly of God, 7350 Dixie Highway, Fairfield, OH.

***For up-to-date Call to Duty and Welcome Home Ceremony event information, please visit the Community Outreach Events calendar at: [http://ong.ohio.gov/outreach/outreach\\_index.html](http://ong.ohio.gov/outreach/outreach_index.html)***

## **Other Upcoming Events**

**Commissary and AAFES Site Sale.** Saturday, Nov. 13 (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.) and Sunday, Nov. 14 (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.), Defense Supply Center Columbus, 3990 East Broad St., Columbus, Bldg 17, Sec 4. Military personnel (active, National Guard, and Reservists), retirees and dependents are encouraged to attend and must present a valid military ID card. Last year's sale was crowded in the early morning hours, and shopping carts are limited, so shoppers are encouraged to attend throughout the day. This sale is sponsored by the DES-C Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Office @ 614-692-1420.

**Veterans Job Fair, 10 November 2010.** Hope Hotel at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, for additional information, contact the Airman and Family Readiness Center at (937) 257-3592.

**Retirement dinner for ESGR Executive Director, Col (Ret) Chip Augello, Dec. 5, 2010.** For more information, please call 614-336-7378.

**Retirement party for SFC William Spaulding.** Thursday, Dec. 9, 2010, 1 p.m. social hour and 2 p.m. buffet style lunch for \$20 per person at The Place Off the Square, 50 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Newark. RSVP to SPC Allison Dingus at 614-356-7919 or [allison.dingus@us.army.mil](mailto:allison.dingus@us.army.mil) by Dec. 1, 2010.

**The 2011 Ohio National Guard Ski Trip will be 13-15 February** at Holiday Valley Resort in Ellicottville, New York. Reservations are first come, first served. Rates start at \$190 and include lift tickets but not rental equipment. To learn more about Holiday Valley, visit <http://www.holidayvalley.com>. Trip point of contact is Major Laura Powers, at 937-525-2557 or [laura.powers@ang.af.mil](mailto:laura.powers@ang.af.mil).

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

SGT John Delaney, Oct. 4, 2010, of the 1486th Trans Co, Det 1.

Carl Hayes, Oct. 4, 2010, father of SGT Michelle Poole of the 1485th Trans Co, Det 1.

Olivia Linder, Oct. 6, 2010, daughter of SGT Carl Linder of the 1484th Trans Co.

Raymond Walls, Oct. 7, 2010, grandfather of Chris Sargent, a Contract Evaluator in the DIMR purchasing and contracting section.

Mary Ann Neff, Oct. 11, 2010, grandmother of SPC Nathan Strawser of the 1194th Engr Co and ADOS with 147th RTI.

John Stragar, Oct. 15, 2010, father of SSG David Strager, Camp Ravenna Joint Military Training Center.

CPT (Ret) Corwin "Corky" Belt, Oct. 17, 2010, former commander, 684th Med Co (Clr).

John F. Berry, Oct. 23, 2010, father of Erin Berry, Youth Program Specialist in the Family Readiness Center.

Maj. Roger Mills, Oct. 24, 2010, operations officer for Co. B, 2nd Bn., 19<sup>th</sup> SFG, 73<sup>rd</sup> Troop Command.

SPC Nathan Dickey, Oct. 25, 2010, HHC, 216<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion.

### **This Week in Guard History**

**November 5, 1961:** In the wake of the Soviet Union's continued construction of the Berlin Wall, which they started in August 1961, and a fear of possible conflict in Germany, President John F. Kennedy mobilized selected reserve component units, including elements of the Army and Air National Guard, on Oct. 1. To prove his determination to protect Germany along with the other NATO allies, he authorized the deployment of 11 Air Guard fighter squadrons to bases in Germany, France and Spain (a non-NATO ally). The first of these squadrons arrived in late October, less than a month after mobilization. No Army Guard units were deployed overseas, although two divisions and numerous non-divisional units were on active duty in the U.S. Fortunately, no war erupted and by the summer of 1962, all Guard units were released from active duty.

**November 11, 1918:** In France, the armistice ending World War I takes effect at 11 a.m. More than 325,876 American Soldiers are casualties during the war. Of this number, 115,660 died (from all causes including disease). Given the way records were kept, there is no accurate number as to how many of these casualties were Guardsmen. However, since nearly half of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) was composed of 18 Guard divisions plus numerous non-divisional units and individual Guardsmen were assigned to non-Guard units; it is surely a high number.

### **Websites of Interest:**

<http://www.tricare.mil> TRICARE. To receive TRICARE benefit updates via e-mail, go to [www.tricare.mil/subscriptions](http://www.tricare.mil/subscriptions)

<http://www.trdp.org> TRICARE Retiree Dental Program

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

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

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

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



**Ohio National Guard news and information is now available for viewing on social media.** As the electronic media has grown, so has our ability to get the information to you through a variety of electronic mediums. The following is a breakdown of the content available not only to alumni and current military members, but to anyone who has access to the Internet.

### **FaceBook**

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

Become a fan of the Ohio National Guard FaceBook page by clicking 'Like', and you'll receive timely notifications anytime a new photo, video or announcement is posted.

### **Flickr**

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

Pictures of our Ohio soldiers and airmen from local exercises to worldwide operations can be viewed on Flickr.

### **Twitter**

<http://twitter.com/ohnationalguard>

You can follow important announcements and information from the Ohio National Guard on Twitter and be notified anytime pictures are posted to Flickr and YouTube.

### **YouTube**

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

Become a subscriber of YouTube for free and you'll be notified every time a new Ohio National Guard video is posted.