

THE VOICE



HORSEPLAY



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OHIO NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION
SUMMER 2011, VOLUME XXXVIII, ISSUE II

Summer brings opportunities to engage

Greetings from the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association! As you read this, we will be well into the summer with all of the activities it brings – both militarily and family. Your Association is also gearing up for an eventful summer. We will begin by celebrating our outstanding Soldiers and Airmen at our annual awards banquet on Saturday, July 16. We will be honored this year to have our new TAG, Maj. Gen. Deborah Ashenhurst, along with U.S. Congressman Jim Jordan from Ohio's 4th District as our guests for the evening. The event will be held at the Longaberger OSU Alumni House at Ohio State. It is a first class event and seating is limited. The registration form can be found in this issue of "The Voice" and on our website at www.ONGEA.org.

In August, we will turn to the business of our national organization, the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States, at its annual conference in Charleston, West Virginia. The conference will run from Sunday, Aug. 14, through Wednesday, Aug. 17. ONGEA is currently looking for delegates to attend the conference on behalf of the Association. If you are interested in attending as a delegate, please contact me. ONGEA will cover the cost of your registration and hotel. If you are currently in the Ohio National Guard, you can also attend the event on Professional Development orders. Please contact your chain of command for more information on how to attend the conference on official military orders. The EANGUS Conference is an exciting event and the folks in Charleston are very excited to host this year. If you have the time and want to see how your organization operates on the national level, this would be a great developmental opportunity for you.



Mike Schaefer
President, ONGEA

Legislation and Membership continue to be the priority for your Enlisted Association. On the membership front, we have

brought in over 300 members under the 2-for-1 membership initiative. We will be introducing a "Summer Membership Surge" from June 1 through Aug. 31 which is intended to benefit our members and Auxiliary, as well as our Wing and MSC Family Programs. Please see more information on this initiative on page 10.

On the legislative front, your Association has been busy. In March, we visited Capitol Hill and visited a number of our U.S. Representatives asking for their support on key EANGUS initiatives. On the local front, we joined forces with the Ohio National Guard Officer Association in supporting Ohio House Bill 121 dealing with deployed service members and child custody issues. ONGEA is there for you on legislative issues, and we will continue to work as hard as we can to ensure that care is provided to all members of the Ohio National Guard.

Finally, I would just like to send my sincere thanks to those in leadership positions within ONGEA. Folks, we are all volunteers in this organization. We all have families with soccer games, dances, plays, etc. However, there are some that are very passionate about standing up and making sure that we have the personnel and equipment issues taken care of in the National Guard. We cannot function without volunteers. There are excellent professional development opportunities by volunteering with your association. If you are interested in possibly getting more involved, please feel free to contact myself, your unit rep, or anyone you might know from the Association. There is an old saying, "many hands make light work." I encourage you to get involved as much as you can. It is an exciting time to be in the Association!

Thank you all for your continued membership in ONGEA. Please continue to encourage your fellow Soldiers and Airmen to join and be a part of their Enlisted Association. Have a great summer!

Mike Schaefer

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ON THE COVER: Airmen from the Mansfield Area celebrate Earth Day 2011 by working with local students at 18 sites, including a baseball diamond renovation in Bellville by 200th RED HORSE members TSgt Travis McBride (left) and SSgt David Amert (right). *Photo by SSgt Joe Harwood, 179th Airlift Wing.*

ONGEA REGIONS / DIRECTORS

Area I - AIR (VACANT)
180th FW and 555th AF Band

Area II - AIR (EFREM SWOPE)
179th AW and 200th RHS

Area III - AIR (NELSON SPITLER)
121st ARW; 164th WF; and 220th EIS

Area IV - AIR (PAUL WILLIAMS)
178th FW; 251st CCG, 269th CCS & 123rd ACS

Area I - ARMY (KELLY SELLERS)
37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team

Area II - ARMY (VACANT)
16th Engineer Brigade

Area III - ARMY (VACANT)
174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade

Area IV - ARMY (VACANT)
73rd Troop Command

Area V - ARMY ((VACANT)
371st Sustainment Brigade

JFHQ - JOINT (VACANT)
Comprised of ANG HQ and Army JFHQ units, to include the Recruiting and Retention Battalion, 147th RTI, and Camp Perry Training Site.

MEMBERSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

ONG ENLISTED MEMBERS: 13,381

ONGEA MEMBERS: 855

OHARNG: 351

OHANG: 504

ONGEA, ONGA join forces for State Conference 2011

The Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association participated in a joint conference with the Officers' Association for the second year in a row; the event took place April 15-16 at Fawcett Center, at The Ohio State University.

Friday night's mixer was hailed a great success with its casino-themed activities and multiple giveaways: kudos to ONGA conference chair Phil McGonagill and his team for setting up this fun-filled evening! The overall format of the conference changed this year as well, with the general session taking place during a buffet-style breakfast. Appetites were satisfied by the time ONGA President Maria Kelly and ONGEA President Mike Schaefer welcomed attendees in the packed ballroom.

After roll call of the units, both association presidents made brief remarks, and they were followed by guest speaker Senior U.S. Historian William Epley. Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Debbie Ashenhurst then took the floor, reminding attendees why they were there: emphasizing the importance of the Associations and repeating "Lobbyist is not a dirty word" several times. Remarking that budgets are lean these days, she reiterated the value of having a strong force advocating for National Guard causes, and encouraged both associations to grow. Assistant Adjutants General Brig. Gen. Mark Bartman and Col. John Harris were also given the chance to highlight the state of affairs within their respective services.

After a mid-morning break, members of the enlisted corps moved to a separate break-out room to conduct the business session. President Schaefer welcomed all attendees and introduced State CCM Tamara Phillips, who made brief remarks on issues concerning the Air Guard; State CSM Al Whatmough was overseas visiting troops.

After the president's report, updates were provided by Legislative Chair John Willis and Treasurer Tom Jones. Elections then took place, naming Tony McGraw VP-Army and Deb Clifford VP-Air, and Nelson Spitler was reinstated as Region 3 Director - Air; remaining vacancies will be appointed by the presidents based on recommendations from the VPs. New life members Eric Wallace and Diane Farrow were presented gold-plated ONGEA membership cards.

Resolutions that passed included the following:

Resolution 2011-01: Requesting a separation between the traditional guard-members manning versus the Technician/AGR full-time manning in relation to career progression and rank.

Resolution 2011-02: Urging Ohio State Legislators to continue funding the Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program at the 100% tuition level to ensure readiness through its impact on recruiting, retention and professional development of the Ohio National Guard membership.

Resolution 2011-03: Thanking organizers of the 2011 ONGEA State Conference for their part in impacting the future of the organization and efforts to serve the Soldiers and Airmen of the Ohio National Guard.

Also voted on was **Bylaw change 2011-01**, which adjusted the dues schedule for annual membership as stated in Article XIV. The change reinstated the \$15 and \$30 annual fee; rates were increased last year in anticipation of EANGUS dues increases, which did not occur.

The conference concluded with discussion regarding upcoming ONGEA events to include the ONGA/ONGEA Legislative Breakfast in May, State Awards Banquet in July and the EANGUS Conference in August.

TOP TO BOTTOM: Friday night's Ice Breaker was fun-filled with casino-themed games, including two Blackjack tables. Senior U.S. Army Historian William Epley spoke at the joint session Saturday morning. Ohio Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Debbie Ashenhurst addresses the crowd early on the agenda. State Command Chief Tamara Phillips speaks about the state of the Ohio Air Guard during the enlisted break-out session.



ONGEA names 2011/12 scholarship award recipients

Wendy D. Atwell

Sponsoring herself, Wendy is a member of the 179th Airlift Wing in Mansfield. She works full-time AGR with the Guard, and she and her husband are raising three children, Emily (9), Jacob (7) and Joshua (4). Wendy currently attends Mount Vernon Nazarene University, and plans to work in elementary education after she retires from the Air National Guard.



Jacklyn G. Farrow

A senior at Westerville South High School, Jackie is sponsored by her mother, Diane Farrow, retired Army National Guard. She is a member of the National Honor Society, and was active in Key Club, In the Know, and in cross country. A National Merit Scholar, Jackie was accepted into the honors program at Alabama University.



Stephanie A. Coble

Sponsored by father Kevin Coble, retired member of the Army National Guard, Stephanie will graduate Continental Local School in May 2011. She belongs to the National Honor Society, and participates in band, drama and 4-H. A varsity soccer and basketball player, Stephanie plans to attend college to pursue a career in athletic training/corporate fitness.



John A. Gibson

Sponsoring himself, John works full-time in Human Resources at the 179th Airlift Wing in Mansfield. He attends Mount Vernon Nazarene College pursuing a bachelor's degree in business, to prepare him for a second career after retiring from the Air National Guard. John and his wife Laura, are raising two sons, Christian (7) and Justin (5).

Lauren N. Dortmund

Lauren's sponsor is her father, Paul Dortmund, a technician with the 121st Air Refueling Wing. Lauren also belongs to the 121st, where she serves as a Aerospace Medical Service Technician. She is committed to wellness care for fellow servicemembers, and plans to be a full-time military nurse. She is pursuing a degree at Mount Carmel College of Nursing.



Jeremy M. Grove

A senior at The Ohio State University, Jeremy is sponsored by his father, Michael Grove of the 174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade. His primary goal is to teach agriculture, ideally at his alma mater, Logan High School. He served in leadership roles in the Future Farmers of America, and now belongs to OSU Agricultural Education Society.



Meredith L. Dortmund

Scheduled to graduate Hilliard Bradley High School in May, Meredith plans to attend The Ohio State University, Wooster Campus, to study environmental science. She was active in the school marching band and volunteered at the OSU Wetland Research Center. She is sponsored by her father, Paul Dortmund, of the 121st Air Refueling Wing.



Tisha N. Grove

Currently attending Hocking College, Tisha is studying to become a physical therapist assistant and a personal trainer. Sponsored by her father Michael Grove, 174th ADA, Tisha dreams of a career which she can spend every day helping others. She graduated Logan High School in 2009, where she succeeded in academics, sports and band.

Meagan K. Eishen

Meagan's sponsor is her father, Terry Eishen, retired from the 200th Red Horse Squadron. She attends Fremont Ross High School, where she excels in academics and holds leadership positions in student council, drama club and band. She plans to attend Miami University in Oxford, and will pursue a career in Musical Theatre.



Kaitlyn M. Koby

Sponsored by her father Michael Koby, former member of the Ohio Army National Guard, Kaitlyn will graduate New Palestine High School this spring. She is a member of the National Honor Society, and is active in band, track and yearbook. Kaitlyn plans to attend Indiana University, where she will pursue career as an editor.



TOP TROOPS ARMY & AIR 2010



SPC Jesse T. Hawkins
Soldier of the Year
Co D 1-148th Inf Regt



SSG Patrick C. Helderman
NCO of the Year
838th MP Co



SrA Lauren Dortmund
Airman of the Year
121st Air Refueling Wing



SSgt Charles Holloway
NCO of the Year
121st Air Refueling Wing



MSgt Troy Siebenaler
Senior NCO of the Year
200 Red Horse, Det 1



MSgt Daniel Crock
1st Sgt of the Year
178th Fighter Wing

ONGEA Banquet celebrates NCO excellence

Please join the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association at our annual banquet, where we will recognize the Servicemembers of the Year for 2010, both Air and Army National Guard. ONGEA and AMVETS will make presentations to these Soldiers and Airmen who are distinguished as "the best of the best." Additional state-level Air National Guard award winners will be recognized, as well as Soldiers who were selected to represent their Major Subordinate Commands at state competition. Recipients of the ONGEA/ONGEA Auxiliary Scholarship also will be recognized for meeting the academic and community service requisites which earned them ONGEA's grant for furthering their education. Be sure to promote this event at your units and invite your brothers and sisters in arms. Questions can be directed to Banquet Chair Eric Wallace at (740) 403-2537 or ericwallace@hotmail.com.

ONGEA AWARDS BANQUET

Date: July 16, 2010 – Saturday Night
Time: 6:00 pm - Social / 6:30 pm - Dinner
Uniform: Air Force Mess Dress or Semi-Formal
 Army Service Uniform or Mess Dress
(with white shirts and bow tie)
 Semi-Formal Civilian Attire
Location: Longaberger Alumni House
 2200 Olentangy River Road
 Columbus, OH 43210-1035
Cost: \$35 per person (plus cash bar)

RSVP no later than July 6th

YES, I PLAN TO ATTEND

Name

Unit or Affiliation

Number of Guests: ____ (x\$35) Payment Enclosed: ____

Make checks payable to: ONGEA Banquet

Mail RSVP and Payment to:

ONGEA Awards Banquet
 1299 Virginia Ave.
 Columbus, OH 43212

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AMUSEMENT PARKS OFFER FREE ADMISSION JULY 4

Kings Island's Tribute to the Armed Forces program will offer a free regular admission ticket to any active or retired military personnel on the Fourth of July weekend, July 1-4. Along with free admission, active and retired members of the military will be able to purchase discount admission tickets for members of their immediate family (maximum of six) at a special military discount price of \$29.99. A valid military ID must be presented at the Kings Island ticket window.

On Sunday and Monday, July 3-4, Cedar Point is offering free admission for all active, retired and honorably discharged members of the Armed Forces when they present a valid military ID. Men and women of the Armed Forces can also purchase discounted tickets of \$36.99 for members of their immediate family. Tickets for this special promotion are available at each U.S.-based Cedar Fair Entertainment Company amusement and outdoor water park.

HUNDREDS OF DEALS, DISCOUNTS FOR MILITARY

There is no way members of the U.S. military can be properly thanked for all that they have done. They are certainly not paid enough for their work and their great sacrifice. Tours in Iraq and Afghanistan have been particularly tough and stressful for members of the military, their families and loved ones.

MilitaryConnection.com has found stores and services doing their part to make life easier by offering discounts to active, reserve, and retired members of the U.S. military and their immediate family members. Thanks to BradsDeals.com, they have listed from "A" to "Z" stores and businesses that offer year-round discounts to active duty military and veterans at <http://www.militaryconnection.com/deals.asp>.

For veterans of Iraq or Afghanistan, please check out IAVA; members there are offered vouchers to many retail stores, such as JCPenney.

Two important caveats. First, some stores offer discounts only at the owner's discretion and other discounts vary by state. Second, many stores that give a military discount don't advertise it. It is always worth asking a store whether they have one or not and to have your military ID on you.

PARTNERS HELP EMPLOY OHIO SERVICEMEMBERS

There is no better way to say thank you to Ohio's servicemembers than to help them find a job. Employing servicemembers helps them and brings value to employers. As most employers know, hiring a member of the National Guard or Reserve member brings many benefits. Men and women in uniform are reliable, responsible, team players, professional and face projects head-on with a positive can-do attitude.

The National Guard partners with two specific organizations to help servicemembers improve their employment opportunities.

"Ohio Means Jobs," sponsored by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, can be accessed at www.jfs.ohio.gov/veterans. Jobs are posted on hundreds of job boards. Employers can expect to:

- ◆ Post jobs fast and free
- ◆ Easily identify and prioritize qualified veteran candidates

◆ Often receive responses the same day
The second tool, "Ohio Vets CAN," was developed by the AMVETS Career Center. Please visit www.ohiovetscan.com. Employers can:

- ◆ Target job postings to servicemembers for free
 - ◆ Quickly find and review veteran's resumes
- Ohio National Guard alumni who own businesses or have the ability to make or influence hiring decisions may benefit from knowing about these services. Please spread the word.

RAVENNA DEER HUNT DRAWING APPLICATIONS DUE

Camp Ravenna is now accepting applications for the 2011 Controlled Deer Hunt Military Drawing. Current members of the active and reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard, as well as Armed Forces retirees are qualified to apply to the Camp Ravenna Controlled Deer Hunt Drawing. This also includes M-Day or traditional guardsmen and reservists.

Applying to the Camp Ravenna Military Deer Hunts does not guarantee a hunt date. Applications are selected by a random drawing; 35 applications are selected for each hunt. Applications must be received by **Aug. 5, 2011**. Make sure to include two #10 size self-addressed, stamped envelopes with your application, and ensure adequate postage on the self-addressed, stamped envelopes.

This is a partner hunt. Each qualified military applicant must apply with another qualified military applicant, military dependent, or a civilian partner who is a U.S. citizen. Only one vehicle per pair will be permitted in the field, so partners should plan to travel together in a single vehicle. All hunts are shotgun only (10, 12, 16, 20, 28, and .410 gauge). No handguns, rifles, muzzle-loading firearms, longbows or crossbows may be used or brought to the hunts.

The available hunt dates for 2011 are Oct. 29, and Nov. 12, 19 and 26. The Oct. 29 hunt will be antlerless only for both partners. The Nov. 12 and 26 hunts are 50/50 hunts where one partner will receive an either sex permit and the other partner will receive an antlerless only permit. If you know which partner is to receive the either sex permit, please indicate that in the appropriate section on the application. Nov. 19 is a Woman's 50/50 hunt; in order to apply, one of the applicants MUST be a hunting female. If not enough applications are received, other applications will be drawn to fill the hunt slots as antlerless hunters; to be considered, please indicate your interest on the application.

Any questions regarding the hunts should be directed to Ms. Kim Ludd of the Camp Ravenna Environmental Office, at 614-336-6569 or kimberly.luddt@us.army.mil.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PASSES 2012 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

By a vote of 322 in favor and 96 against, the House of Representatives passed their version of the Fiscal Year 2012 National Defense Authorization Act (FY12 NDAA), H.R. 1540, in late May.

Keep in mind that the Senate also introduced their version of the FY12 NDAA, S. 981, which will go through its own changes before final passage on the Senate floor. Then the members of the Senate and House committees of jurisdiction will meet in conference and work out the differences between each chamber's bill to create the single conference report of the FY12 NDAA. This is normally, but not always, done in September. Here are the overall Guard numbers as well as pertinent amendments:

A \$689 Billion overall DoD budget & Guard funding as follows:

- ♦ **End Strength:** ARNG - 358,200; ANG - 106,700
- ♦ **O&M:** ARNG - \$7.04 Billion; ANG - \$6.13 Billion
- ♦ **MilCon:** ARNG - \$823 Million; ANG - \$133 Million
- ♦ **OCO-O&M:** ARNG - \$387 Million; ANG - \$133 Million
- ♦ **NGREA:** \$325 Million
- ♦ 1.6 % increase in military pay
- ♦ Embedded Mental Health Providers for scheduled training
- ♦ Position of the Vice-Chief of the NGB brought back at three-star rank

Amendment 7. Would designate the Chief of the National Guard Bureau as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. *Representatives Miller (MI) and Rahall (WV)*

Amendment 9. Would direct the Secretary of Defense to coordinate with each military department to enhance current suicide prevention information sharing services for members of the Armed Forces. Coordinated efforts would occur at various stages of training from their initial enlistment or appointment through their final retirement or separation. *Representative Baca (CA)*

Amendment 14. Would strike and replace section 591 of the bill, which makes it more difficult for Guard and Reserve components to engage in military training missions that also provide assistance to local communities. Would increase to \$20 million the amount that can be obligated for civil-military training operations. *Representatives McNerney (CA), Rahall (WV) and Young (AK)*

Amendment 16. Would authorize the Secretary of Defense to extend United States

ONGEA Legislative Initiatives

Legislative Chair John Willis and President Mike Schaefer met Senator Daniel Akaka (HI), who introduced Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010.



In March, ONGEA President Mike Schaefer and Legislative Chair John Willis traveled to Washington D.C., where they participated in EANGUS's **Legislative Workshop**. After a day and a half of listening to subject matter experts address National Guard legislative priorities, they visited Ohio Representatives to express ONGEA concerns personally. They were also present during the presentation of the **G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Eagle Award** given to U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka of Hawaii and U.S. Representative Dave Loebsack of Iowa for their role in reshaping the post-9/11 GI Bill.

The annual ONGA/ONGEA **Legislative Breakfast** took place on May 11 this year, with several ONGEA members attending. Both ONGA and ONGEA presidents had the opportunity to address the representatives of more than 35 legislative offices that attended. Concern was expressed over the potential denial of approximately 1,500 **Ohio National Guard Scholarships** due to anticipated budget cuts, and efforts to pass **House Bill 121**, which assures existing custody orders cannot be altered solely because of a parent's military service, was lauded; the bill passed both the Ohio House and Senate and should be signed into law by the time this issue of The Voice is published. Ohio Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Debbie Ashenurst provided an update of the state of the Ohio National Guard, and invited two Guardsmen to speak about their recent deployments, including ONGEA Public Relations Chair Steve Engle.

Central Command Rest and Recuperation benefits to U.S. Armed Forces assigned to the Egypt Multi-National Force and Observers Mission. *Representative Ruppersberger (MD)*

Amendment 19. Would direct the Department of Defense to provide mental health assessments to servicemembers during deployment. When possible, these assessments would include review of all past health records originated by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs. *Representative Carson (IN)*

Amendment 22. Would recognize a February GAO report on the weakness of the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) and its poor management; this amendment requires the Department of Defense to develop a plan to transfer DCoE moved to one of the services in order to be most

effectively managed. *Representatives Pascrell (NJ) and Platts (PA)*

Amendment 23. Would require the Defense Department to report to Congress on their plans to identify, refer and treat servicemembers with possible traumatic brain injuries who may have slipped through the cracks prior to the June 2010 policy. *Representatives Pascrell (NJ) and Platts (PA)*

Amendment 39. Would add a Sense of Congress indicating that the deployment of National Guard personnel along the southwestern border should continue through the end of fiscal year 2011. *Representative Flake (AZ)*

Amendment 46. Would officially recognize the City of Salem, Massachusetts, as the birthplace of the National Guard of the United States. *Representative Tierney (MA)*

Amendment 96. Would modify a current GAO reporting requirement on TRICARE Standard and Extra from “bi-annual” (twice a year) to “biennial” (every two years). *Representative Davis (CA)*

Amendment 113. Would allow the Secretary of Defense to enter into



ONGEA members pose for a group photo after the Legislative Breakfast, conducted on May 11 at the Riffe Center in downtown Columbus.

a special military cooperative agreement for the operation and maintenance of any State training center certified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as capable of providing emergency response training. *Representative Kind (WI)*

Amendment 106. Would allow those in the IRR to obtain health insurance through TRICARE for continuity of care. *Representative Hanabusa (HI)*

Amendment 125. Would direct the Surgeons General of the Army, Navy, and Air Force to submit a report to Congress on whether additional behavioral health professionals are needed to treat members of the Armed Forces for PTSD and TBI, and offer recommendations for ways to provide incentives for healthcare professionals to join active and reserve components. *Representative Murphy (PA)*

Amendment 140. Would require a report on research and treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. *Representative Adam Smith (WA)*

Amendment 141. Would expand the Department of Defense state licensure exception to qualified and credentialed DoD health-care professionals, including contractors and civilians, and removes the location requirement to better allow our Guard and Reserve access to immediate and efficient care. This amendment is nearly identical to H.R. 1832, the STEP Act. *Representative Thompson (PA)*

Amendment 151. Would require DoD to submit a report to Congress outlining a plan that would ensure access to the Guard and Reserves for missions short of war, as recommended by the Quadrennial Defense Review directed Comprehensive Review of the Guard and Reserve. *Representative Walz (MN)*

For additional information please see NGB’s links on H.R.1540 as reported out of committee: <http://www.ng.mil/II/default.aspx>.

CONTACT LAWMAKERS THROUGH EANGUS WEBSITE

EANGUS speaks with your US Representatives in the House and Senate on a daily basis. Our agenda focuses on you - members of the Army and Air National Guard. However, we can’t do it all alone. We need you to contact your respective Congressmen and Senators to voice your opinions and concerns on issues that affect your National Guard careers and benefits. Go to the legislative link on our website (www.eangus.org), view insight into topics that we are currently pursuing. Responding to EANGUS’s Action Alerts takes only minutes with the on-line program in place - let your voice be heard!

FY10 EANGUS Accomplishments

♦ **Post 9/11 Veterans Education Improvement Act of 2010.**

Signed into law on Jan. 4, this legislation expands GI Bill benefits to over 84,000 members of the National Guard. This will allow, for the first time, Soldiers and Airmen who have served under Title 32 full GI Bill educational benefits.

♦ **National Guard & Reserve Equipment Account (NGREA) \$700 million.** FY11 NDAA authorizes \$700 million in NGREA to provide equipment for Title 32 and Title 10 operations.

♦ **Military Construction \$1.068 Billion.** ARNG facilities will receive \$873 million and ANG to receive \$194 million in military construction funds. While this represents an adequate funding level, the out years are below the needs to improve and maintain over 3,000 readiness centers, of which 40% are over 50 years old. The NDAA mandates that the Secretary of the Army report back to Congress on the present condition of readiness centers and the funding required to properly maintain the Guard’s facility infrastructure.

♦ **Banned transfer of Guard & Reserve C-130s to active units.** The NDAA halted Air Force attempt to take C-130s from both Guard and Reserve units across the country and place designated aircraft with an active-component unit. The Secretary of the Air Force must now submit to Congress a written agreement between all involved parties that details any plan to transfer aircraft from one component to another.

♦ **Access to the Operational Reserve.** Also included in the NDAA report language is the opinion of the Committee that current legal authorities may not offer the flexibility for the effective use of the operational reserve, and recommends that the Secretary of Defense review current authorities and submit legislative proposals for additional authority needed to facilitate involuntary activation of reserve component members or units to support operational requirements.

♦ **Temporarily hiring non-dual status technician.** This represents a partial victory, as the ARNG will be given the authority to hire only for two years 1,600 non-dual status technicians to make up for permanent technicians who are on Title 10 orders. This is in contrast to the President’s budget request of 2,520 non-dual status technicians.



ALMOST HEAVEN - TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN: ONGEA HEADS TO EANGUS CONFERENCE

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of West Virginia (EANGWV) will host the EANGUS National Conference in Charleston, West Virginia, welcoming Soldiers, Airmen, retirees, and their families from all 54 states and territories.

The EANGUS conference will run Sunday through Wednesday this year, Aug. 14-17; Aug. 13 and 18 are scheduled travel days. Welcome night will be hosted at Appalachian Power Park (home stadium of the WV Power Minor League baseball team), with lots of great food, fun and entertainment planned.

Area Caucuses, general sessions, and committee workshops will run daily. Opening session will take place on Sunday, and honored guests Gen. Craig R. McKinley, as well as CSM Richard Burch and CCM Chris Muncy are expected to attend. In addition to a full business agenda, our hosts have lined up plenty of opportunities to relax and enjoy the sites. Some of the association-sponsored events include the following:

- Sunday** - Welcome Night
- Monday** - Open Evening
- Tuesday** - All Area Hospitality Night
- Wednesday** - All States Banquet

Remember to register for the conference at the national conference link at www.eangus.org (\$100 before July 1, \$125 after) and book your hotel room soon. Area 2, including Ohio, has a block of rooms available at the Charleston Marriott, 304-345-6500.

ONGEA is seeking delegates to attend the conference on behalf of the association (ONGEA will pay for registration and hotel), as well as those interested in attending on professional development orders (training dollars). If you are interested in attending in either capacity, send an email to president@ongea.org.



SGT James Via, OHARNG NCO of the Year for 2009, accepts a ceremonial sword from AmVets Commander William Noltner during Battery B, 1-134 Field Artillery drill weekend.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMER SURGE

Don't delay: Membership specials end on August 31!
Spread the word to full- and part-timers at your unit!

From June 1 through August 31, the Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association will be offering a special membership promotion which will benefit our members, their spouses and family programs.

E6 and Above (New or Renewals): For your \$30 membership fee, you can sponsor an E5 or below for a free one-year membership.

- ♦ In addition, your spouse may join the Auxiliary for FREE.
- ♦ PLUS, \$5 from every paid application will go to the MSC/Wing Family Programs office to use in support of their Soldiers and Airmen.
- ♦ This offer extends to our retired, associate and new life members also.

E5 and Below (New or Renewals): If you have not been sponsored by an E6 or above, your \$15 membership fee will also include letting your spouse become part of the Auxiliary for FREE or have \$5 donated to your MSC/Wing Family Programs office — it's up to you!

We need your membership now more than at any recent time in the past decade. It is important that we have your voice when it comes to National Guard personnel and equipment issues both nationally and here in Ohio.

Through this "Summer Surge," we would like to also enable your spouse to have a legislative voice along side YOU, the military member, AND show our support to our outstanding unit family programs.

For more information, go online to www.ONGEA.org or use the membership application on page 11 to join.

VISIT EANGUS ONLINE STORE

Did you know that 10% of all sales from shopeangus.com goes back to EANGUS? The web store has just added baseball caps and a new t-shirt to the list of items, so please go to www.shopeangus.com and see if there is something you like. In purchasing something for yourself, you are giving back to your organization!

REGIONAL DIRECTORS NEEDED

Regional Directors are important to ONGEA because they are responsible for educating their command about ONGEA, identifying unit reps, and tracking

membership. Currently, three of four Air Guard slots are filled (only 180th FW is vacant), while four of five Army Guard positions are vacant; the JFHQ slot, which could be filled by either Army or Air, is vacant as well.

Vacant ARNG RD positions include: Area II: **16th Engineer Brigade**; Area III: **174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade**; Area IV: **73rd Troop Command**; and Area V: **371st Sustainment Brigade**. The JFHQ RD represents all JFHQ Army units, to include the **Recruiting and Retention Battalion, 147th RTI, and Camp Perry Training Site**, as well as HQ ANG.

If interested, send an email to president@ongea.org.

Membership Drive: 2-for-1 Special

Summer Surge Membership Specials run June 1 through August 31! See page 10 for details.

MEMBER INFORMATION *(E6 and above can sponsor an E5 or below for FREE)*

Name *(first, middle initial, last)* _____ Rank _____

Air or Army? _____ Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home/Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Guard Status *(Traditional, AGR, Technician, Retired)* _____ Unit _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

___ Annual (E5 & below)\$15

___ Annual (E6 & above, sponsors welcome)\$30

___ Associate\$25

___ Retired\$25

___ *Life\$350

**plus \$15 each year under age 50.*

* Birthdate _____

PAYMENT TYPE:

___ Cash

___ Check (payable to ONGEA)

___ *VISA/Mastercard

* Card # _____

* Expires _____

MEMBERSHIP COST: \$ _____ Please make payment to "ONGEA," and mail application and payment to ONGEA, 1299 Virginia Ave., Columbus, Ohio, 43212; email applications with credit card information to membership@ongea.org; or fax applications with credit card information to 419-520-6146.

SPONSORED MEMBER *(E5 or below)*

Name *(first, middle initial, last)* _____ Rank _____

Air or Army? _____ Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home/Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Guard Status *(Traditional, AGR, Technician, Retired)* _____ Unit _____

ONGEA Auxiliary Membership Application

Auxiliary Member _____ Spouse _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

***** DUES - \$15 *****
(checks payable to ONGEA Auxiliary)

___ Renewal

___ New

___ Associate

Mail Application and Payment to: ONGEA Auxiliary, Sondra Monastra, 2941 Chaucer Dr. NE, N. Canton OH 44721

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION
1299 Virginia Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43212
1-800-642-6642

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ATTENTION: Serviced by the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS), annual memberships are based on membership anniversary dates. Join online at www.eangus.org or complete an application form (on the inside back cover of this newsletter) and mail together with payment to: **Membership, 1299 Virginia Ave., Columbus, OH 43212.** Online membership will be processed immediately, other means as time allows.

Is your membership expiring soon? Check your expiration date in the mailing address block. Your membership number is also displayed.

ONGEA EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
July 16, 2011	ONGEA Awards Banquet	Longaberger Alumni House
Aug. 14-17, 2011	EANGUS Conference	Charleston, WV
Sept. 8, 2011	ONGEA Board Meeting	ONGEA Office
Nov. 17, 2011	ONGEA Board Meeting	ONGEA Office
Jan. 19, 2012	ONGEA Board Meeting	ONGEA Office
Mar. 15, 2012	ONGEA Board Meeting	ONGEA Office
April 21-22, 2012	ONGEA State Conference	Fawcett Center
May 10, 2012	ONGEA Board Meeting	ONGEA Office
July 21, 2012	ONGEA Awards Banquet	Longaberger Alumni House

Event dates/locations are subject to change. ONGEA meetings take place bi-monthly to encourage major command representation and involvement, and to reinstitutionalize the Association into the Ohio National Guard. We do the business of the Guard...we need to be in the line of communication with the command structure. Ensure your MACOM representative attends.

ONGEA Board Meetings are conducted at 1299 Virginia Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43212, unless noted otherwise. A light meal is served at 5:30 p.m. and the meetings begin at approximately 6:00 p.m., adjourning at or before 8:30 p.m. We hope that you will join us to help with the enlisted business of Ohio and our Great Nation. All members are welcome.

President Mike Schaefer / president@ongea.org
VP-Army Tony McGraw / vp-army@ongea.org
VP-Air Deb Clifford / vp-air@ongea.org
ONGEA Office / ongea@ongea.org
The Voice / voice@ongea.org
ONGEA Website / www.ongea.org
EANGUS / www.eangus.org or 1-800-234-3264

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Vice President, Army / TONY MCGRAW
Vice President, Air / DEB CLIFFORD
Secretary / YVETTE WORSTALL
Treasurer / TOM JONES
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AREA I-AIR: VACANT
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 AREA IV-AIR: PAUL WILLIAMS
 JFHQ: VACANT
 AREA I-ARMY: KELLY SELLERS
 AREA II-ARMY: VACANT
 AREA III-ARMY: VACANT
 AREA IV-ARMY: VACANT
 AREA V-ARMY: VACANT

ONGEA AUXILIARY

President / VACANT
Secretary / VACANT
Treasurer / SONDR A MONASTRA

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