# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



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#### Ohio Soldiers killed in Afghan attack return home

The remains of three Ohio Nation Guard soldiers killed in an attack in Afghanistan have returned home to Ohio.

An "honorable transfer" ceremony was conducted at Rickenbacker Air National Guard base in Columbus on Saturday afternoon, 21 April.

National Guard Soldiers and Airmen helped transfer caskets from a Guard plane to hearses taking the remains to area funeral homes.

Capt. Nicholas Rozanski of Dublin, 36; Master Sgt. Jeffrey Rieck, 45; and Master Sgt. Shawn Hannon of Grove City, 44, died in a suicide bomber attack that killed 13 people and wounded at least four more Guardsmen.

#### OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

## Ohio National Guard units currently deployed

#### Air units:

121st Air Refueling Wing 178th Fighter Wing 179th Airlift Wing 180th Fighter Wing 123rd Air Control Squadron\*

\* Returning home this month

There are about 2,800 Ohio National Guard Soldiers and Airmen deployed.

#### Army units:

Operational Mentoring & Liaison Team 1.7 and 1.8 290th Engineer Detachment 296th Engineer Detachments (Fire fighting) 1484th Transportation Company 37th NATO Training Mission Afghanistan 684th Medical Company 2-174 Air Defense Artillery Regiment (Avenger) 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Company B/3-238th Aviation Regiment

Total number of deployed Soldiers and Airmen is current as of 5/1/12

#### **'SPACE A' FLIGHTS**

121ARW, Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, Columbus, Ohio (614) 492-7321

Destination	Depart	Return	Seats	Show Time
Phoenix, AZ	7 May	11 May	10	TBD
Baltimore, MD	14 May	18 May	10	TBD
Ft. Worth, TX	21 May	25 May	10	TBD
Spokane, WA	28 May	1 June	10	TBD

#### DFAS to host first Facebook town hall meeting

CLEVELAND – Military retirees are invited to chat about their pay with military retirement experts live on Facebook in May. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), the agency that pays the nation's more than 2 million military retirees, will host its first Facebook town hall May 8 from 3 to 5 p.m. EST.

During this online town hall meeting, military retirees will have direct access to DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay experts, who'll answer their retirement questions live on Facebook.

"We've been focused on finding ways to enhance customer service and improve communication with military retirees over the past two years," said Colonel Ralph Lunt, deputy director of DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay. "The town hall is a new way for us to listen to the issues facing our customers and provide answers to a large number of retirees quickly and easily."

For more information about the event, visit www.dfas.mil/facebooktownhall. This page will serve as a home base for town hall information and will be updated with details such as discussion topics, guidelines for participants, and bios and photos of the retired pay experts, as they become available.

While DFAS will only have retired pay experts on hand for its first town hall meeting, the agency plans to host future social media events where they will answer questions on subjects like military pay and travel.

DFAS experts plan to answer as many questions as they can during the two-hour town hall meeting. Any retirement questions they can't answer during the event will be answered within the normal two to three business days. Non-retirement related questions submitted during the live town hall session will be held until it is over and answered within the normal time frame.

Source: Defense Finance and Accounting Service, News Release

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#### Ohio National Guard

#### Ohio Air National Guard license plates are available

#### Did you know?

The U.S. Senate first passed a resolution in 1999 designating the month of May as National Military Appreciation Month. That declaration summoned U.S. citizens to observe the month "in a symbol of unity, ... to honor the current and former members of the armed forces, including those who have died in the pursuit of freedom and peace."

#### **Dates to Remember**

**May 19** - Celebrate Armed Forces Day at Motts Military Museum, 5075 South Hamilton Road, Groveport, Ohio (614-836-1500). The day begins at 10 a.m. with a ceremony dedicating an OH-6 "Loach" helicopter and artifacts obtained from the 9/11 attacks from the Pentagon and World Trade Centers.

May 20 - 2-174th Air Defense Artillery Retiree Association Golf Scramble 2012. Fuller's Fairways, 4370 Clay Pike, Zanesville **RSVP no later than May** 16 to: Maj. Charles Springer at (614) 356-7937

May 23 - Join us for the 123rd ACS Welcome Home Ceremony on the UC campus, Muntz Hall, 0930hrs. https:// einvitations.afit.edu/ Welcomehome/anim.cfm

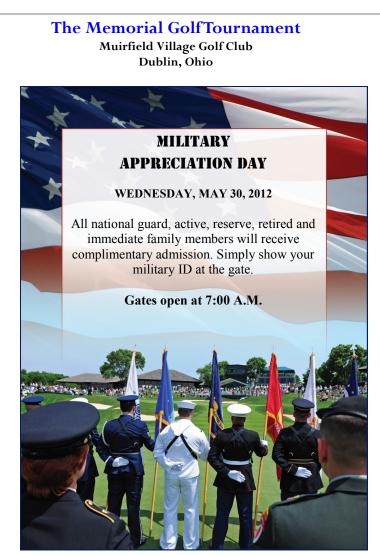
<u>May 28</u> - Happy Memorial Day!



Any Ohio Air National Guard Retired member can submit a copy of his/her DD-214 showing an honorable discharge, a General (Under Honorable Conditions) discharge, evidence of disability retirement, a copy of the Certificate of Retirement, or any equivalent documentation such as a military ID card marked "retired". Requests for system assigned plate numbers, initial reserve or personalized license plates may be made at any Deputy Registrar's office, online at OPlates.com or by calling 1-800-589-8247 for no additional cost.

Special license plate applications are available at all Deputy Registrar license agency locations or can be downloaded by going to http://publicsafety.ohio.gov/links/bmv4705.pdf.

Source: Ohio BMV



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#### OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

### Ohio National Guard

#### **Community Outreach Office**

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## ONG.OHIO.GOV



"WHEN CALLED, WE RESPOND WITH READY UNITS TO EXECUTE FEDERAL, STATE AND COMMUNITY MISSIONS."

Save the Date Friday, May 25th, 2012



Please join Ohio Governor John R. Kasich, First Lady Karen Kasich and distinguished guests as they honor the legacy of military sacrifice and the memories of Ohio's fallen heroes.

# Governor's

# Wreath-Laying Ceremony

# Friday, May 25th, 2012 at noon

Veterans Plaza at the Ohio Statehouse - located on 3rd street In case of inclement weather, the event will take place in the Statehouse Atrium.



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