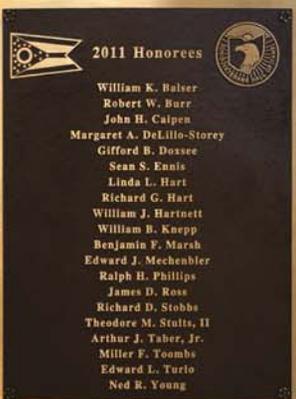




# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

May 2012



*Welcome to the fourteenth edition of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services e-newsletter! The newsletter is a key source of information about issues of interest to our community of veterans in Ohio.*

We thank you for your service to our country. Because you're a veteran, you've earned a number of benefits that you may not be aware of. Most of these benefits originate at the federal level with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Based on the time you served, you may be eligible for compensation for injuries, health care, educational assistance, home loans or many other benefits. There are also a number of state benefits available to Ohio veterans, to include the Ohio Veterans Bonus as well as direct financial assistance from the county to veterans in need.

The place to find out what you've earned and to apply is your county veterans service office. You can locate yours in the interactive map on our department home page, [dvs.ohio.gov](http://dvs.ohio.gov), or by calling 1-877-OHIO-VET (1-877-644-6838).

We will continue to provide you this newsletter each month. We hope it's of value to you and your family.

## **Enshrining of the Latest Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Class, Getting Ready for Another...**

The formal enshrinement ceremony for the Class of 2011 of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame was held May 21 at the Riffe Center in downtown Columbus. The event was presided over by George Ondick, President of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Foundation, and featured remarks by Ohio Department Veteran Services Director Tom Moe, Class of 2009, and former Ohio Senate President Richard Finan, Class of 2006. The guest speaker was Class of 2011 member Margaret DeLillo-Storey, who talked of the honor she felt by her selection, noting that the nomination itself was a "mind-blower" for her.

"I think it's very important, and it's crucial, that we continue to recognize our men and women in uniform who no longer wear the uniform," she said, "because those individuals, they're a wealth of information and a phenomenal resource for our communities. Once a soldier, always a soldier, you never quit."

On Monday, May 21, at the conclusion of an honorary ceremony, a bronze plaque containing the names of the 20 members of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Class of 2011 was unveiled.

Plaques representing each class are on display at the Vern Riffe Building, 2nd Floor located at 77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

### **Questions about veterans benefits?**

Call 1-877-OHIOVET  
(1-877-644-6838)



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The highlight of the program was the unveiling, by Margaret and Richard Finan, of the plaque bearing the names of the 20 members of the Class of 2011. You can see a YouTube video of the ceremony here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xemrbUHdXfw&feature=youtu.be> and view photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ohioveteransservices/sets/72157629830682436>.

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame was established in 1992 to recognize the post-military achievements of outstanding veterans and now includes 428 members. Charter members of the Hall's Class of 1993 included the six Ohio military veterans who were elected President of the United States and all Medal of Honor recipients from Ohio. Honorees of the past 17 years include astronauts, government officials, police officers, community leaders, and veterans' advocates.



The Hall of Fame Foundation, a committee of veterans, serves as advisors for the Hall of Fame and selects approximately 20 inductees annually from nominations provided by all citizens of Ohio. Men and women chosen for induction into the Hall come from all eras, all branches of service and all walks of life. The members of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame are honored in a permanent display on the second floor of the Riffe Center in downtown Columbus.

Nominations for the Class of 2012 are due no later than June 30, 2012.

Additional information and profiles of past inductees are available at the link below; or call (614) 752-8941: [http://dvs.ohio.gov/veterans\\_hall\\_of\\_fame.aspx](http://dvs.ohio.gov/veterans_hall_of_fame.aspx)

The members of the Class of 2011 are:

**WILLIAM K. BALSER**

*Army Veteran – Korean War*

**ROBERT W. BURR**

*Army Veteran – Korean War*

**JOHN H. CAIPEN**

*Army Veteran – Korean War*

**MARGARET DELILLO-STOREY, PSY.D, PCC, BCETS**

*Army Veteran – Operation Desert Shield & Operation Desert Storm*



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**GIFFORD B. DOXSEE, Ph.D**  
*Army Veteran – World War II and  
Former Prisoner of War*

**SEAN S. ENNIS**  
*Army Veteran – Vietnam War*

**LINDA L. HART**  
*Navy Veteran – Vietnam War*

**RICHARD G. HART**  
*Marine Corps/  
United States Air Force Veteran – Vietnam War*

**WILLIAM J. HARTNETT**  
*Navy Veteran – Korean War*

**WILLIAM B. KNEPP**  
*Army Veteran – Korean War*

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MARSH, J.D.**  
*Navy Veteran – World War II*

**EDWARD J. MECHENBIER**  
*Air Force Veteran – Vietnam War and Former Prisoner of War*

**RALPH H. PHILLIPS (deceased)**  
*Army Veteran – Vietnam War*

**JAMES D. ROSS**  
*Army Veteran – Vietnam War*

**RICHARD D. STOBBS**  
*Army Veteran – Vietnam War*

**THEODORE M. STULTS II**  
*Army Veteran and Ohio Army National Guard*

**ARTHUR J. TABER, JR. (deceased)**  
*Marine Corps Veteran – World War II*

**MILLER F. TOOMBS, M.D.**  
*Army Veteran – World War II*

**EDWARD L. TURLO**  
*Army Veteran – World War II*

**NED R. YOUNG**  
*Navy Veteran – World War II*





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## June Features Big VA Job Event...

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (the VA) is sponsoring a major job event in June.

The VA is hosting a major national veteran's event in Detroit: a Veterans Hiring Fair (June 26-28) and a Veterans Small Business Conference (June 26-29). Both will be held at the Cobo Ctr in downtown Detroit.

The Veterans Hiring Fair is run directly by the VA and includes thousands of federal job positions. The fair will also provide assistance in resume building, in career coaching, and in building a federal resume.

There are already more than 8,000 confirmed job openings for the Detroit fair. The VA ran a similar event in Baltimore earlier this year, which resulted in 2,600 interviews and more than 500 on-the-spot job offers for veterans. To learn more, search for positions matching a particular skill set, or find resources for tailoring a resume for federal positions, register at:

[http://vaforvets.va.gov/veterans/aboutva/hiringevents/Pages/EVENT\\_Detroit\\_June2012.aspx](http://vaforvets.va.gov/veterans/aboutva/hiringevents/Pages/EVENT_Detroit_June2012.aspx).

At the National Veterans Small Business Conference, veteran business owners can learn how to do business with the federal and state governments (including Illinois!), meet with procurement decision-makers, and expand knowledge through more than 200 available training and business requirement sessions. Registration information is at: [www.nationalveteransconference.com](http://www.nationalveteransconference.com).

A third event taking place at this conference is the Veteran Open House, which is a series of exhibits from federal and state agencies, as well as private organizations, designed to make veterans aware of the benefits they have earned, and advice on how to apply for them. More information on this particular event is at: [http://www.nationalveteransconference.com/veteran\\_open\\_house](http://www.nationalveteransconference.com/veteran_open_house).

## June Features Big Chamber Job Event...

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is also sponsoring a major Ohio job event in June – the Hiring Our Heroes Job Fair is coming to Cleveland on June 29.

The fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Wolstein Center at Cleveland State University. It's open to active duty military, National Guard and Reserve members, and spouses. A number of local private and public sector employers will be on hand and conducting interviews. Many of these



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events have already been held in cities across the country, including Columbus in March. It's part of a nationwide effort by the Chamber to partner with local entities and encourage the business community to hire veterans.

Besides the Chamber, other Ohio and local sponsors include the Greater Cleveland Partnership and MAGNET, the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission, the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services, the Ohio Department of Veterans Services, Cleveland State University, AMVETS, the Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DOL VETS), the Ohio Committee of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), and NBC News.

Advanced registration is strongly encouraged.

For more information, see: <http://www.uschamber.com/hiringourheroes/cleveland-oh>

## **June Small Business Event in Cincinnati...**

June 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. is the day for a small business seminar at Xavier University's Cintas Center in Cincinnati intended to help businesses learn more about doing business with the government, either federal or state.

The event is free, and agencies attending include the Ohio Department of Transportation, the University of Cincinnati, the Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Defense Logistics Agency, and the VA Medical Center.

The seminar is sponsored by the Southwest Central Ohio Procurement Technical Assistance Center, which serves as a Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), is funded in part through a cooperative agreement from the Department of Defense (DOD) through a program that is administered by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

For more information, see: <http://www.swcoptac.org/events.htm>

Or call toll-free: 888-553-6832, ext. 238.





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## June Job Event in Marion...

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services "Job-a-Bego" vehicle of the Job Opportunity Network will be on site at the Marion National Guard Armory on June 9, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Job and Family Services representatives will be conducting on-site interviews for various local employers. They will also provide counseling and direct assistance in resume preparation and interviewing skills.

The armory's address is 2561 Harding Highway East, Marion, Ohio 43302. The event is open to veterans and their families.



## Ohio Means Jobs for Veterans...

Once someone leaves the military, they take on a new mission: finding a job. There's also an old saying that goes, "it takes work to find work." And while that's definitely true, there's also definitely some very helpful assistance in Ohio to help veterans embark on their new mission.

The articles above in this newsletter talk about two upcoming major job fairs. But there's also a great aid that's as close as one mouse click – "Ohio Means Jobs," the state's job web site which has a real advantage for veterans by getting them

to the front of the line for available jobs. It's the enhanced state jobs web site that puts veterans at the front of the line. The site is a joint venture between Ohio and Monster.com; take a look at it below, and then learn more about how it works for veterans: <https://ohiomeansjobs.com/omi/>

Once on the site, veterans should go to the "Job Seekers" area, and a world of opportunity opens up. Veterans need to post their resume and indicate that they are a veteran. What this does is present veterans' resumes first for any job that matches the qualifications they've posted in their resume. The resume should be reviewed every month and electronically "updated" – whether any additional information is added or not – to keep it refreshed and at the front of the line for jobs.



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This site has a searchable data base of thousands of jobs across Ohio, with private business, federal, state and local government, and schools. While it's still advisable to check local ads in the places in Ohio you'd like to be, the Monster.com system will capture the great majority of employment ads from throughout the state.

There's also a military widget on [Ohiomeansjobs.com](http://Ohiomeansjobs.com) that will automatically links to additional information for veterans. This includes resources to help build a resume by translating military experience to civilian terms. It also includes links to veteran-friendly employers – companies that have made a commitment to hire veterans – as well as other resources:

<http://my.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/VetCenter/InfoCenter.aspx>

What if a veteran needs additional help in translating what you did in the military into terms civilians will understand? The military has already gotten into that business. The Army and the Navy have developed online "cool" web sites that help veterans translate their military skills into terms civilian employers can understand. The sites, which stand for "credentialing opportunities online," allow a veteran to select their military skill code and then see the types of jobs their training and experience translates to, as well as any certifications that are needed. There is no Air Force, Marine, or Coast Guard "cool" site. However, the Air Force does offer similar resources on its Community College of the Air Force site, at the Credentialing and Education Research Tool (CERT) page; Marine skills are similar to those found in the Army and Air Force; and Coast Guard skills are similar to those found in the Navy.

The "cool" sites are below:

<https://www.cool.army.mil/index.htm>

<https://www.cool.navy.mil/overview.htm>

<https://augateway.maxwell.af.mil/ccaf/certifications/programs/>



We'd be very remiss to not include in this information a group of people who are working every day to find work for veterans. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services is in an active partnership with the U.S. Department of Labor to operate Job Centers in each county, usually centrally located in the county seat; contact information is easily accessible by searching online or in the phone book. The Job Centers are open to all residents, but are also staffed with counselors who specifically assist veterans. Periodically, the Job Centers work with local partners to host regional job fairs across the state, which we'll tell you about here.

The Ohio National Guard is also heavily involved in the issue of veteran employment. The Guard has partnered with AMVETS to create this web site, which features job postings for veterans:

<http://ohiovetscan.com/>



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But remember, before a veteran goes to any job fair or other job-seeking event, there are certain common skills to master to set the conditions for success.

First, is a veteran physically prepared for a job search? Whatever type of employment is being sought, there are some common tips to remember:

- Have a current resume;
- Have a cover letter that's geared to the type of job being sought;
- Present a professional appearance, e.g., suit and tie, or dress/skirt or pantsuit?

## **Important Job Info for Veterans 35 and Older...**

The VA began accepting applications May 15 for a new job training program for veterans age 35 to 60.

Last year, Congress passed the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011. A major pillar of this act is the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) for unemployed veterans of the Gulf War era and older, specifically veterans who are 35 to 60 years old. It offers up to 12 months of job training assistance under the Montgomery G.I. Bill at the rate of \$1,473 per month. The program begins July 1, but the VA is accepting applications for job training beginning May 15.

For more information, see: <http://benefits.va.gov/vow/education.htm>

**Please note** that applications must be made online through the VA's eBenefits program. A web tool will assist veterans in working through this, but it is recommended to get an early start on the process.

## **VA Women Veterans Task Force Report Released...**

One of the guiding principles of the VA is to provide better services to women veterans. To that end, Secretary Eric Shinseki convened a task force in July 2011 of senior VA leadership to examine the issue in depth.

The task force first examined services "as is" in health care and benefits administration through a working group consisting of representatives of all sectors of the VA. The idea was to identify the gaps in care and services and develop objectives for what the end state should be, and issue a draft report to that effect. Stakeholders and interested persons are invited to comment on this draft until June 14, 2012.

Once all comments are received, the task force will develop a strategy report with recommendations for improving services, along with an action plan to implement those recommendations.



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The draft report can be viewed at:

[http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/Draft\\_2012\\_Women-Veterans\\_StrategicPlan.pdf](http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/Draft_2012_Women-Veterans_StrategicPlan.pdf).

Comments can be submitted through the Federal Register web site at: [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

## Honor Our Fallen on Memorial Day...

This weekend, we celebrate Memorial Day, the day set aside by our nation each year to honor those who have given their lives in military service to preserve our freedom and liberty. For all of us in our Ohio veterans' community, this is a special time, and we'll be attending activities across our state to honor those we've lost in all our wars. As veterans know more than others, many of us would not be here today, to enjoy the blessings of home and family, without the sacrifices of those who served beside us.

Governor John Kasich continues the recent tradition this year of hosting the Governor's Wreath-Laying Ceremony on May 25 to honor Ohio's fallen in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. The ceremony begins at 12:30 p.m. on the east (Third St.) side of the Statehouse.

This year's ceremony honors those fallen in battle since April of 2011:

**Sergeant First Class Charles L. Adkins** - U.S. Army

**Private First Class William S. Blevins** - U.S. Army

**Chief Petty Officer Raymond J. Border** - U.S. Navy

**Staff Sergeant Christopher L. Brown** - U.S. Army

**Lance Corporal Peter J. Clore** - U.S. Marine Corps

**Staff Sergeant Robert B. Cowdrey** - U.S. Army

**Specialist Adam S. Hamilton** - U.S. Army

**Master Sergeant Shawn T. Hannon** - Ohio Army National Guard

**Specialist Robert P. Hartwick** - U.S. Army





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**Sergeant First Class Bradley S. Hughes** - U.S. Army

**Corporal Adam D. Jones** - U.S. Marine Corps

**Sergeant Dennis E. Kancler** - U.S. Marine Corps

**Captain Joshua M. McClimans** - U.S. Army Reserves

**Lance Corporal Joshua B. McDaniels** - U.S. Marine Corps

**Sergeant Daniel J. Patron** - U.S. Marine Corps

**Master Sergeant Jeffrey J. Rieck** - Ohio Army National Guard

**Private First Class Gustavo A. Rios** - U.S. Army

**Captain Nicholas J. Rozanski** - Ohio Army National Guard

**First Lieutenant John M. Runkle** - U.S. Army

**Chief Warrant Officer Two Christopher R. Thibodeau** - U.S. Army

**First Lieutenant Ashley I. White Stumpf** - N.C. Army National Guard

**Lance Corporal Terry C. Wright** - U.S. Marine Corps

**Corporal Paul W. Zanowick, II** - U.S. Marine Corps



We join with the families of all who've been lost in war to mourn their loved ones. We must never forget them, or their deeds. And we may all take comfort that our nation is blessed with those who are willing to put everything on the line to preserve the life we hold dear.