



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

November 2012



The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame inducted 15 new members in the Class of 2012 at a November 8 ceremony held at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force. They join 428 other distinguished veterans who are enshrined in the Hall.

## Questions about veterans benefits?

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

*Welcome to the twentieth 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, [www.ohiovet.gov](http://www.ohiovet.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.

## Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Has 15 New Members...

Fifteen distinguished Ohio veterans were welcomed into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame by Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor and Ohio Department of Veteran Services Director Tom Moe at a November 8 ceremony in Dayton. The induction was held at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force.

Lieutenant Governor Taylor spoke of the demands of military service and the temptation to leave service in the past when the uniform is put away. "It would be very tempting, when that service is done, to seek an easier path in civilian life. But that's not what the people we are honoring here today chose to do," she said.

"All of them chose to continue to serve. It may have been through their faith, helping their fellow veterans, or just doing something that needed to be done, something that no one else was willing to do," she continued. "Each one of them made that choice, and our lives, and our state, are all the richer for it...you truly represent the best of our nation, and the best of Ohio."



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

The names of the 15 new members of the Class of 2012 were engraved on a plaque displayed at the ceremony. That plaque will be permanently emplaced, along with the Hall's other classes dating back to 1992, in a permanent display at the Riffe Center in downtown Columbus. This year's inductees are:

## **DAVID M. BRADLEY**

*Westerville, Franklin County - United States Army Veteran – Vietnam War*

Served as Executive Director of the Vietnam Veterans of America and as Executive Director, Franklin County Veterans Service Commission. He also established the Columbus Mayor's Veterans Advisory Board.

## **ROBERT L. DEAN**

*Warren, Trumbull County – United States Air Force Veteran – Vietnam War*

Serves as President of Warren City Council and on several civic and historical boards. Has been an honored civil servant and community volunteer for many years, and received the "Who's Who in Black Cleveland" Award in 2005 and 2006.

## **ROBERT J. DIXON**

*Circleville, Pickaway County – United States Marine Corps Veteran – Vietnam War*

Active in local veterans' organizations and established and commands AMVETS Honor Guard. Teaches flag etiquette, volunteers at the VA and nursing homes, privately assists indigent veterans' families with burial expenses.

## **JACK L. ERNEST**

*Richmond, Jefferson County – United States Marine Corps Veteran – Vietnam War*

Founded Welcome Home Ministries, Inc. to work with Vietnam veterans as well as other veterans and has advocated for them in their communities. Has also traveled to Vietnam more than 40 times on humanitarian missions.

## **HAROLD J. FILLMORE**

*Oak Harbor, Ottawa County – United States Navy Veteran – World War II*

Served 58 years in local veterans' organizations and as a civic official and volunteer. Designed and built veterans' burial flag cases, and spearheaded the design and construction of a veterans memorial.

## **LAWRENCE V. FORNES**

*Dayton, Montgomery County – United States Marine Corps Veteran – World War II*

Foster parent for over 20 years, youth coach for baseball and softball, and a Cub Scout leader. Serves as a Retired Senior Volunteer, active at local nursing homes and hospices. Also volunteers at youth homes and shelters for abused women.

## **JAMES P. FORTUNE**

*Vandalia, Montgomery County – United States Army Veteran – Vietnam War*

Small business owner, has donated over \$500,000 of equipment and supplies to organizations in need. He is a double amputee who mentors others at the Dayton VA Medical Center, and serves as a volunteer cook for many civic organizations.



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

## **RICHARD P. HARTMANN**

*Kettering, Montgomery County – United States Navy Veteran and Naval Reserve*

Former mayor of Kettering, helped guide city through 1993 BRAC and establish new business park. Active in Chamber of Commerce and a church and civic volunteer, also a trustee at Capital University.

## **KATHLEEN A. HAYES**

*Sidney, Shelby County – United States Army Veteran and Army Reserve – Operation Iraqi Freedom*

Serves as a nurse at the Dayton VA Medical Center in hospice care, and founded an Ohio hospice partnership for veterans. Active volunteer with veterans' organizations and veterans' historical board in Dayton.

## **STEPHEN W. HECK, JR.**

*Loveland, Clermont County – United States Air Force Veteran – Operation Desert Shield/Storm/Calm*

Pilot and science educator who was selected as an Astronaut Educator in the new Citizens in Space Program and will undergo sub-orbital flight. Presents at the national level, also an assistant football coach and motivational speaker.

## **WALTER P. KNAKE, JR.**

*Shaker Heights, Cuyahoga County – United States Army Veteran*

A psychologist who developed effective group therapy for PTSD, to include implementing it in prisons. Offers affordable rates for veterans, is an expert court witness and an advocate at VA appeal hearings.

## **MARY C. MCHUGH**

*Reading, Hamilton County – United States Navy Veteran – World War II*

Accepted as a Sister of Notre Dame in 1954, taught school and volunteered as a social worker. Also tutored inmates and volunteered for suicide prevention. Revived first American Legion post in Ohio strictly for female veterans.

## **CHARLES D. METCALF**

*Oakwood, Montgomery County – United States Air Force Veteran – Vietnam War*

Served 14 years as Director of the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force. He launched a major capital program to expand it and increased visitation by over 200,000 annually. Also serves on several charitable boards.

## **ROBERT L. QUEISSER (deceased)**

*Cleveland, Cuyahoga County – Ohio National Guard*

Successful businessman and Ohio National Guard veteran and father of two sons who served in World War I. Designed Blue Star Service Flag in 1917 to honor them, and this flag remains in use today.

## **JAMES W. SNYDER**

*Kettering, Montgomery County – United States Marine Corps Veteran – Korean War, Vietnam War and Operation Desert Storm*

A firefighter and banking industry security expert, he was instrumental in establishing Ohio Korean War Memorial and oversaw 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorations. Also an active volunteer on veterans' history board and for civic causes.



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

We congratulate our 15 new members of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. You can view both [photos](#) or [video](#) of this year's ceremony.



## Employment for Veterans in Ohio...

Veterans in Ohio are benefiting from a national focus on getting veterans employed. But the state has a “monster” tool, right at your fingertips, that can help narrow down a job search.

“Ohio Means Jobs” is 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. The site is the result of a partnership between Ohio and Monster.com, and is on the web at [Ohiomeansjobs.com](http://Ohiomeansjobs.com).

Once on the site – at <https://ohiomeansjobs.com/omi/> – veterans should go to the “Job Seekers” area, and that’s where the opportunities open up.

First, 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.



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

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://my.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/VetCenter/InfoCenter.aspx) that will automatically link 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>

## Career Opportunities



**In-Person Assistance:** If you want to start a face-to-face job search, there's employment assistance available not far home. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (JFS) 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.

While the Job Centers are open to all residents, but are also staffed with counselors who specifically assist veterans. Their primary clients are veterans with barriers to employment, of which long-term unemployment definitely qualifies. Counselors can assist with skills translation and resume preparation. The Job Centers also have resources to assist disabled veterans with qualifying for, finding and keeping meaningful employment.

Periodically, the Job Centers work with local partners to host regional job fairs across the state, which we'll tell you about here and in our social media.

**Corporations Stepping Up:** AT&T has joined the list of national companies such as Verizon and Home Depot that are dedicated to hiring veterans in Ohio.



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

AT&T is interested in hiring veterans as both premises technicians for cable and as call-center representatives. For more information about AT&T jobs, see:

<http://connect.att.jobs/Ohio/prem-tech/> or <http://connect.att.jobs/Ohio/call-center>

Shale and energy-related jobs are also hot commodities now. Some jobs are immediately available, while training is required to fill others. The Ohio Board of Regents has developed an online tool to show the training available and the jobs it's linked to -- as well as the jobs out there that the training leads to, or that are open right now. Check it out at:

<https://www.ohiohighered.org/press/ohio-launches-new-tool-linking-job-seekers-and-energy-opportunities>

**Be Prepared for Interviews, and Know Your Skills:** Before you attend any job fair or visit any employer, remember these common tips:

- 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.

To prepare an effective resume, you have to be able to translate military experience to civilian experience. 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/>



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

**Help from the Ohio Guard and AMVETS:** The Ohio National Guard knows the importance of full-time jobs for part-time soldiers. To help, they've joined forces with AMVETS to find employment for Guard men and women who are looking.

The Guard has partnered with AMVETS to create the web site below. It features statewide job postings for veterans:

<http://ohiovetscan.com/>

The Guard is also actively working with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (JFS) to help soldiers returning from deployments. The Guard is surveying soldiers in deployed units before they return home to determine how many need employment when they get back. JFS Job Center Counselors are then contacting these soldiers when they return home to work with them and help them find work.



**VRAP Still Available:** The second phase of the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) is now in high gear, and eligible veterans need to take the time to sign up.

VRAP is intended to get unemployed veterans aged 35-60 re-trained and re-employed in high-demand occupations nationwide. VRAP is part of the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011. The program offers up to 12 months of job training assistance under the Montgomery G.I. Bill at the rate of \$1,473 per month.

A second phase of the VRAP program began with the new federal fiscal year on October 1. This phase is open to 54,000 eligible veterans, including those who were too late to be accepted for the first phase. Applications are being accepted now, so don't delay in getting yours in. Benefits will begin after the start of the new fiscal year.

The first phase began in May 2012 and was open to 45,000 veterans. This number was exceeded prior to the September 30 deadline. Applications pending at that time are being considered for the second phase.

**Please note** that applications must be made online through the VA's eBenefits program. A web tool will assist veterans in working through this.

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



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

## Deadlines Looming for Ohio Veterans Bonus...

So far, a total of 60,593 Ohio veterans and family members have received payments from the Ohio Veterans Bonus that come to a whopping total of \$50,893,704 – but deadlines are looming for two groups of veterans who are urged to apply as soon as possible.

The citizens of Ohio overwhelmingly approved the Ohio Veterans Bonus in November 2009 for veterans of the Persian Gulf War, Iraq War and Afghanistan War eras. The law implementing the Bonus set a deadline for Persian Gulf War veterans to apply of December 31, 2013. The same law set the deadline for Iraq War veterans as the third year following a date determined by the President as the end of the conflict. Tentatively, this date is the termination date of the Iraq Campaign Medal, which was December 31, 2011, making the deadline for Bonus application for service in Iraq December 31, 2014. No deadline has yet been announced for the Afghanistan War.

Gulf War era veterans may be reading this and thinking December 31, 2013 is a long time away; Iraq War era veterans may think that December 31, 2014 is even farther in the future. But as a certain commercial once said, life happens, and before you know it, the deadline is here – so take the time to apply now.

The Ohio Veterans Bonus is available to veterans who served more than 90 days active duty, not for training, during the periods of the Persian Gulf War and the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. For the Persian Gulf, the eligible period is from August 2, 1990 through March 3, 1991; for Afghanistan, from October 7, 2001 through a date to be determined by the President, and for Iraq, from March 19, 2003 and also through a to-be-determined date. Payment can be received for active duty service anywhere in the world during these periods, but is higher for veterans who served in the Persian Gulf or in Afghanistan or Iraq. Eligible veterans must have been Ohio residents at the time of their entry into the service, and must be Ohio residents currently.



The bonus pays \$100 a month to veterans who served in the Persian Gulf theater, or in the countries of Afghanistan or Iraq, up to a maximum of \$1,000. For veterans who served elsewhere, the payment is \$50 a month up to a \$500 maximum. Veterans medically discharged due to injuries sustained in combat



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

can receive \$1,000, plus up to \$500 for months of service elsewhere. Family members of those killed in action or who died from disease as a result of their in-theater service can receive a bonus of \$5,000 plus whatever the service member was eligible for, up to a total of \$6,500.

If you're a veteran of another era but know someone who qualifies, or a family member or friend of someone who does, talk to them about the Bonus and tell them to be sure and take the time to apply. Many veterans won't take it seriously unless they hear it from someone else who served, or from someone in their family.

Anyone needing more information or who want to apply can call toll-free to 1-877-OHIO VET (1-877-644-6838) option 2, or see: [https://veteransbonus.ohio.gov/odvs\\_web/](https://veteransbonus.ohio.gov/odvs_web/), or visit any county veterans service office (see [www.ohiovet.gov](http://www.ohiovet.gov) for an interactive map of the county offices).

## Veterans Day 2012...

This month we celebrated Veterans Day, a holiday that began as Armistice Day, marking the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month in 1918 when World War I, the "war to end all wars," came to an end. Our military has fought in many conflicts since that time, and stood guard to preserve the peace in years when no bullets were flying. In those quiet years, Veterans Day almost became an afterthought to the population at large, but never to those who served.



Today, there is a renewed focus each Veterans Day on honoring all those who serve, or have served, in our military – and while we all want to see peace, we hope that this focus will never wane, because those of us who *have* served know that our military is the key to keeping our nation strong and free.

Throughout history, the men and women of Ohio have heard the call to military service, and have answered in surprising numbers. Ohio is the seventh largest state in terms of population, yet it is the *sixth* largest in the number of veterans – over 867,000 in a population of more than 11.5 million. Over 300,000 of our veterans served in or during the Vietnam War, comprising the largest single group.

At a time when less than 1 percent of our nation serves in uniform, we know that Ohioans will always step up to defend our lives and liberty.

To all of you who have answered that call, and to your families who have stood by you – thank you for your service. ***Happy Veterans Day!***



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

## Thanksgiving Is Coming Soon...

Next week we will all gather near to families and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving, the day long observed in American history to give thanks for the blessings we enjoy in this nation. No matter what our individual circumstances, we probably don't have to think very hard to realize that we have a number of things to be thankful for.

But while most of us are enjoying turkey and all its trimmings on Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, let's not forget that there are police, firefighters and emergency personnel on duty, ready to respond if danger or disaster threaten us. Let's remember the doctors, nurses and other health professionals at our hospitals who are there to take care of any illnesses or accidents that we suffer. We'd also be remiss not to give a nod to the many retail and other service sector workers who will also be reporting to work at some time that day, ready to feed our shopping and entertainment addictions.

Of course, let's also remember the less fortunate in our midst and in our country, and to contribute to their well-being when we can.

And let us not ever forget the men and women who engage our enemies across the globe, even at this very minute, or stand a lonely watch on a hilltop, or at sea, or flying across the sky, ready to perform the mission they've been trained to do. Without their service and sacrifice, none of what we give thanks for is possible.



***Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!***



# Ohio Department of Veterans Services

★ *Monthly Update* ★

We know there are many crossword fans in our veterans community.

Here's one to keep busy with...

*(Answers will appear next month.)*



**Across**

1. Foam or froth
6. One's limit
8. Defunct airline
13. Bates and Guthrie
14. Distinct atmosphere
15. Saved himself and a crewman after a Japanese destroyer sunk the PT-109 he commanded
17. Served with the Illinois Militia during the Black Hawk War
19. Middle Eastern dress
20. "I smell a \_\_\_\_\_."
21. Nothing
22. Baker's aid
24. \_\_\_\_\_ Karenina
26. Small change, in Russia
29. Served in the 23rd Ohio Infantry during the Civil War
32. "Take on Me" performers
33. Steak order
34. Winglike
35. Astronaut's drink, perhaps?
37. Warm and comfy
38. Town in Okayama, Japan
39. Little llama
40. Aborigines, informally
42. \_\_\_\_\_ culpa
43. Commanded a Brigade during Sherman's March
45. Known for his folly
47. Go without food
48. Danny Devito's love
49. Caribbean nation
51. Comedienne West
52. Type of type
56. Rank of 58 across
58. Joined the Continental Army at the age of 13
60. Greek unit of weight
61. Survivor from the past
62. Town and Country, for short
63. Campfire remains
64. Fantasy sports offer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13								14					
15					16		17	18					
19					20			21					
			22	23			24				25		
26	27	28				29				30	31		
32						33				34			
35			36		37					38			
39					40			41		42			
43				44			45		46				
			47				48						
	49	50					51			52	53	54	55
56						57		58		59			
60										61			
62							63				64		

**Down**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Monkey variety</li> <li>2. Title of many men in this puzzle, informally</li> <li>3. Arm bone</li> <li>4. Crossed the Delaware with George Washington</li> <li>5. Columbus to Marietta (dir.)</li> <li>6. Calendar to watch in 2012?</li> <li>7. Computer language</li> <li>8. Italian sandwich</li> <li>9. One of the first volunteers in the War of 1812</li> <li>10. Delicious, in Thai</li> <li>11. Chicago library</li> <li>12. Stimp's pal</li> <li>16. Worthless junk</li> <li>18. Travelers' tool of the past</li> <li>23. DVD player's predecessor</li> <li>24. Land measures</li> <li>25. A whole host</li> <li>26. Jingles, perhaps</li> <li>27. Rhett Butler's obsession</li> <li>28. Soft cheese</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>29. Actor James</li> <li>30. Peruvian pet?</li> <li>31. Anxious</li> <li>33. Many an Asimov character</li> <li>36. Commanded an Ohio Infantry Brigade at the Battle of Shiloh</li> <li>37. Chinese cinnamon</li> <li>41. Spelling venue</li> <li>44. Pertaining to medicine</li> <li>45. Former home of the Mets</li> <li>46. George Herbert _____ Bush (Distinguished Flying Cross recipient)</li> <li>48. Indian monarch</li> <li>49. Jerusalem Ruler Abdi- _____</li> <li>50. Soon</li> <li>53. Actress Fisher</li> <li>54. 80's creature to avoid</li> <li>55. "_____ upon a time..."</li> <li>56. Secured</li> <li>57. Meadow</li> <li>59. Monitor tube</li> </ol> |
|---|--|