



July 2013



Veteran Newsletter



This month ODVS says goodbye to our Director, Tom Moe, who is retiring after a total of 46 years of public service in the military and in government. He is a true American hero that we have been honored to serve under, and he's led our department in some major initiatives for the benefit of Ohio's veterans. Find out more on pages 1 - 3.

Welcome to 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, 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 Department of Veteran Services Director Tom Moe Retires...

We say farewell this month to a great leader and friend – Director Tom Moe retires effective July 22, ending a 46-year-career of public service both in the military and in government. He has served as Director of the Ohio Department of Veteran Services since being appointed by Governor John R. Kasich in January 2011.

“Having Col. Moe serve on my Cabinet over the past two-and-a-half years has been an honor,” Governor Kasich said in a July 3 news release. “I’m grateful to Col. Moe for stepping out of retirement at the beginning of my administration when I asked him to lead DVS. He is a



Veteran Newsletter

Monthly Update

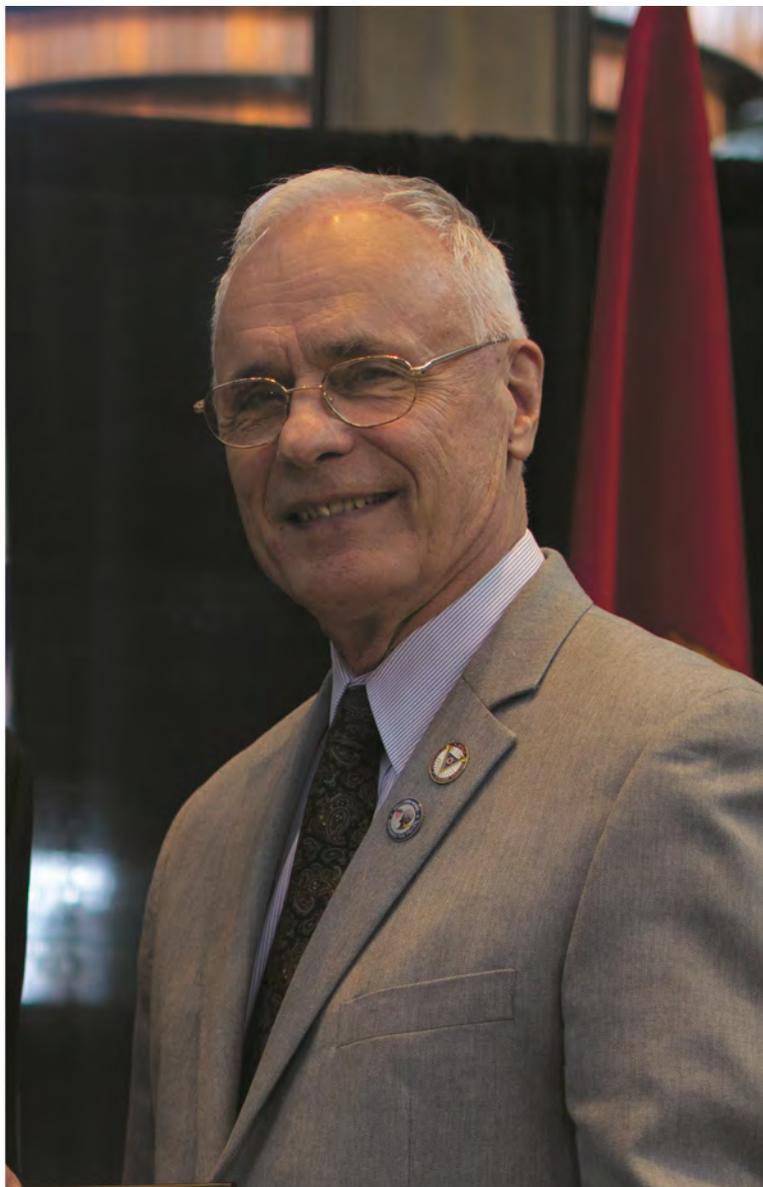


true American hero and we were fortunate to have him on our team as long as we did. I wish him and his family all the best.”

Director Moe said his retirement is for personal reasons. “I’ve been reminding myself of my priorities, and there’s a debt I have to my family for all the love and support they’ve given me, whatever challenges we’ve faced. I cannot serve both the veterans of this state and my family as they need to be served.

I am extremely grateful to Governor Kasich for the opportunity he’s given me to pay back the debt I also have to our veterans’ community in Ohio. If even in a small way, it’s enabled me to give back to them for the support that was given to my family during some difficult times in my military career,” he said.

Under his leadership, the department worked with Ohio’s county veteran service officers to connect more veterans to benefits than ever before. He forged a personal working relationship with the leadership of the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs and has helped move that agency into a closer partnership with the Department of Defense on veterans’ records. Ohio also obtained access to 20 years’ worth of service records in a DoD pilot program to speed up and improve the quality of veterans’ claims. He has also worked hand-in-hand with Governor Kasich and other agencies to improve veterans’ prospects for employment, and with former Ohio Supreme Court Justice Evelyn Stratton to establish veterans’ courts as a means of treatment rather than punishment. Director Moe also oversaw a committee that planned and conducted four days of events in Columbus in honor of Vietnam Veterans Day this past March.





Veteran Newsletter

Monthly Update



“I have very much enjoyed working with everyone...I can’t express in words the appreciation I have for the team spirit I’ve experienced, he said. “I want to thank my staff, and everyone who’s worked with us throughout our veterans’ community, for their tireless efforts at my side.”

Director Moe grew up in Arlington, Virginia, but came to Ohio to attend Capital University. He also served in the U.S. Navy Reserve for four years and became a member of an engineer detachment in Columbus. While a student at Capital, he became an Ohio resident, and also joined Air Force ROTC. He graduated from Capital in 1965 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.

Following training to become an F-4 fighter pilot, Director Moe was assigned to Da Nang, Vietnam in 1967. There he flew 85 combat missions, 60 of them over North Vietnam. In March 1968 his aircraft went down over North Vietnam due to a weapons malfunction. Captured after three days of evading the enemy, he was held as a POW for over five years until his repatriation in 1973. He remained in the Air Force, and later earned a Master’s Degree from the University of Notre Dame. After a number of command and staff assignments, he retired in 1995 as a Colonel. He earned two Silver Stars, the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, and two Purple Hearts among his 24 awards and decorations.

After his military retirement, he worked for the Ohio Department of Education and later as director of the Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security in his home county of Fairfield. He remains active there in church and community affairs. Director Moe has been honored with a number of public service awards by the State of Ohio, Capital University, The University of Notre Dame, The Daughters of the American Revolution and others. He is a member of both the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame and the Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor.

Director Moe and his wife Chris have been married for 48 years. They have a daughter, two sons and six grandchildren.



VA Adds More Ships to Vietnam Agent Orange Exposure List...

The VA has updated the list of U.S. Navy and Coast Guard ships that operated in waters in and around Vietnam whose crews were likely exposed to the toxic defoliant Agent Orange, adding more ships and expanding information for others. There are now 285 ships on the list. This list can help Vietnam-era veterans find out if they qualify for presumption of Agent Orange exposure when seeking disability



Veteran Newsletter

Monthly Update



compensation for related diseases. See the list of ships at:

<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/shiplist/list.asp>

For help applying for benefits, contact your county veterans service officer by locating your county on the map at: <http://dvs.ohio.gov/>.

Korean War Ended 60 Years Ago This Month...

Ohio law designates July 27th as "Korean War Veterans' Day," in honor of those who fought, died, or are still unaccounted for in the Korean War. The date of July 27 signifies the date the armistice ending the conflict was signed in 1953 – 60 years ago this month.

Even though it's been called the "Forgotten War," it's veterans are unlikely to ever forget the horrors of combat and the sweltering heat and bitter cold conditions in which they fought. The costs of the war included 1,777 Ohioans killed in action, and 4,837 wounded. Today, Ohio is home to more than 95,000 veterans of the Korean War.



The service and sacrifice of these veterans to stop aggression and restore freedom to South Korea will mean the "Forgotten War" will always be remembered. Major commemorative events are planned on July 27 in Dayton and Mansfield. The veterans who will be there deserve the thanks of all.

Ohio Holding Women Veterans' Conference in September...

Mark your calendars now and plan to be on hand Saturday, September 28 at the Aladdin Shrine Center in Columbus for the bi-annual Ohio Women Veterans' Conference. Registration is from 8-10 a.m., and the conference will be held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.



Monthly Update



Veteran Newsletter

The guest speaker at the event will be Jessica Lynch, who was severely injured in the ambush of her unit early in the Iraq War in 2003 and was rescued by Special Operations forces from an Iraqi hospital. Ohio's Adjutant General, Major General Deborah Ashenurst, will also address the conference. Break-out sessions will focus on job exploration strategies, health and wellness, and an update on benefits.



The last conference in 2011 drew over 500 women veterans, so advance registration is advisable. For more information, click on the link for "Women Veterans Advisory Committee" at www.ohiovet.gov.

Organizers promise that the conference will live up to the words, "Interesting. Informative. Intrigued?"

Veterans and Jobs in Ohio...

Please read below for the latest information on jobs for Ohio veterans. If you're in search of employment, even if you've read much of this information before, it's still a valuable guide. Please share this information with other veterans.

Columbus Hosts Job Fair: Thursday, July 25 is the day for a major career fair in Columbus. Sponsored by RecruitMilitary and the American Legion, all veterans and military service members are invited to the "Hiring Our Heroes" Veteran Career Fair at the Aladdin Shrine Event & Conference Center, 3850 Stelzer Rd., from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Companies represented include Home Depot, Quicken Loans, Kroger and more. For more information and to register, see:

<https://events.recruitmilitary.com/events/columbus-veteran-job-fair-july-25-2013>

Companies Looking to Hire Veterans: So far this year, several companies have announced initiatives to hire veterans, nationally as well as in Ohio. They include AT&T, Chase Bank, Walmart, Xerox, and Ohio's insurance companies. Information is available on the individual company web sites.

Veteran Newsletter

Monthly Update



Schools and Companies Offering Job Training: Job training that could lead to employment is being offered throughout Ohio. Stark State College and Eastern Gateway Community College offer training targeted to shale jobs. Cincinnati State College offers training aimed at industrial jobs. Siemens Corporation offers training geared to engineering manufacturing jobs. Find out more at the schools' and company's web sites.



For a Job Fair, or any Employment Event, 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 in 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/>



Monthly Update



Veteran Newsletter

Online Job Assistance: You can also look for jobs online. “Ohio Means Jobs” is the state’s primary job web site, listing the majority of both private sector and public jobs that are open in Ohio. But the real key to this site for veterans is that it get you to the front of the line to be considered for the available jobs.

This site is a partnership between Ohio and Monster.com. Once on the site – at <https://ohiomeansjobs.com/omi/> , or simply type in “Ohiomeansjobs.com” – go to the “Job Seekers” area to find the opportunities for veterans.

But 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.

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. The link is below:

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

In-Person Job 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 also 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.



Veteran Newsletter

Monthly Update



July is the Time to Celebrate America's Independence...



No doubt most of us celebrated the 4th of July with fireworks, picnics and time together with family and friends to mark the 237th year of independence of the United States of America. After all, Founder John Adams said of Independence Day that it, "ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more." Certainly, these activities are offered in abundance every year, and Americans seem to find ways to work many of them into their plans for the day.

In an interesting historical coincidence, both Adams and Thomas Jefferson, the only two signers of the Declaration of Independence who became President, both died on the same day – July 4, 1826.

But one part of history that every American must remember is the part written in the blood that's been shed by those who have defended our nation since its founding. The freedom and liberty we enjoy is not free. It would not be

possible without the service and sacrifice of our military and all generations of our veterans. We hope that on July 4th, or any day, the citizens of Ohio take time to tell our veterans and their families thanks.

Crossword Solution

Hope you enjoyed last month's crossword puzzle. Take a look on the next page and see how you did.



Veteran Newsletter

Monthly Update



Across

1. Butterfly's youthful state of existence
6. One of Saint-Saens' musical subjects
10. Eggs of crustaceans and fish
13. Type of order
16. Stare with evil intent
17. One-time great Ohio State lineman
18. It succeeds a phone number, often
19. Florentine river
20. Start of a patriotic quote
24. Wordsworth or Frost work
25. Native American abode
26. They're in the airplane business
28. Writer Bombeck
30. Scientist's hangout?
32. Type of cotton fabric
33. Patriotic quote, continued
39. Complication of the brain in premature babies (abbr.)
40. Wheat
41. Gloria in excelsis _____
42. Helicopter hangout?
43. Star of YouTube's Overly Attached Girlfriend vids
46. Patriotic quote, continued
47. Bus driver on The Simpsons
49. American mathematician and activist
50. Language spoken in China's Hunan region
52. South American plant with large white flowers
54. Ornamental shrub also known as japonica
56. Network connection type
57. Type of diet
60. Prefix pertaining to the desert or solitude
61. Patriotic quote, continued
62. Smell
64. _____ one's trade
65. Phoenician name for Tripoli
66. Large Argentinian rodents
68. Roman sun god
69. Patriotic quote, continued
74. Substance extracted from another without chemical change
77. _____ Angeles
78. Winglike
79. Rubbish, hogwash
81. They shine in Vegas
85. Spanish ladies (abbr.)
87. Patriotic quote, continued
91. Film star Sharif
92. French river that flows into the Rhone
93. Deliberately wound a soldier with an explosive device
94. Law school organization (abbr.)
95. A habitual drunkard
96. Remnant at the bottom of a glass
97. Protein-rich vegetable
98. Tests for wannabe lawyers (abbr.)

Down

2. Priestly linen
3. Actor and comedian Jon
4. Government decision prohibitor
5. Major highway
6. One of Vivaldi's seasons (abbr.)
7. Houston Texan sackmaster
8. Pain
9. Tide in which there is the least difference between high and low tide
10. Microwave assignment



11. Kitchen supply designer
12. Italian volcano
13. Takes hold of
14. Cancel
15. A greatly appreciated aid or event
19. A sharp edge at the meeting of two surfaces that are at an angle
21. Harry Potter actress
22. Willie and Ricky
23. Clint Murchison and Sid Richardson, perhaps?
27. Thin bright green seaweed genus
29. Singer Adam
31. Warehouse for storing wine
33. American poet quoted in this puzzle
34. Cleveland neighborhood
35. Tiny quantities
36. This Gun for _____
37. Hunch-backed helper
38. Label anew
42. King David, for one
44. To the _____ degree
45. Dickens' _____ Cities
48. Delivered a speech
51. Eggo, for one
53. Line for hauling in a sail
54. Ratio of the side adjacent to a given angle to the side opposite
55. Dancing with the Stars judge
57. Alcoholic beverage made of camel's milk
58. Cry of surprise
59. Through, poetically
63. Warm dry Alpine wind
64. Native American abodes
67. Large body of water
69. Yellowish paint color
70. Firming and strengthening muscles
71. Plus more
72. Tusked whale
73. Works of the stage
75. Florentine cathedral
76. Form of consumption tax in America (abbr.)
80. Off in the distance
82. Kills, slangily
83. Roman tyrant
84. To Kill, as in a dragon
86. Actress Ward
88. Hurry or hasten
89. New York airport code
90. Canadian time zone (abbr.)