



News Release

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Military Veterans Help with Metro Ceremonies

Crosby Township – July 28, 2011 – This year’s Metro Tournament boasts a new type of color guard: ball players. When planning the largest amateur softball tournament in the nation, the tournament committee chose to keep the tournament even closer to home by inviting local ball players to present the colors during the opening ceremonies Friday, July 29.

Tom Parker, a Fairfield, Ohio native, has participated in the Metro tournament for over 17 years. He has played for numerous teams including Blitz, Cincy Sharks, E.A.P., Lucky Homes, M&S Drywall, M.R. Stone, Tom’s Renegades and Town & Country. While Parker has remained active in the softball world, more importantly, he served as a Staff Sergeant in the United States Army from 1981-1992. Returning home shortly after Desert Storm, Parker was eager to rejoin the softball tradition.

“One of my goals is to play in a Metro with my sons and grandsons,” he says with a smile.

Tammy Foust is another veteran joining this year’s flag presentation ceremonies. Foust, a Norwood High School and University of Cincinnati alumna, joined the Marine Corps in 1985 and served until 1993. Although Foust is a full-time mathematics teacher for the Norwood School District, she doubles as a ball player. She works part-time at Mid-America Ballyard and will be playing in this year’s Metro Women’s Division 1 with her team, Firehouse Tavern.

Byron Wilber, a current Army Reservist, will be joining the ceremonies after a year-long deployment ended this past March. Wilber is from Guilford, Ind. and graduated from East Central High School. He plays outfield for his team, Full Throttle, who are playing in the Metro Men’s Division 3.

Other local veterans also will be joining Friday’s ceremonies.

The Metro covers all level of play for men and women, from ultra-competitive to co-ed recreational tournaments. The Metro runs every day during the two-week stretch. Nearly 250 teams compete in the two-and-out tournament.

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