



Presidentially Speaking

Colonel Michael D. Merritt
President

Welcome back!

As this year's association president I want to personally welcome everyone to another great year with NGAA. I hope all our members and their guests had a great time at the 2010 joint conference in Rogers. I know Gina and I did, and I don't remember seeing anyone that didn't look like they were enjoying themselves. If you haven't had a chance to pass on any after action reviews/comments to your association board representative or to an NGAA officer or staffer, please take a second and give us a quick "3 ups, 3 downs". It only helps us improve future events.

Even more important than the camaraderie, networking, and relationship building that happens is the business conducted by our organization. We must be ever vigilant to the issues directly impacting the lives of the soldiers/airmen and families we have been charged with caring for. NGAA and the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) are the two organizations that can impact decisions determining how our units are manned, funded, equipped, paid, and the benefits they have access to. The huge strides made in these areas are due in no small part to the efforts of your association. There is still work to be done, and we will keep on working for you and the soldiers and airmen in your charge.

This year we will participate in the NGAUS general conference hosted by the Texas National Guard in Austin, Texas. The event is an excellent opportunity to witness what happens on your behalf at the national level, see the latest and greatest offerings from our industrial partners, and have a good time. As usual, the social activities and networking opportunities promise to be great. The Texas Governor's Reception is going to be a full blown rodeo and BBQ at the state fairgrounds. Hospitality night will be a combined effort by Arkansas and six other states that have ties to the Southeast Conference (South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana). It will be held at the Cedar Door in downtown Austin, and all are invited to wear their favorite home state college paraphernalia. Although the SEC determined the participating states, we do realize there are other schools in those states ... "Go Wonder Boys!" It promises to be a great evening.

As this year's president, my goal is to continue to build on our past efforts to:

1. Increase NGAA/NGAUS membership
2. Increase unit and individual participation
3. Increase the financial security of NGAA
4. Build on legislative relationships at the state and national levels

These aren't new issues, and they have been worked hard over the years. Thank you Tammy and Kenny for all the hard work you and your staffs put into conducting and supporting association business. These individuals are the backbone of our organization. If we continue to work on these four issues and make meaningful progress, we will continue to grow the Arkansas Army/Air National Guard into what we want it to be.

Again, welcome back to what promises to be another productive year for the National Guard Association of Arkansas.

Introducing Your New NGAA President



Colonel Michael Merritt and his wife Gina and their three daughters make their home in Dardanelle, Arkansas, where he is president of Recovery Management, Inc., a family owned business providing consulting services to communities recovering from natural and man-made disasters. They also participate in the management of the family row crop and cattle operation, also located in Dardanelle.

Colonel Merritt began his military career upon graduating from Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, Arkansas, with a degree in biology and receiving a regular Army commission in the field artillery. After completing his active duty obligation, he moved to Mississippi where he joined the 631st Field Artillery Brigade in the Mississippi Army National Guard. Upon his return to Arkansas in 1998, he joined the 142d Field Artillery Brigade. Colonel Merritt's National Guard positions have included two battery commands; numerous battalion and brigade staff positions; Arkansas OCS commandant; deputy brigade commander, 142nd Fires Brigade; and director of force structure, resources and assessment, Joint Force Headquarters. Colonel Merritt is scheduled to take command of the Fort Chaffee Maneuver Training Center in August 2010.

Colonel Merritt's military education includes the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course, CAS3, US Army Command and General Staff College; and he is currently enrolled in the Army War College.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Arkansas Emergency Service Ribbon, Arkansas Service Ribbon, Armed Forces Service Medal and the Order of Saint Barbara.

Colonel Merritt's military affiliations include membership in United States Field Artillery Association Razorback Chapter, the National Guard Association of Arkansas (NGAA), the National Guard Association of United States (NGAUS), 142d Field Artillery Brigade Association, and the Military Officer Association of America. His civilian affiliations include Rotary International, Dardanelle Chamber of Commerce and the Yell County Cattlemen's Association.

NGAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010-2011

Unit representatives on the National Guard Association of Arkansas Board of Directors for 2010-2011 are listed below. Contact your unit representative with the issues you wish to present to the board.

Colonel Michael Merritt, President
Colonel Mark Berry, First Vice President
Lieutenant Colonel Damon Cluck, Second Vice President
Colonel Tamhara Hutchins-Frye, Past President
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Kenneth Moix, Executive Director

Member

Major Matthew Anderson
Captain Kevin S. Burton
First Lieutenant John Chase
Captain Yvette Coleman
Captain Michael P. Culley
Major Christene Doyle
Captain Thomas Edwards
Captain Roger Evans
Captain Justin Ferguson
Major Richard Garringer
Captain Phoebe Gaston
First Lieutenant William Ginger
Captain Anthony Goins
First Lieutenant Andrew Graham
Captain David Grant
Major David Harrison
Captain Edward Hill
Major Marden Heuter
Major Shawn Keeter
Captain Lorne Kelley
Colonel (Ret) Tom Landers
Captain Fred Lee
Lieutenant Colonel Travis Mann
Captain Johnathan Metcalf
Major Clement Papineau
Captain Trinina Pouncy
Captain Gerald Robinson
Second Lieutenant Kenneth Simon
Major David Stapp
Lieutenant Colonel Jay Stout
Captain Adam Young

Representing

1-114th Aviation
1st Battalion, 153rd Infantry
2nd Battalion, 142nd Field Artillery
Medical Command
154th Training Squadron
142nd Fires Brigade
2nd Battalion, 153rd Infantry
875th Engineer Battalion
1st Battalion, 151st Cavalry Squadron
233rd Regional Training Institute
217th Brigade Support Battalion
184th Fighter Squadron
87th Troop Command
1st Battalion, 142nd Field Artillery
39th Brigade Support Battalion
Title 10 Officers
39th Brigade Troops Battalion
25th Rear Operations Center
77th Aviation Brigade
777th Aviation Support Battalion
Retiree Representative
188th Fighter Wing
Installation Support Unit
1st Battalion, 206th Field Artillery
Joint Force Headquarters
871st Troop Command
Headquarters, Arkansas Air National Guard
189th Airlift Wing
Headquarters, 39th Brigade Combat Team
Fort Chaffee Maneuver Training Center
National Guard Marksmanship Training Center

*THE TROPHY FOR THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE OF OFFICERS' ATTENDANCE AT
THE 2010 JOINT CONFERENCE WAS AWARDED TO THE ARMY NATIONAL
GUARD!*

Minutes – NGAA Board of Directors Meeting

June 1, 2010

Absentees

MAJ Matthew Anderson (1-114th S&S)
CPT Kevin S. Burton (1-153 Inf)
1LT John Chase (2-142 FA)
CPT Yvette Coleman (Med Cmd)
Capt Michael Culley (154 Tng Sqdn)
MAJ Christene Doyle (142 Fires Bde)
CPT Roger Evans (875 Engr Bn)
CPT Justin Ferguson (1-151 Cav)
MAJ Richard Garringer (233 RTI)
CPT Phoebe Gaston (217 BSB)
1st Lt William Ginger (184 FS) _
CPT Anthony Goins (87 Trp Cmd)
CPT David Grant (39 BSB)
CPT Edward Hill, 39 BTB
MAJ Marden Hueter (25 ROC)
Capt Fred Lee (188 FW)
LTC Travis Mann (ISU)
CPT Johnathan Metcalf (1-206 FA)
CPT Trinina Pouncy (871Trp Cmd)
MAJ David Stapp (Hq 39 I BCT) (TDY)
LTC Jay Stout (Ft Chaffee MTC)
CPT Adam Young (NGMTC)

Guests/NGAA Staff

BG Richard Swan, Chief, Joint Staff, Arkansas National Guard
SMSgt Michael Lenahan, EAANG President
Maj (Ret) James Lamb, NGAA staff
Mrs. Kimberly Winston, NGAA staff
MSG (Ret) Bob Morgan, NGAA staff
Mrs. Judy Shere, NGAA staff

Proper notice of this meeting was given prior to the meeting.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order, and a quorum was verified. Guests and new board members were recognized and welcomed. Colonel Merritt said this was his first meeting as president of the board of directors. He welcomed everyone and stressed the importance of everybody's participation and attendance at the board meetings. He noted that his vision and goals are much

the same as those of the past and include four very important things: (1) membership, (2) financial stability, (3) legislative efforts, and (4) the corporate member program. He said at the next board meeting in August we will make our first attempt at appointing committee chairpersons and will be in contact with everyone about that through e-mail very soon. He noted that a lot of progress has been made over the last few years to include a four-star representing the National Guard, pay raises in the Guard, more and better equipment, and much more.

Old Business

Minutes of the 5 January 2010 board meeting were reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes as written.

New Business

Colonel Merritt introduced SMSgt Michael Lenahan, EAANG president. Sergeant Lenahan said he is looking forward to working with NGAA this year and invited anyone with questions pertaining to the EAANG to contact him or any of the EAANG board members.

This meeting being the first since annual conference at which several new representatives were appointed, all present were asked to introduce themselves.

Board Representative Actions

Board members were asked to approve the following board representative changes:

Major Clement Papineau to fill the position of Major Regina Allen representing Joint Force Headquarters through April 2012.

Captain Lorne Kelley to fill the unexpired term of Captain Brent Pounders representing 777th ASB through April 2011.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the appointments.

Colonel Merritt presented a request from the National Guard Professional Education Center (PEC) commandant, Colonel Jack Frost, to re-establish the Title 10 position on the NGAA board of directors. He noted that the executive committee has discussed this and talked about both the negatives and positives of such action. Many Title 10 personnel attend both the state and national conferences and consistently participate in the conference exhibits shows. Their participation level is good, and a Title 10 representative will bring more paying members into the association. These will be Title 10 officers affiliated with the Arkansas National Guard. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved to re-establish the Title 10 position on the NGAA board of directors.

In anticipation of the Title 10 position being approved, Colonel Frost had also nominated an individual to fill the position. Colonel Merritt asked the board to consider Major David Harrison as Title 10 representative on the board of directors. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve this appointment.

Board of Directors Orientation

Colonel Merritt provided a brief orientation for the benefit of the new representatives on the board of directors and offered a copy of the orientation in a PowerPoint presentation to those interested (contact Judy Shere in the NGAA office for that). This information will be placed on the NGAA website at a later date.

Members were asked to review and update/correct their contact information on the member roster provided in their meeting folders. Colonel Merritt said that later in the year, members will be asked to update their unit rosters with NGAA for 100 percent unit membership purposes.

Finance and Insurance, Maj (Ret) James Lamb

A question was asked as to whether the amount of the NGAA group term life insurance could be changed (the maximum amount now offered is \$50,000). Major Lamb will pose this question to the carrier insurance company and report back with an answer at the next board meeting.

Major Lamb briefly explained a new agreement between NGAA and Aflac. It provides two new policies under a group plan: Group Critical Illness Policy and Accident Plan. He said the four Aflac policies under the previous agreement (Cancer, Specified Health Event, Hospitalization Indemnity Policy and Dental) are still available; however, the new products provide better coverage to our soldiers/airmen and their families. The

Critical Illness policy includes several diseases, including cancer; and the amount paid out in claims will be explained by the agents when the policies are presented. The Accident Plan is the one with which most people are familiar. It is the one talked about in the Aflac television commercials. It will normally pay if you get injured and cannot work. Neither of these contains a war clause; and since they are under a group plan, their rates should be down from the policies previously offered.

Colonel Merritt asked what mechanism is in place to get this new information out to the members. The response was that this will be communicated by the NGAA staff at SRP's and PHA's, and that is the only avenue available at this time. Asked how popular the Aflac insurance has been up to now, Major Lamb responded was that it has been good, with approximately 1500 policies currently in force. He added that it should get even better with the new group policies being offered. General Swan suggested that the board may want to take a look at trying to improve access to unit personnel by the NGAA insurance staff at SRP's and PHA's. He said a committee might be appointed to look into that. Major Lamb suggested that NGAA needs to get on the checklist at PHA's if at all possible. General Swan said the PHA's are really maxed out for time, so that may be a problem. Colonel Merritt said a committee will be appointed to take a look at this because the NGAA insurance is a great benefit to the soldiers.

Major Lamb presented the finance and insurance reports as of 30 April 2010. He said the association continues to stay within budget and is currently under budget. Following brief discussion, a motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the reports. He indicated that information copies of the NGAA insurance trusts financial reports were included in the member packets, adding that the trusts are managed by a separate board. Questions as to the control of this board generated a discussion that resulted in an invitation to all board members to review the trust agreements and by-laws that are available in the NGAA office. Additionally, LTC Treece will be asked to brief the board of directors on the trusts.

Major Lamb presented the 2011 budget for approval. Two areas that increased were insurance travel expense because of more PHA's scheduled at Fort Chaffee and website expense because of plans to make on-line membership dues payments possible and other upgrades during the year. NGAA is looking for the least expensive computer company to do this. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the 2011 budget.

Bank Resolutions and Transfer of Taxable Funds, Maj (Ret) James Lamb

Major Lamb asked the board to consider approval of bank resolutions for the upcoming year, explaining that this will allow the association staff to coordinate any necessary bank signature card changes generated by changes of staff members and/or elected officers. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve this action.

Major Lamb asked for authority to transfer taxable monies into the association set aside non-taxable account if such funds are identified by the auditor. This authority will allow the association staff to move those funds into the non-taxable account; however, any money that needs to be taken out of the non-taxable account would have to be approved by the board of directors. This action has never been necessary, but there is a set aside account in place to receive such funds in the event it is needed. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve this action.

2011 General Conference

The 2011 general conference is set for 8-10 April 2011 in Hot Springs at the Hot Springs Convention Center, Austin Hotel and Embassy Suites. All hospitality suites will be on one floor in the same hotel. This year's conference will not be linked to the adjutant general's leadership conference as it was last year. The board does need to consider whether we want a joint conference with the Enlisted Association. EAANG does not have a time and place established for its 2011 conference, and the presidents of both associations agreed to present the joint conference proposal to their board members. We need to provide our decision to the EAANG president by the end of next week. If the board members do not want to make a decision here today, it will be necessary to take an e-mail vote before the end of next week. If a joint conference is the decision, we will most likely have to get the Arlington Hotel involved in order to take care of everybody. Following a lengthy discussion, a motion was made to approve a joint NGAA/EAANG conference in 2011 with the stipulation that NGAA will not incur any significant additional costs for EAANG events; i.e., they will be responsible for their own meeting rooms, etc. The motion was seconded and approved.

2012 General Conference

The 2012 general conference will be in Little Rock. The elected officers have met with the Peabody Hotel, but no contract has been signed yet.

NGAUS Conference

The 132nd NGAUS general conference is scheduled 20-23 August 2010 in Austin, Texas. Colonel Merritt encouraged everyone to attend. He said Arkansas and all the SEC states except Alabama and Kentucky have rented a sports bar and restaurant on hospitality night for the entire evening where each state will display their state's sports themes. In addition, the Governor's reception includes a Texas rodeo at the state fairgrounds, and the states' dinner will be an informal affair with western attire suggested. NGAA will provide shirts and trading pins for the Arkansas delegation. This will be a super event. The final date NGAA can accept registration forms and ensure assignment to one of the reserved rooms for Arkansas attendees is 25 June 2010. After that, attendees will have to make their own hotel reservations.

Other Comments

Asked if NGAA is verifying whether scholarship recipients actually attend school after receiving their scholarship payments, the answer was no. A motion was made that the scholarship program be amended to put such verification process in place. Following some discussion, the motion was amended to present a request to the NGAA Trusts Board that verification process of attendance at school by scholarship recipients be put in place. This motion was seconded and approved.

A board representative had been asked to report his unit's overwhelming negative response to the gate guards posted outside the hospitality suite area at last year's conference. Colonel Merritt responded that the point was well taken and said if a similar situation presents again, that issue will be taken into consideration.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled board of directors meeting is Tuesday, 3 August 2010, in the NGAA conference room. Dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m., and the meeting will start at 5:45 p.m. A reminder will be sent prior to the meeting date.

Adjournment

There was no further business, and the meeting adjourned.

NEW NGAA PARTNERS IN PATRIOTISM

We are pleased to welcome nine new *Partners in Patriotism* to our corporate member family this year. They are:

Laser Shot, Inc. ... Gold Level

Laser Shot is the global leader in firearm and force option training solutions. Innovative products incorporate the latest technologies in developing accurate, dependable, and effective use of firearms by military, law enforcement, and other public safety professionals. Laser Shot training solutions are employed by thousands of military and law enforcement agencies around the world every day. Unique solutions enable progressive training from realistic laser-based engagements to ultra-realistic live-fire exercises. As the designer and producer of training software, hardware, and shooting ranges, Laser Shot can fill any agency's firearm training needs. Visit their website at www.lasershot.com.

W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc. ... Gold Level

Founded in 1958, W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc., is a privately-held company headquartered in Newark, Delaware. For more than 50 years, Gore has built a worldwide reputation for ethics and integrity in its dealings with customers, suppliers, and employees, and for taking a long-term view when assessing business situations. Gore has approximately 9,000 employees, called associates, located in 30 countries worldwide, with manufacturing facilities in the United States, Germany, Scotland, Japan, and China, and sales offices around the world. While they may be best known for their GORE-TEX® fabrics, all their products are distinguished in their markets. Gore creates next-generation cable assemblies and components for the electronics industry, sets the standard for outerwear comfort and protection, and solves difficult industrial problems with innovative materials and technology. More information may be found at www.gore.com.

ADS, Inc. Corporate Level

ADS provides equipment and logistics services solutions to all DOD and federal agencies in support of homeland defense and homeland security. No matter what uniform you wear, the ADS mission is to provide the specialized equipment and related services needed to complete the mission at home, in theater, or around the globe. ADS provides industry-leading tactical gear, special operational equipment and logistics support solutions to DOD and federal agencies in support of homeland security as well as security, government and protective services organizations. By combining a wide range of contractual vehicles that are simple and efficient to use, innovative logistics solutions and deep product selection, ADS truly is taking operational equipment procurement and logistics support to the next level. Its mission is to provide the specialized equipment and related services their customers need to complete their objectives around the globe. Find out more about ADS at www.adsinc.com.

Amtech, LLC ... Corporate Level

Recognized as one of the fastest growing and most innovative small businesses in the State of Washington, Amtech is a diverse manufacturer of composite-based products and parts. With expertise in design, engineering, and research and development, Amtech's products are distributed in both military and commercial markets. Established in 1987, Amtech employs a growing workforce of skilled technicians, working in two specialized plants in Washington. The company's talents include fiberglass, resin transfer molding (RTM), vacuum assist RTM (VARTM), large and small vacuum-form plastics capabilities, finishing, and value-added assembly and custom packaging. In addition to build-to-print manufacturing of custom parts and assemblies in the transportation, recreational vehicle, and construction equipment markets, Amtech has several lines of proprietary products including Military Helmet Hardtop® Shelters, Trailer Tops, and Short Cargo Bed Covers, Mobile Advantage® Meal Delivery Vehicles and LAVTEC® Seamless Bathroom Modules. Amtech's website is www.amtechcorp.com.

The Boeing Company ... Corporate Level

Boeing is the world's leading aerospace company and the largest manufacturer of commercial jetliners and military aircraft combined. Additionally, Boeing designs and manufactures rotorcraft, electronic and defense systems, missiles, satellites, launch vehicles and advanced information and communication systems. As a major service provider to NASA, Boeing operates the space shuttle and International Space Station. The company also provides numerous military and commercial airline support services. Boeing has customers in more than 90 countries around the world and is one of the largest U.S. exporters in terms of sales. Visit their website at www.boeing.com.

EADS North America ... Corporate Level

EADS North America is the U.S. holding company for the North American activities of EADS, the world's second largest aerospace and defense company and the largest in Europe. The company offers a wide range of capabilities, including defense systems, military and civilian fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, professional mobile radio solutions, emergency call center management and radio dispatch services, avionics and controls, test equipment and services, as well as computer and network security solutions. For more information, visit www.eadsnorthamerica.com.

Perkins Technical Services, Inc. ... Corporate Level

Home of the AC & AC/DC Power Supply Docking Stations for dismantled tactical radios, the success of PTS is the direct result of a commitment to a high standard of performance. Its business strategy is to partner with customers and provide a supportive environment to develop and assist them in meeting their goals while practicing good stewardship in all areas of business. To that end, the employees of PTS take pride in their record of providing innovative solutions for customers' needs and requirements. For more information, go to www.pts-inc.com.

Pinnacle Pointe Hospital ... Corporate Level

Pinnacle Pointe Behavioral HealthCare has provided mental health services to families in Arkansas and surrounding states since 1991. They specialize in programs for children ages 5-17 with individualized treatment for each child. Their mission is to provide a safe, secure and nurturing environment, and their belief is that early intervention is key to a child's success. Their philosophy is supported by a system of care that includes inpatient services (acute and residential), outpatient services, community based services, day treatment school and professional and community education. Pinnacle Pointe Hospital is a TRICARE-approved and certified facility. Their website is www.pinnaclepointehospital.com.

Tyson Foods, Inc. ... Corporate Level

Tyson is extensively involved in hunger relief, the community and the environment. Since joining the fight against hunger in 2000, Tyson Foods has partnered with several national organizations to help make a difference. Through those partnerships, they have donated more than 73 million pounds of chicken, beef or pork to food banks and agencies serving local communities around the country. Environmental stewardship is a core value of Tyson Foods' business philosophy. The company strives to use the latest technology in their facilities and works to develop and implement new environmental advances as they become available. Their efforts in continual improvement, natural farming techniques, water quality, and greenhouse gas emission reductions show Tyson's commitment to environmental stewardship. You can read about the many ways Tyson helps communities across America by visiting their website at www.tyson.com.

NGAA CORPORATE MEMBERS

Headline Corporate Member

Engineering Environmental Management, Inc.
Coca Cola Bottling Company of Arkansas
Pepsi Americas

Platinum Corporate Member

Aflac Insurance
Nabholz Construction Corporation
Recovery Management, Inc.

Gold Corporate Member

Arkansas National Guard MWR
DRS Technologies
Laser Shot, Inc.
W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.

Corporate Member

ADS, Inc.
Amtech, LLC
The Boeing Company
EADS North America
Embassy Suites Northwest Arkansas
Humana Military Healthcare Services
Old Mill Wines and Spirits
Perkins Technical Services, Inc.
Pinnacle Pointe Hospital
Tyson Foods, Inc.

NGAA GOALS

- Serve those serving
- Achieve 100 percent annual dues paying membership
- Increase corporate membership income by \$10K
- Foster working relationships with state legislators and members of Congress to achieve goals of command and association interest
- Sustain a minimum of 70 percent participation level in the group term life insurance program

TRICARE GRAY AREA RETIREES

Retired National Guard and Reserve personnel may be able to buy Tricare health coverage as soon as October 1, 2010. This is part of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2010. Until this became law, reserve component retirees did not have the option of Tricare coverage until age 60. After the start-up date, which was given to NGAUS by an official with the Tricare Management Activity, these so called "gray area" retirees who are not yet 60 may purchase Tricare Standard and Extra coverage. The law requires premium rates to equal the full cost of the coverage. This differs from Tricare Reserve Select for reserve members who pay 28 percent of the cost of coverage. Premium rates are not yet available for the gray area retirees' coverage. More information is available at www.tricare.mil (Source: NGAUS Washington report, 11 May 2010).

COMPANY GRADE OFFICER AWARDS

The NGAA Company Grade Officers for the Year 2009 received special recognition during the NGAA Conference business session on Saturday, April 10, 2010. Selected for the award were:

Captain Johnathan Metcalf
First Battalion, 206th Field Artillery
Arkansas Army National Guard

Captain Sarah O'Banion
154th Training Squadron
Arkansas Air National Guard

WO1 David Turpin
875th Engineer Battalion
Arkansas Army National Guard

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND



National Guard Association of the United States

132nd General Conference and Exhibition

*August 20th - 23rd, 2010
Austin Convention Center
Austin, Texas*

Program: www.ngaus.org

Hosted by the Texas National Guard

AUSTIN AWAITS!

With the successful completion of our state conference, it is once again time to turn our thoughts toward the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) general conference. This year's conference will be in Austin, Texas, August 20th – 23rd. We hope to have a large Arkansas delegation to promote our conference resolutions and goals that will benefit not only Arkansas' guardsmen and women but the entire National Guard.

Conference activities include officer professional development (OPD) opportunities and business meetings involving many of our nation's military and political leaders. Events involving our resolutions committee begin Friday, August 20th. The fun and excitement begins that evening at the company grade officer mixer at the Scholz Garten with a lot of good food, music and cold beer. Not to be outdone, that same evening, Stubb's BBQ will serve their legendary Texas style barbeque beef, pork, and turkey slow smoked to perfection to the warrant officers at their mixer. On Saturday evening, August 21st, everyone is invited to the Governor's reception for a colorful, action-packed authentic Texas style rodeo complete with a meal.

To ensure our spouses and guests enjoy the day while the officers attend meetings, there will be four adventure trips from which to choose on Sunday, August 22nd a Riverwalk Ramble in San Antonio, Shopping Therapy at the San Marcos Outlet Mall, a visit to Texas Hill Country Antiques at Fredericksburg, and an Austin shopping trip to Remember the Domain with its impeccable restaurants and luxury shops such as Neiman-Marcus and Macy's. Sunday is also Hospitality Night. Arkansas will join with other Southeast Conference (SEC) states to sponsor a great night of food, drink and fun. Our plans take us to The Cedar Door, a local restaurant and sports bar, where we can enjoy their house specialty drink, "The Frozen Martini". Reports indicate that this is a drink you will never forget (unless of course you have too many!). Plenty of food will be available as well. In addition, the other states will be hosting their own hospitality events; so everyone can spend the evening visiting the different states' hospitality locations and sampling their down home food and beverages.

Then on Monday, August 23rd, the conference concludes with the States Dinner in the Grand Ballroom of the Austin Convention Center. The attire for this event is described as "Texas formal", so bring your cowboy hat and boots! Arkansas, along with the other 100 percent association membership states, will enjoy preferred seating at the dinner and the following fantastic entertainment.

Other events during the conference include the NGAUS golf tournament, fun run and a retiree luncheon. Youngsters (ages 13-18) can participate in the Backpack Journalism Program which encompasses newsgathering, writing and photography techniques. Browse through the conference schedule of events and other appropriate links at www.ngaus.org to learn much more about the conference.

The Arkansas delegation will lodge at the Sheraton Hotel and Resort in Austin. Located at 701 East 11th Street, we will be minutes away and within walking distance of Austin's famous 6th Street entertainment district. NGAA has reserved fifty sleeping rooms at the Sheraton. In addition, the Arkansas hospitality room will provide breakfast, lunch, snacks and beverages each day for our delegation. This room is for our delegation's use to visit with fellow delegates and NGAA corporate members in attendance.

Conference registration is \$165.00 per person. A registration form is available at this website (under What's New on the Home Page, click on 132nd NGAUS Conference). Hotel rooms are \$145.00 per night plus 15% tax. A \$100.00 room deposit will be required along with your registration form and payment. The room deposit will be credited to your hotel bill upon checkout. When you submit your completed registration form to NGAA you will automatically be assigned to one of our reserved rooms at the Sheraton. If you do not wish to stay at the Sheraton, please indicate that on your registration form; but you must then make your own arrangements. The final date that NGAA can accept your registration form and ensure your assignment to one of our reserved rooms is June 25th. After that date, any unused reserved rooms will go back to the hotel. You may still register to attend the conference until August 20th, but NGAA cannot guarantee you a room. You will have to make your own room reservations after June 25th. If, after registering, you are unable to attend the conference, you must inform the NGAA staff prior to August 22nd if you wish reimbursement.

If traveling by air to and/or from Austin, please fill in the appropriate travel blocks on the conference registration form. The host state will use this information to provide free transportation to and from the airport on August 19th, 20th, and 24th. If you plan to arrive or depart on dates other than these, you must make your own arrangements.

As is our custom, NGAA will provide each member of the Arkansas delegation with a shirt designed appropriately for the conference; so please indicate your shirt size(s) on the conference registration form. Our association president will ask everyone to wear the shirts during one of the events to show our "team spirit". Trading pins will also be provided for swapping with other states.

The NGAA staff will be glad to answer your questions and help you with your NGAUS conference registration. Contact us at 1-800-522-1617 or 501-758-6422. See you in Austin!

2010-2011 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The National Guard Association of Arkansas and the Enlisted Association of the Arkansas National Guard awarded \$500 college scholarships to each individual listed below for the academic year 2010-2011.

BRENT M. BARGIEL

KATIE L. BARNHILL

MICHAEL J. BERRY

BRANDON L. BRADSHAW

DONALD W. BROOKS, JR.

DAMON J. BULLOCK

JUDD C. BURNS

EMILY M. CARTER

ALLISON N. COX

KAYLA B. DAVISON

JOHN C. DOSTER

ALYSSIA D. DUVALL

STEPHANEE C. EVANS

BYRON GALLOWAY, JR.

RACHEL E. KLEMMER

JUSTIN L. KRAEMER

SIDNEY MOORE

JOEL A. NEWBURN

MARY A. NEWBURN

HANNAH L. NOLAN

JOSHUA A. NORMAN

HANNAH G. POSEY

JESSICA L. POWELL

MARISA C. SIEVER

LEONARD T. SMITH

MEGAN J. SPENCER

JACQUELINE R. STORTI

MYRANDA S. THOMEN

KIMBERLY WINSTON

MATTHEW L. WOLFF

ANNUAL PARTNERS IN PATRIOTISM GOLF TOURNAMENT

The annual NGAA *Partners in Patriotism* golf tournament at the Shadow Valley, Rogers, Arkansas, on Wednesday, April 7th, 2010, kicked off the NGAA conference weekend in Rogers. Thirty-six players competed in the two-person scramble starting at noon.

NGAA corporate member Mike Cassio and Rod Sweetman of Senator Blanche Lincoln's Little Rock office won the overall tournament.

Special thanks to the NGAA corporate members for sponsoring the tournament and contributing significantly to the huge success of this activity. Many thanks as well to Tenise Gardner and Wes Nichols who helped organize the tournament and to Anthony Goins and Mike Culley for their assistance at the event.

NGAA Welcomes New Staff Member

Mrs. Kimberly Winston joined the NGAA staff in January as insurance and programs coordinator, replacing Major (Ret) James Lamb who now serves as accounting/budget and office manager for the association. Kimberly comes to Arkansas from Martinez, Georgia. She previously worked in the finance field for 15 years. Kimberly is married to Staff Sergeant Tony Winston, human resources administrative NCO at Headquarters, 233rd Regional Training Institute, Arkansas Army National Guard. The couple lives in Maumelle and are the proud parents of Angelica Winston (16), Joseph Mozee (13), Tony Winston, Jr. (11), and Haley Isenhour (7).

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Coming Events

NGAA Trusts Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
NGAA Board of Directors Meeting, 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 3, 2010
NGAA Office, Building 8100, Camp Robinson

National Guard Association of the United States
132nd General Conference and Exhibition
August 20 - 23, 2010
Austin, Texas