

# NGAA News

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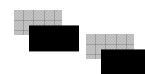
## *Official Call – NGAA General Conference 2013*

The National Guard Association of Arkansas will convene April 12-14, 2013, in Fort Smith, Arkansas, at the Fort Smith Holiday Inn and Convention Center. This is a time for important information to be shared, new officers to be elected, and impressive speakers heard. Make plans now to join the fun and fellowship and take care of business. The fun begins on Friday evening with the President's Reception and the several hospitality suites hosted by the various National Guard units. Saturday promises to be a full day beginning with the business session and auxiliary meeting of spouses in the morning. On Saturday evening, the formal military banquet is the highlight of the conference with the ever impressive parade of commanders and offerings of excellent food and drink.

Everyone is encouraged to visit the conference exhibition hall where both local and national vendors will offer new and exciting displays throughout the conference.

For the golfers, the NGAA *Partners in Patriotism* golf tournament is scheduled on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Fianna Hills Country Club. Thanks to the very generous sponsorship of NGAA Headline and Platinum corporate members, this annual golf tournament has grown into an event of ever increasing premier quality in recent years.

Additional information, to include the conference registration form, golf tournament registration form, ANGAA membership form and a draft program of events is available at this website (click on [2013 State Conference](#)).



## *From the Executive Director .....*

This is an eventful time for our association. The NGAA executive board and staff members have certainly been busy. The minutes of the last board of directors meeting on January 8, 2013, are included in this newsletter. During that meeting, discussion concerning the upcoming state conference to be held in Fort Smith began and committee chairpersons were named. A recent site visit to Fort Smith resulted in the identification of hospitality rooms and unit assignments. Meeting and event spaces were determined, and the menu was selected for the banquet. The conference committee members and association officers will meet in February and March to consolidate conference activities and ensure an informative and enjoyable conference. The conference is scheduled April 12-14, 2013, at the Fort Smith Holiday Inn and Convention Center. Additional information is available on our website to include links to register for the conference, golf tournament and hotel. I hope to see all of you there.

The deadline is fast approaching for units to reach 100 percent unit membership and receive recognition at the state conference for that accomplishment.

The NGAA/EAANG scholarship program is alive and well. The number of applications received for the 2013-2014 school year is 104! Scholarships will be awarded to the top forty applicants. The \$750.00 scholarships may be used for any and all college expenses. Recipients will be notified and announced soon.

In January, Major Mike Culley, NGAA first vice president, and Mr. James Lamb, NGAA staff, accompanied me to the National Guard Executive Directors Association (NGEDA) Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. Presentations by Major General Stephen Danner, NGAUS chairman of the board, and Major General (Ret) Gus Hargett, NGAUS president, were among the many highlights and informational events of the conference. Other actions included election of the 2013 NGEDA executive committee. Janet Cowley, executive director of the Wyoming National Guard Association was elected president. Yours truly was elected 1<sup>st</sup> vice president, and I will assume the duties of president in 2014. Roberta Jansen, executive director, Oregon National Guard Association, is now 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president; and outgoing president, Michele Henry, executive director in Kansas, is the past president. A major objective at the NGEDA Conference was selection of hotels and allocation of hotel rooms to each state for the upcoming NGAUS Conference in September. The Arkansas delegation will be housed at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel. Watch the NGAA website for NGAUS Conference details and registration forms coming soon.

Other events coming up at which I will represent our association are a NGAUS legislative workshop in February and the NGAUS board of directors meeting in March; both in Washington, D.C.

On a personal note, my hematologist, after draining me of a mere fourteen tubes of blood and conducting numerous tests and reviewing existing medical files, has determined that I have no blood abnormalities or diseases. He, as well as all the other doctors I've seen during the past year, are perplexed as to why I developed the blood clot that hospitalized me last April. Since he cannot determine the cause, Coumadin (warfarin) doses remain the only course of medication. I do appreciate all your prayers, best wishes and concerns. Hopefully, this April I will be able to attend our conference.

As always, many thanks for allowing me to serve as your executive director.

*Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Kenneth E. Moix*

## *Election Time ....*

The terms of NGAA board of directors' representatives for the units listed below will expire in April. Individuals nominated to fill the positions will be confirmed during the business session at the general conference in April. Commanders of the units listed are asked to nominate an individual to represent their unit for the next two years or request the current representative remain for a new two-year term.

Hq Arkansas ANG  
188<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing  
154<sup>th</sup> Tng Sqdn  
Medical Command  
ISU

Hq 87<sup>th</sup> Trp Cmd  
871<sup>st</sup> Trp Cmd  
875<sup>th</sup> Engr Bn  
777<sup>th</sup> Avn Spt Bn  
1-206<sup>th</sup> FA

1-153<sup>rd</sup> Inf  
2-153<sup>rd</sup> Inf  
Hq 142<sup>nd</sup> Fires Bde  
2-142<sup>nd</sup> FA

The nominee must be a current annual member or life member of NGAA. The duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to, attending regular and special board meetings and performing any and all duties imposed by the articles of incorporation or the association bylaws.

Thank you for your continued support of your association. We encourage unit members to recommend potential nominees for these positions to their commanders. With the help of our current and newly appointed board members, we look forward to a progressive and exciting future for your organization.



### **PLAN TO ATTEND**

## ***National Guard Association of the United States***

### ***135th General Conference and Exhibition***

***September 20 - 23, 2013  
Hawaii Convention Center  
Honolulu, Hawaii***

***Program: [www.ngaus.org](http://www.ngaus.org)***

***Hosted by the Hawaii National Guard***

# *Minutes ~ NGAA Board of Directors Meeting*

*January 8, 2013*

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## **Absentees**

Col Mark Berry, Past President  
MAJ James Hall (233 RTI)  
1LT Christopher Hart (1-114Avn)(Deployed)  
CW2 Lucien McConnell (871 Trp Cmd)  
Maj Gerald Robinson (Hq AR ANG) (TDY)  
MAJ Tommy Smith (NGMTC)(TDY)  
MAJ Kevin Truslow (777 ASB)

## **Guests/NGAA Staff**

COL Cary Shillcutt, Chief, Joint Staff  
Col Tamhara Hutchins-Frye, Director, Air Staff  
COL (P) Keith Klemmer, JFHQ  
LTC Tommie Brasfield, 233 RTI  
LTC Vixen James, CMTC  
Lt Col Wes Nichols, Chair, Golf Tournament Committee  
Maj John Hunt, Chair, Conference Business Session Sergeant at Arms  
MAJ Shawn Keeter, 1-114<sup>th</sup> Avn  
CPT Rick Caldwell, NGMTC  
James Lamb, NGAA staff  
Bob Morgan, NGAA staff  
Judy Shere, NGAA staff

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

## **Call to Order**

.The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m., and a quorum was verified. Guests were recognized and welcomed.  
(Note: Before dinner earlier in the evening, MG Wofford stepped in and expressed his thanks and appreciation to the board members for what they do for the Guard, adding that their work is important and has direct results on the future of the Guard.)

## **Old Business**

The minutes of the 2 October 2012 board meeting were reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes as written.

## **New Business**

### **Board Representative Actions**

Representatives were asked to approve the following board representative changes:

MAJ James Nolley to fill the unexpired term of CPT Noyal Brasfield representing 39<sup>th</sup> BSB through April 2014  
CW4 Arthur Troy to fill the unexpired term of LTC Clement Papineau representing JFHQ through April 2014

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

### **Finance Report, James Lamb**

The finance report as of 30 November 2012 was presented for approval. There were no questions, and a motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the report as presented.

Mr. Lamb asked for approval to move funds from one line item to another when deemed necessary, adding that the board would be advised when that is done. Discussion resulted in a motion that the NGAA office manager be allowed reprogramming authority between accounts up to \$2500 with the consent of the NGAA executive director with all actions to be presented at each board meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

The NGAA staff continues to attend PHA's to review insurance and provide policy services to Guard members. LTC Cluck stressed the need to work on scheduling with the Air National Guard. Col Hutchins-Frye said that the ANG

retention office is working on this issue and will see that scheduling improves. LTC Cluck reminded everyone that the NGAA insurance program funds the NGAA/EAANG scholarship program and is just one of the reasons it needs our full support.

#### Insurance Report, James Lamb

There are 5785 policies in force at this time, and death claims in the amount of \$390,000 have been paid during the 2012-2013 insurance year as of this date.

#### Membership, James Lamb

Unit officer rosters were provided to board members that had not received those for updating. A copy of a new NGAA membership application form/membership card was provided to board members. The 39<sup>th</sup> BSB has reached 100 percent membership and some other units are very close to 100 percent. NGAA hopes to have all membership dues paid immediately following the March drills in order to qualify for a substantial rebate from NGAUS.

LTC Cluck conducted briefings at the 188<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing last week using an updated PowerPoint presentation that promotes membership in the NGAA and highlights legislative accomplishments and the NGAA/EAANG scholarship and insurance programs. Copies of the presentation are available at the NGAA office for board representatives' use within their units during OPD training, office call, etc.

#### Strategic Planning, LTC Cluck

A group consisting of the NGAA executive committee and selected NGAA past presidents met last September to work on a plan to establish a new vision, mission, values and goals (to include objectives) for the association. Included in this planning is a proposed reorganization of the existing NGAA trusts into a 501C3 entity. The group will meet again next month, and some of the board representatives may be asked to become involved in developing action plans to support the new goals.

#### 2013 NGAA Conference Site Visit, LTC Moix

LTC Moix and selected conference committee chairpersons visited the Fort Smith Holiday Inn and Convention Center on 6 December 2012 to make preliminary plans for 2013 conference activities to include:

President's reception on Friday evening with heavy hors d'oeuvres from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Hospitality suites will be asked to remain closed during that hour.

Five rooms have been reserved for unit hospitality suites. Major Gerald Robinson will make those room assignments. Governor Beebe has been invited to speak at the conference business session; however, we cannot confirm his availability until mid-February.

Major Fred Lee, banquet chairman, reported that a good menu has been selected. Mr. Walt Coleman of the Coleman Dairy family has accepted our invitation to speak at the banquet. He is an executive with Coleman Dairy and a long time NFL referee with many interesting stories to share.

The golf tournament budget should be lower than normal at the Fianna Country Club as their dining room will not be available for lunch and the fare is likely to be box lunches.

Elements of the 106 Army Band will be coming again this year to perform at the several venues to include following the banquet where a dance floor will be available.

Chapel service Sunday morning in the hotel at 9:00 a.m.

#### 2013 NGAA Conference Update, LTC Cluck

LTC Cluck discussed the NGAA conference registration fee. The only event at the conference that does not require payment of the registration fee is the business session. Members participating in any other event(s) must pay the registration fee.

Officer professional development sessions will be offered on Saturday afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Some good information will be available for company grade officers.

One photographer has expressed interest in providing photography services for the conference. The NGAA executive committee will be accepting bids/proposals from interested parties. Proposals should include making photos at the golf tournament, banquet, and some of the other conference activities. All income from individual/couples photos at the banquet will belong to the photographer. Representatives were asked to let NGAA know if they know of anyone interested in providing photography service. A decision as to a photographer will be made at the February or March conference committee meeting.

#### 2013 Conference Committee Meetings

5 February 2013 (3:30 p.m.)

5 March 2013 (3:30 p.m.)

### **Other Discussion**

The NGAA trusts board met earlier this afternoon, and its members nominated SMSgt Michael Lenahan to fill the position vacated by SSG (Ret) Stephanie Wynn whose term ended 31 December 2012. The NGAA board of directors is asked to approve the nomination of SMSGT Lenahan to commence a 5-year term ending 31 December 2017. MSgt Lenahan is a past EAANG president and sat on the trusts board for one year during his presidency. He will retire from the Air National Guard soon and will have time to devote to the position. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve MSgt Lenahan to serve on the NGAA trusts board through 31 December 2017.

The deadline for submission of completed scholarship applications is 15 January 2013.

LTC Moix urged representatives to respond to e-mail notices for board meetings. If you are not receiving the notices, please check with the NGAA office to ensure we have a good e-mail address that you check regularly.

### **Next Meeting**

The next scheduled board of directors meeting is Tuesday, 4 June 2013, 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.



## *In Appreciation .....*



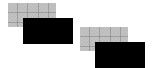
The NGAA elected officers and staff never cease to be amazed at the incredible group of individuals they are privileged to work with – the NGAA board of directors. It is a pleasure to share their stories with our members in our newsletters. Having served on the board for the past three years, Captain Tommy Edwards is our focus in this issue.

Captain Edwards graduated from Beebe High School, Beebe, Arkansas, in 2000, and he received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 2006.

His military career began in 2002, and upon graduating with Class 47 of the Arkansas Army National Guard Officer Candidate School in 2004, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant. An infantry officer, he has served in a variety of command and staff positions. His first assignment was commander of the National Guard Marksmanship Training Unit where he also entered the Arkansas National Guard full time technician workforce as that unit's operations officer. He currently serves as S3 Air and full time battalion training officer for 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 153<sup>rd</sup> Infantry. His many awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, and numerous other state and federal decorations. He was recognized in 2007 as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations Employee of the Year and was named 2011 NGAA Company Grade Officer of the Year (Army).

Captain Edwards resides in Beebe, Arkansas, where he regularly gives back to his community by volunteering his limited time off coaching baseball and soccer in youth leagues with Beebe Parks and Recreation. He is active in the Harrison Chapel Baptist Church and regularly attends civic meetings and events on behalf of the Guard, providing community leaders with his expert knowledge of Guard resources. He continuously works with local school officials in providing high school seniors with information on career opportunities in the Arkansas National Guard. He enjoys all outdoor activities ... coaching, hunting, fishing and golf to name just a few. He and his wife, Emily, have two children, Jackson Thomas and Gracelynn Victoria.

After being elected to serve on the NGAA board of directors, Captain Edwards quickly became an important talent within the association. He has attended the last four state conferences and the 2012 NGAUS Conference. He currently serves on two of our most challenging state conference planning committees – the unit hospitality suites and golf tournament committees. The association is fortunate indeed that Captain Edwards has chosen to share his outstanding talents and enthusiasm with us.



# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

## Membership

NGAA/NGAUS 2013 membership renewals are due and payable. The cut-off date to qualify your unit for a 100 percent membership award at state conference is 15 March 2013. Your membership renewal is still very important even after the 100 percent unit cutoff date since our 2013 NGAUS Conference delegation count depends on the number of state association renewals.

We continue to accept membership payments, and everyone is urged to pay as soon as possible. Dues may be paid online at the NGAA website, [www.ngaa.org](http://www.ngaa.org).

## NGAA/EAANG Scholarships 2013-2014

The closing date for submission of 2013-2014 NGAA/EAANG scholarship applications was 15 January 2013. The scholarships committee is in the process of reviewing the applications submitted. Scholarship recipients will be determined and notified in the March-April timeframe.

The \$750 scholarships may be used for any and all college expenses. Forty scholarships will be awarded to members of the National Guard Association of Arkansas, members of the Enlisted Association of the Arkansas National Guard and dependents of current, retired or deceased members of NGAA/EAANG.

## Company Grade Officer Award Program

Colonel Cary Shillcutt, co-chairman of the NGAA Company Grade Officer Awards Committee recently sent a communiqué to commanders of battalions, squadrons, higher headquarters and separate units of the Arkansas National Guard outlining the criteria for the 2012 NGAA Company Grade Officer Award and asks for nominations no later than March 5, 2013. The committee is especially interested in receiving a large number of nominations of our deserving company grade officers for these awards.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning this program, you may contact Lieutenant Colonel Erica Ingram, Committee Co-Chair, [erica.ingram@us.army.mil](mailto:erica.ingram@us.army.mil), or the NGAA office at (501) 758-6422/1-800-522-1617.

## Resolutions

The deadline for submission of proposed resolutions is 1 March 2013. Detailed information and the electronic input form are available at the NGAA website, [www.ngaa.org](http://www.ngaa.org) (click on Legislative). You are encouraged participate in this process by submitting your thoughts and ideas about National Guard issues that you would like to see addressed in the form of a proposed resolution.

If you have questions, contact the NGAA resolutions committee co-chairs Captain Rex Thomen (ARNG) ([rex.a.thomen.mil@mail.mil](mailto:rex.a.thomen.mil@mail.mil)) or Major Michael Culley (ANG) ([michael.culley.1@ang.af.mil](mailto:michael.culley.1@ang.af.mil)).

## Let Us Hear From You ...

The NGAA office regularly uses e-mail as a means for quick dissemination of items of interest to our members. If you are not currently on our e-mail contact list, please send your e-mail address to [jshere@nga.org](mailto:jshere@nga.org) or [kmoix@ngaa.org](mailto:kmoix@ngaa.org). In addition, please keep us updated with your current mailing address. Your input and ideas are always welcome concerning any and all issues that are important to you. NGAA works for YOU!

## **New Partners in Patriotism**

We are pleased to welcome two new organizations to our corporate member family as our *Partners in Patriotism*

**METOVA.** Since 2006, Metova has been specializing in mobile application development. The company develops applications for Android, iPhone and iPad, Blackberry and Windows Phone platforms including both smartphones and tablets. The company has grown to well over twenty members.

Metova values long-term relationships with its customers, realizing the work doesn't end even though a project has been launched. The mobile application marketplace is ever changing, and Metova is always ready to help its customers adapt and take the lead.

Their mobile applications are developed with a high level of customer involvement and a turnaround time measured in weeks rather than months. In addition to their solid process and expert development skills, Metova provides its customers with expert design, usability and marketing strategy.

### **NORTHROP GRUMMAN SYSTEMS CORPORATION**

Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation designs, develops, and manufactures various defense electronics and systems. It offers airborne radar systems, secondary surveillance systems, inertial navigation systems and sensors, electronic warfare systems, precision weapons, air traffic control systems, air defense and communications systems, space and marine systems, oceanic and naval systems, integrated avionics systems, and automation and information systems. The company offers airborne early warning, electronic warfare and surveillance, and battlefield management systems; and spacecraft systems and subsystems, electronic systems, space science instruments, environmental monitoring space systems, and avionics systems. It also designs, constructs, repairs, maintains, overhauls, and refuels surface ships, nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, and submarines for the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, international navies, and commercial vessels. In addition, Northrop Grumman integrates systems in the areas of command, control and intelligence systems, missile systems, and federal and civil information systems. The company provides its products and services in defense and commercial electronics, nuclear and nonnuclear shipbuilding, mission systems, systems integration, and space technology primarily in the United States. It primarily serves the U.S. and international military, government, and commercial customers. The company was formerly known as Northrop Grumman Corporation and it changed its name to Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation in April, 2001. The company was founded in 1939 and is based in Los Angeles, California. Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation operates as a subsidiary of Northrop Grumman Corporation.

### **PERKINS TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC.**

Home of AC and AC/DC power supply docking stations for dismounted tactical radios, the success of Perkins Technical Services is the direct result of a commitment to a high standard of performance. Its business strategy is to partner with customers, 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 their customers' needs and requirements.

## ***NGAA Corporate Members***

### **Headline Corporate Member**

HDR Environmental, Operations & Construction, Inc.  
Coca Cola Enterprises of Arkansas  
Pepsi Beverages Company

### **Platinum Corporate Member**

Nabholz Construction Corporation

### **Gold Corporate Member**

Arkansas National Guard MWR  
Ben E. Keith  
DRS Technologies  
W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.

### **Corporate Member**

Amtech, LLC  
Arkansas Blue Cross & Blue Shield  
Arkansas Federal Credit Union  
BAE Systems, Land & Armaments  
The Boeing Company  
DHS Technologies LLC (DRASH)  
EADS North America  
Fort Smith Arkansas Convention Group  
GE Aviation  
Hog Wild Wines and Spirits, Inc.  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center, NW Arkansas  
Humana Military Healthcare Services  
Metova  
Northrop Grumman Laser Systems  
Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation  
Perkins Technical Services, Inc.  
Tyson Foods, Inc.  
University of Phoenix  
Verizon Wireless

## ***NGAA Goals***

- Provide services to members
- Promote legislative actions to benefit members and improve the capabilities of the Arkansas National Guard
- Establish and maintain a cooperative relationship with like organizations
- Maintain long term financial stability
- Preserve the history of NGAA
- Educate federal, state and local communities on the National Guard story
- Improve the communication flow to membership regarding NGAA and its programs

**National Guard Association of Arkansas  
P.O. Box 663, North Little Rock, Arkansas  
72115**

**Damon Cluck, Association President**  
([damon.cluck@us.army.mil](mailto:damon.cluck@us.army.mil))

**Kenneth Moix, Executive Director** ([kmoix@ngaa.org](mailto:kmoix@ngaa.org))

**James Lamb, Office Manager** ([jlamb@ngaa.org](mailto:jlamb@ngaa.org))

**Wanda Thomen, Insurance Administrator**  
([wthomen@ngaa.org](mailto:wthomen@ngaa.org))

**Bob Morgan, Insurance Technician** ([bmorgan@ngaa.org](mailto:bmorgan@ngaa.org))

**Judy Shere, Administrative Assistant** ([jshere@ngaa.org](mailto:jshere@ngaa.org))

**Phone: 501-758-6422 FAX: 501-758-2097**

**[www.ngaa.org](http://www.ngaa.org)**

## **Coming Events**

**NGAA Trusts Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m.**  
**NGAA Board of Directors Meeting, 5:00 p.m.**  
**4 June 2013**  
**NGAA Office, Building 8100, Camp Robinson**

**60<sup>th</sup> NGAA General Conference**  
**12-14 April 2013**  
**Fort Smith Holiday Inn & Convention Center**  
**Fort Smith, Arkansas**

**135<sup>th</sup> NGAUS General Conference & Exhibition**  
**20-23 September 2013**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii**