

March 2012

NGAA News

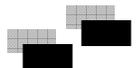
Colonel Mark Berry
President

These are exciting times for the National Guard Association of Arkansas (NGAA) and the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS).

First, let me share some wonderful news about our NGAA Executive Director, Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Kenny Moix. During the National Guard Executive Directors Association (NGEDA) annual conference in January, Kenny was elected to serve as second vice president of that organization. Kenny is doing an incredible job leading one of the top state associations in the country, and his selection to this post is due in part to the outstanding job he and his staff are doing at the state level.

As you are probably aware, the President recently signed the 2012 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) putting the chief of the National Guard Bureau on the Joint Chiefs of Staff ... the most significant event since the modernization of the National Guard with the Militia Act of 1903 more than 100 years ago. Even with opposition from all current service chiefs, the vice chairman and the chairman of the JCS, our Congressional leaders and the President felt the need for a National Guard presence at "the table". Each and every one of you, as members of our association, played a critical role in achieving this historical change. The militia forces will face even more historical changes and challenges in the near future; therefore, we need our associations working even harder to ensure our sustainment. More than ever we need your continued support. Through your active participation, our voice is heard. If you get a chance, pick up a copy of the 16 January 2012, *Defense News* or go to www.defensenews.com and check out the very well written article by former Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General (Retired) Ron Fogleman, titled "Going Back to the Future". In his article General Fogleman says, "Unfortunately, several generations of leaders have come and gone, and most of today's leadership fails to recognize the true potential of the militia model." This is an excellent example of why it is so very important to have our associations preaching the National Guard gospel on Capitol Hill. If you ever wonder what else your associations have done for you and what they continue to do for you, just visit the NGAA and NGAUS websites.

We have two significant fun filled events rapidly approaching. The first is the 59th National Guard Association of Arkansas General Conference and Exhibition being held at the Holiday Inn Northwest Arkansas and the Northwest Arkansas Convention Center 20–22 April. Our guest speaker for the business session will be one of our own, the Honorable Steve Womack, United States Congressman, 3rd Congressional District of Arkansas. Information on conference activities, to include registration, is available at the NGAA website <http://www.ngaa.org/conf>. Please make plans to attend. In addition, the stage is set for the 134th National Guard Association of the United States Conference and Exhibition in Reno, Nevada, 9–12 September. Information about this conference can be found on the NGAUS website <http://www.ngaus.org/>. Finally, from your board of directors and your NGAA staff, I thank each of you for your membership, your voice and your continued participation in our association.



In Remembrance

Past President and long time NGAA supporter, Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Wayne Berger, passed away on February 2nd, 2012. Wayne served as the 51st president of the association during 2001 and 2002. He and his wife Sheryl were regular attendees at the NGAUS conferences. Wayne's refreshing and vibrant personality will be missed. Along with his family and many friends, Wayne's funeral service on February 7th, 2012, was attended by his large National Guard and NGAA family as well. He was laid to rest at the Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery in North Little Rock. The members of this association offer sincerest sympathy to Sheryl and family.

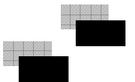
Official Call – NGAA General Conference 2012

The National Guard Association of Arkansas will convene April 20-22, 2012, in Springdale, Arkansas, at the Springdale Holiday Inn and Northwest Arkansas 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 meetings 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 20th, at the Springdale 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 and ANGAA membership form is available at this website (go to [Home/What's New](#) and click on [2012 General Conference](#)).



Minutes – NGAA Board of Directors Meeting

January 10, 2012

Absentees

COL Michael Merritt, Past President
1LT Candice Coleman (1-153 Inf)
Maj Tammy Culley (189 AW) (TDY)
MAJ Bettye Dufour (1-114th Avn)
MAJ David Harrison (Title 10) (TDY)
CPT Edward Hill (Medical Command)
Col (Ret) Tom Landers (Retiree Rep)
CW2 Lucien McConnell (871 Trp Cmd)
LTC Clement Papineau (JFHQ)
CPT Charles Prewitt (2-142 FA)
CPT Michael Speight (CMTC)

Guests/NGAA Staff

COL Keith Klemmer, Chief, Joint Staff
Col Tamhra Hutchins-Frye, Director, Air Staff
LTC Vixen James, CMTC
CPT Noyal Brasfield, 39th BSB
James Lamb, NGAA staff
Wanda Thomen, 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.

Old Business

The minutes of the 3 October 2011 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:

CPT Nick Hoyt to fill the unexpired term of CPT John Tatum representing 875th Engineer Battalion (through April 2013)
CPT Charles Prewitt to fill the unexpired term of CPT John Chase representing 2-142nd Field Artillery (through April 2013)
LTC Rodney Orick to fill the unexpired term of MAJ Anthony Wilmington representing ISU (through April 2013)
MAJ Kevin Truslow to fill the unexpired term of MAJ Lorne Kelley representing 777th ASB (through April 2013)
CPT Brook Ellis to fill the unexpired term of 1LT Sean Burger representing 142nd Fires Brigade (through April 2013)
CPT Michael Speight to fill the unexpired term of MAJ Dwayne Page representing Chaffee Maneuver Training Center (through April 2012)

Finally, the NGAA Trusts Board requested approval of LTC Russel Betts for a 5-year term on the Trusts Board through 31 December 2016. LTC Betts' previous 5-year term expired 31 December 2011, and he has agreed to continue serving if approved.

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

Colonel Berry welcomed the new representatives to the board and thanked them for their willingness to serve.

Finance Report, James Lamb

The finance report as of 30 November 2011 was presented for approval. Because of recent increased building repairs, it was necessary to move monies totaling \$2,000 from one expense account line item to the building repair line item to cover those costs. The action does not affect any increase or change to the total budget. There were no questions, and a motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the report as presented.

NGAA Membership

Unit officer rosters according to the NGAA officer database were provided to board representatives with a request that updated information be provided to NGAA. Mr. Lamb has a list of officers whose units are unknown to NGAA and needs help in resolving that. Two units are now at 100 percent membership: 233rd RTI and ISU. The cutoff date for 100 percent recognition is 15 March 2012. Officer dues may be paid online at www.ngaa.org.

Colonel Berry said membership is the lifeblood of the association and he urged all present to help get 2012 dues paid within their units. He suggested that young officers be advised of the benefits of purchasing lifetime membership.

Insurance Report, Wanda Thomen

There are 5702 policies in force at this time, and death claims in the amount of \$353,500 have been paid for the 2011-2012 insurance year. Recent unit visits by the NGAA insurance staff have been very productive. The soldiers are very receptive to the 24-hour payment.

ANGAA Report

Mrs. Thomen, ANGAA president, reported that the auxiliary's Christmas auction in November raised \$4,630. Those funds provided gifts for a Guard family in need, and gift cards were given to the Arkansas National Guard Family Support Office to be used throughout the year to help families in need. Additionally, an airplane ticket was purchased for a soldier to go home at Christmas, a donation was made to Minuteman Youth Camp, and other donations were made as well.

2012 NGAA Conference

The finalized listing of committee assignments was provided to board representatives. Colonel Berry said a group of committee chairpersons/members recently visited with Springdale Holiday Inn and Northwest Arkansas Convention Center personnel and the Springdale Country Club where the golf tournament will be held. He said it was a productive trip, and he is confident that we will be well taken care of in April. He asked everyone to encourage their unit members to attend the conference. Hotel reservations are now being accepted and can be accomplished at the NGAA website (www.ngaa.org). The exhibits and president's reception will be located in the convention center, and all conference attendees are invited to attend the president's reception. The business meeting and banquet will be held on Saturday as usual.

Colonel Hutchins-Frye announced that the golf tournament will be held at 9:00 a.m., Friday, 20 April 2012, at the Springdale Country Club. The game should conclude at about 1:30 p.m., and lunch will be provided at that time. The tournament will be a four-person scramble and is limited to 88 players (22 teams). It is a very nice course. Prizes include 1st, 2nd, 3rd places, longest drive and closest to the pin. Entry fee is \$75 per person (\$300 per team). Registration forms will be available at the NGAA website soon.

Major Gerald Robinson, hospitality suite chairperson, has the breakout for hospitality suites. He needs to know who will be representing each unit's hospitality suite and will provide the breakout to those individuals. Food and drink may be brought in by units. He said it is a nice setup.

Captain Fred Lee, banquet chairperson, said everything looks good as far as the banquet is concerned.

Colonel Berry said the parade of commanders' format is being evaluated, and some changes to that may be made to cut down on the time it takes for that event. Congressman Steve Womack will speak at the business session on Saturday. Everyone was reminded, when making hotel reservations, to request the NGAA conference rate.

Committee chairperson meetings are scheduled on 13 February and 12 March 2012 (4:00 p.m. at NGAA).

Scholarship Application and Call for Resolutions

The 2012-2013 NGAA/EAANG scholarship application is now available at the NGAA website (www.ngaa.org), and this opportunity is being announced periodically in the *Daily Guard*. The deadline is 15 January 2012 (applications must be postmarked on or before that date). Thirty-four applications have been received as of this date. Everyone was asked to remind their organizations of this opportunity and the deadline. Also, all were asked to encourage submission of draft resolutions.

Company Grade Officer of the Year Awards Program

A copy of the announcement of this program was provided in member packets. Colonel Klemmer asked everyone to contact their unit personnel and encourage submission of nominations for this award. Nominations are due at NGAA by 5 March 2012. He will put command emphasis on this effort.

Other Discussion

LTC Cluck, NGAA first vice president, and members of the NGAA staff will attend the National Guard Executive Directors Association (NGEDA) Conference in Reno, Nevada, later this month to make preliminary plans for the Arkansas delegation's attendance at the NGAUS Conference to be held in Reno in September 2012. Colonel Berry asked everyone to urge attendance at the NGAUS Conference, especially young officers who will find it a very rewarding experience.

Colonel Berry reported that the NGAA executive committee met earlier today with the NGAA auditor and an attorney from Rose Law Firm concerning a review of NGAA trusts documents and the association's status as a nonprofit organization. During the October board meeting, the board of directors approved an expenditure of up to \$5,000 for this review. Colonel Berry said that amount has been spent, the review is still not completed, and additional monies are required to finish the work. He asked the board to approve an additional amount of up to \$5,000 for completion. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made, seconded and carried to approve an additional amount of no more than \$2,000 for this purpose.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled board of directors meeting is Tuesday, 5 June 2012. Nabholz Construction Corporation will provide the meal. The location and time for dinner and the meeting will be adjusted and announced later. A reminder will be sent prior to 5 June. Please respond to reminders as to your attendance at board meetings.

Adjournment

There was no further business, and the meeting adjourned.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Membership

NGAA/NGAUS 2012 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 2012. Your membership renewal is still very important even after the 100 percent unit cutoff date since our 2012 NGAUS 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.

Company Grade Officer Award Program

Colonel Keith Klemmer, co-chairman of the NGAA Company Grade Officer Awards Committee recently sent a letter to commanders of battalions, squadrons, higher headquarters and separate units of the Arkansas National Guard. The letter outlines the criteria for the NGAA Company Grade Officer Award and asks for nominations no later than March 5, 2012. The committee is especially interested in receiving a large number of nominations of our deserving company grade officers for the 2011 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, or the NGAA office at (501) 758-6422/1-800-522-1617.

Resolutions

The deadline for submission of proposed resolutions is 1 March 2012. Detailed information and the electronic input form are available at the NGAA website, 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 Major Clint Miller (ARNG) (clinton.w.miller@us.army.mil) or Major Michael Culley (ANG) (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 or 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!

2012-2013 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The National Guard Association of Arkansas and the Enlisted Association of the Arkansas National Guard has awarded forty \$750.00 college scholarships to the individuals listed below for the academic year 2012-2013.

Darius Alexander
Brandon Anible
Jerry A Bowling
Stevie A Brock
Donald W Brooks
Damon J Bullock
Judd C Burns
Forrest E Collins
Alexus T Curtis
Kayla B Davison
Stephaney C Evans
Brandi J Galloway
Byron A Galloway
William E Gardner

Stephen C Garrett
Austin F Helus
Lacy N Hollingsworth
Jared T Holt
Brandon W Kempf
Gunnar A Klemmer
Timothy A Lenahan
Brian N Mason
Tyler J Mason
Colton L Oetting
Gavin D Osnes
Hayley M Overbay
Gregory T Oxner
Kris F Perkins

Lauren D Rozenberg
Alexandra Smith
Bridgette B Smith
Megan J Spencer
Kiplin R Taber
Myranda S Thomen
Wilma L Tolbert-Smith
Kevin J Turner
Matthew L Wolff
Melissa L Wolff
Cyndell M Wynn
Brian K Young

The NGAA/EAANG scholarship program is offered annually to members of both associations and dependents of current, retired, or deceased members of NGAA/EAANG.



PLAN TO ATTEND

National Guard Association of the United States

134th General Conference and Exhibition

September 9 – 12, 2012

Sparks Convention Center, Reno, Nevada

Program: www.ngaus.org

Hosted by the Nevada National Guard

National Guard: Hometown Force, Global Reach

In Appreciation

The NGAA elected officers and staff are privileged to work with an incredible group of individuals -- the NGAA board of directors. Chosen by their unit commanders to serve two-year terms, the officers that comprise this board devote a great deal of their personal time and effort to working for you throughout the year. The board of directors consists of the NGAA president, first and second vice presidents, association executive director, NGAA immediate past president, and unit directors representing the major commands of the Arkansas National Guard (24 Army and 5 Air Guard). In addition, there is a Title 10 director and a retiree director. Just some of the responsibilities of the unit director are to attend quarterly meetings, represent their unit constituents and keep them informed of board actions and decisions, ensure their unit officer assignment list is kept current at NGAA, collect annual NGAA membership dues within their unit and ensure delivery of those payments to NGAA in a timely manner, and support the organization's mission and purpose.

Beginning this year, the NGAA newsletter will focus on acquainting you with these officers. This issue spotlights the director for Headquarters, Arkansas Air National Guard, Major Gerald Robinson. Major Robinson began serving in April 2009 and is now into his second two-year term through April 2013. He hit the ground running and quickly became an important talent within the association. He has chaired numerous committees necessary to the successful conduct of the association's general conferences for the past three years, two of which are among the most challenging -- the unit hospitality suites and business session committees. He will be heading up those two committees again at this year's conference in Springdale. He has also served as sergeant at arms at the conference banquet parade of commanders, another formidable task that always involves the inevitable last minute changes. Major Robinson's full time position is with the National Guard Marksmanship Training Center at Camp Robinson.

NGAA Corporate Members

Headline Corporate Member

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

Platinum Corporate Member

Aflac Insurance
Nabholz Construction Corporation

Gold Corporate Member

Arkansas National Guard MWR
DRS Technologies
Humana Military Healthcare Services
W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.

Corporate Member

ADS, Inc.
Amtech, LLC
The Boeing Company
DHS Technologies LLC (Drash)
EADS North America
Old Mill Wines and Spirits
Pinnacle Pointe Hospital
Tyson Foods, Inc.
University of Phoenix
Verizon Wireless

NGAA Goals

- Serve those serving
- Achieve 100 percent annual dues paying membership
- Increase corporate membership by 10 percent
- 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

National Guard Association of Arkansas
P.O. Box 663, North Little Rock, Arkansas
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Mark Berry, Association President
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Kenneth Moix, Executive Director (kmoix@ngaa.org)

James Lamb, Office Manager (jlamb@ngaa.org)
Wanda Thomen, Insurance Administrator
(wthomen@ngaa.org)

Bob Morgan, Insurance Technician (bmorgan@ngaa.org)
Judy Shere, Administrative Assistant (jshere@ngaa.org)

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www.ngaa.org

Coming Events

NGAA Trusts Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
NGAA Board of Directors Meeting, 5:00 p.m.
5 June 2012

(Location to be announced)

59th NGAA General Conference
Springdale Holiday Inn and
Northwest Arkansas Convention Center
20-22 April 2012
Springdale, Arkansas

134th NGAUS General Conference & Exhibition
Reno, Nevada
9-12 September 2012