

# NGAA News

## *Presidentially Speaking* .....

Arkansas was represented at the 136<sup>th</sup> General Conference and Exhibition of the National Guard Association of the United States last month in Chicago, Illinois, by 49 NGAA members, their spouses and guests, corporate members and staff.

We took in many of the beautiful sites of the Windy City to include the Navy Pier and Shedd Aquarium, enjoyed a fun run on Lake Shore Drive, and many participated in the annual golf tournament. Thanks to the usual hard work of the NGAA staff, the Arkansas delegation had breakfast each morning in our state’s hospitality suite and received daily updates on conference activities. We greatly appreciate our corporate sponsors who took time from their busy schedules to attend and take an active part in the conference. The annual Southeast Conference themed hospitality night that Arkansas hosts with other SEC states was an overwhelming success. We boogied the night away to a disco theme at the House of Blues. Although great fun was had by the more than 4,000 registered conference participants, a lot of business was accomplished and attendees had the opportunity to hear from some of the most distinguished military and civilian leaders on Capitol Hill and the Pentagon.

Some notable items of interest from the conference sessions:

In his speech, General Mark Welsh, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, discussed the need for all Air Force components to work seamlessly together as a Total Force.

Senator Lindsey Graham, R-SC, Co-Chair of the Senate National Guard Caucus, urged Guardsmen to use their voices through NGAUS to convince Congress to maintain a strong military and reverse defense cuts.

The National Guard Leadership Town Hall with General Frank Grass, Chief, National Guard Bureau; Lieutenant General Stanley Clarke, Director, Air National Guard; and Major General Judd Lyons, Acting Director, Army National Guard, discussed aircraft modernization and recapitalizations, the Guard's role in cyber operations, sequestration, and more.

Retired Major General Arnold Punaro, Chairman of the Reserve Forces Policy Board, discussed the powerful role NGAUS has in advocating for a strong National Guard and national defense. He also touched on the need to reduce Defense Department overhead costs and pivot back to a war-fighting mission.

Video of speeches from the conference can be found on the NGAUS YouTube page at [www.youtube.com/user/NGAUS1878](http://www.youtube.com/user/NGAUS1878)

The delegates had an opportunity to hear about the exciting plans for the 137th General Conference and Exhibition of the National Guard Association of the United States, 10-13 September 2015, at the beautiful Gaylord Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee. Please mark your calendars now and make plans to attend.

A total of eight NGAUS awards was given to Arkansas Guard members, units and the NGAA during the conference. See the article *Arkansas Leads the Way* in this newsletter for those details.

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Next on the NGAA agenda is planning and organizing for the 62<sup>nd</sup> National Guard Association of Arkansas Conference and Exhibition to be held April 17-19, 2015, at the Springdale Holiday Inn and Northwest Arkansas Convention Center in Springdale, Arkansas. The NGAA staff and volunteers expend many hours and tremendous efforts to make our annual conferences a success. We can always use help during the planning and preparation process. If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact your unit's representative on the NGAA board of directors, myself, or the NGAA staff.

The annual NGAA membership drive is now underway. Please give your unit NGAA representative the opportunity to assist you in renewing or activating your membership ..... and, along those lines, let me leave you with these thoughts on the importance of membership in our state and national associations.

Over the years the National Guard has been the recipient of increased services and benefits. This does not just happen! This association continues to provide and work toward better benefits and services for our National Guard families. Many members, past and present, have been and are still actively concerned and working to ensure that the National Guard Association of Arkansas remains a strong, viable, informative institution. Are you helping to encourage participation? Show that you are concerned and that you want our association to continue providing the benefits it currently is in a position to accomplish. Ask a fellow officer if he/she is an active member of NGAUS and NGAA. Remind them that it is time to pay membership dues. We currently enjoy benefits from those who came before, and we need to ensure those benefits are enjoyed by those who are yet to lead and serve. We should be thankful for the officers who came before us who had the vision and foresight to enable our association to grow into what it is today. Is it okay to get things if you don't pay for them, but other people do? Is it really fair that you enjoy the benefits of NGAUS and NGAA and are not a member? We must ALL support NGAUS and NGAA. I challenge all current officers to be involved, diligent and persistent in a combined effort to strengthen our association. Become an active part of the organization that is *WORKING FOR YOU!*

*Erica L. Ingram*  
*Lieutenant Colonel, Arkansas ARNG*  
*President*

# Minutes – NGAA Board of Directors Meeting

August 5, 2014

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## **Board Members Present**

Maj Gerald Robinson, 1st Vice President  
MAJ Matt Snead, 2nd Vice President  
LTC (Ret) Kenneth Moix, Executive Director  
Maj Michael Culley, Past President  
MAJ David Cox (39 BSTB)  
CPT Paul Davis (875 Engr Bn)  
MAJ Brook Ellis (142 Fires Bde)  
MAJ Sharetta Glover (87 Trp Cmd)

CPT James Holifield (Hq 39 IBCT)  
Lt Col John Hunt (189 AW)  
Maj John Latour (154 Tng Sqdn)  
Maj Fred Lee (188 Wing)  
COL (Ret) Mike Merritt (Retiree Rep)  
1LT Jason Myers (1-151 Cav)  
1LT Scotty Parker (77 TAB)  
MAJ Anthony Sanders (R&R Cmd)

MAJ Anthony Sevier (Title 10 Rep)  
Maj Douglas Smutnick (184 Attack Sqdn)  
MAJ Edward Terry (777 ASB)  
CPT Steven Thompson (233 RTI)  
CW4 Arthur Troy (JFHQ)  
CPT Reese Walker (39 BSB)

## **Absentees**

LTC Erica Ingram, President  
CPT Uneeda Blackwell (871 Trp Cmd)  
2LT Paul Bowen (1-153 Inf)  
CPT John Chase (2-142 FA)  
MAJ Donnie Crain (NGMTC)  
MAJ Thomas Edwards (2-153 Inf)  
CPT Andrew Graham (1-142 FA)  
LTC Dwight Ikenberry (CMTC)  
CW2 Matthew McMullen (1-114 Avn)(TDY)  
CPT Jason Montgomery (1-206 FA)  
LTC Rodney Orick (ISU)(TDY)  
CW2 Antonio Pouncy (217 BSB)  
Capt Seana Warner (Hq AR ANG)

## **Guests/NGAA Staff**

LTC Vixen James (CMTC)  
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**

In President Ingram's absence, First Vice President Gerald Robinson presided. The meeting was called to order and a quorum was verified. Guests were recognized and welcomed.

## **Minutes Approval**

The minutes of the 6 May 2014 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 actions:

MAJ Sharetta Glover to fill the unexpired term of MAJ Marden Hueter representing 87<sup>th</sup> Trp Cmd through April 2015  
LTC Dwight Ikenberry to fill the unexpired term of CPT Michael Speight representing CMTC through April 2016  
CW2 Antonio Pouncy to fill the unexpired term of CPT Theresa Walker representing 217<sup>th</sup> BSB through April 2016  
MAJ Anthony Sevier to fill the vacant position as Title 10 representative through April 2016  
MAJ Edward Terry to fill the unexpired term of MAJ Kevin Truslow representing 777<sup>th</sup> ASB through April 2015  
CPT Theresa Walker to fill the unexpired term of MAJ Christopher Heathscott representing 39<sup>th</sup> BSB through April 2016

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

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

The finance report as of 30 June 2014 was presented for approval. He said the annual audit was performed by Priddy & Holifield Accounting Firm last month, and a report of the audit will be presented at the October board meeting. There were no questions, and a motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the report as presented.

### **Insurance Report, Wanda Thomen**

Death claims for the current insurance year total \$80,000. Wanda asked everyone to encourage their unit members who have NGAA insurance to keep their policy information up to date. The beneficiary on the most recent death claim had not been updated. Call the NGAA insurance office if you want us to visit your unit to talk the members about the insurance program and update policy information.

### **NGAA Endowment Gift, LTC Moix**

LTC Moix proposed a change to the manner of distribution of the annual insurance experience refund from the American Equity Investment and Life Insurance Company. In 2001, the NGAA board of directors approved the distribution of the refund as follows: \$30,000 (if the refund amounts to that much) is taken off the top and reserved in NGAA Trust 2 for the NGAA/EAANG scholarship program, 50 percent of the remainder divided among the NGAA staff, 25 percent to the NGAA set aside account, and 25 percent to NGAA Trust 1. With the recent establishment of the NGAA Endowment, Inc. (NGAAE), NGAA Trusts 1 and 2 terminated and dissolved, and that happened prior to receipt of the 2014 experience refund. In consideration of the past approved procedure and the fact that the set aside account does not require additional funds at this time, the executive committee recommends modification of the distribution of the annual experience refund as follows: \$30,000 restricted for the scholarship program, 50 percent of the remainder divided among the NGAA staff, and 50 percent to NGAAE unrestricted. Future developments may dictate that a percentage of the refund is needed for the NGAA set aside account. As of 30 June 2014, the amount approved for NGAAE will be reflected as a payable to NGAAE, Inc., to be distributed the first quarter of FY 14-15. On behalf of the NGAA executive committee, LTC Moix recommended modification of the distribution of the annual insurance experience refund as described above. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the executive committee's proposal concerning the experience refund. A report will be made each year to the board of directors concerning the experience refund and its distribution.

### **2014 NGAUS Conference, LTC Moix**

The conference is less than three weeks away. Forty-nine NGAA members and guests are registered to attend. Arkansas is authorized 29 delegates, and we have 25. Arkansas will receive six NGAUS awards: 100 Percent NGAUS Membership Plaque (Ninth consecutive year); Theodore Roosevelt Leadership Award for Company Grade Officers to Captain Bridgette Scott, Captain Rex Thomen and Captain Seana Warner; Distinguished Service Medal to Lieutenant Colonel Damon Cluck; and the Montgomery Medal to Senator John Boozman. Next year's NGAUS Conference will be in Nashville, Tennessee.

### **2016 State Conference Time and Place, Major Robinson**

A spreadsheet showing all the proposals for the 2016 NGAA Conference was provided to board members, and they were asked to vote their preference for the time and place. There were six proposals included on the spreadsheet, and Major Robinson outlined one late additional proposal from the Holiday Inn Airport in Little Rock. The vote resulted in selection of the Marriott Little Rock, 8-10 April 2016.

### **Arkansas Veterans Coalition, Major Snead**

The board members were advised during the May meeting that the association has received an offer from the Arkansas Veterans Coalition to join that organization in working with the state legislature on several items important to the military. Major Snead discussed the organization and said it is designed to unite veterans organizations across the state. It was created by the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs, and Major Snead spoke of its four primary legislative initiatives:

- Boost workforce and economic development through military retired pay state income tax exemption
- Waive in-state (or local) tuition residency requirements for service members, veterans and families
- Ensure statewide access to veterans treatment courts
- Promote veterans state home network

The annual membership dues are \$25.00 for NGAA. Any NGAA member may attend the meetings, and our organization may designate a representative(s) to attend if desired. NGAA will also be added to the list of the organizations represented by the coalition. He asked for a motion that NGAA join the Arkansas Veterans Coalition. Such motion was made, seconded and approved.

**Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting of the board of directors is Tuesday, 7 October 2014, 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.

Minutes recorded by Judy Shere

## ***Arkansas Leads the Way .....***

A total of eight NGAUS awards was given to Arkansas Guard members, units, and the NGAA during the 136<sup>th</sup> NGAUS General Conference and Exhibition last month in Chicago, Illinois. The NGAA received a 100 percent NGAUS membership plaque for the ninth consecutive year. The award was presented to Major General William Wofford and NGAA President Lieutenant Colonel Erica Ingram by the acting NGAUS board of directors chairman, Major General Donald Dunbar.

Our U.S. Senator John Boozman was announced as recipient of the Montgomery Medal, an award for outstanding support in the pursuit of NGAUS purposes and objectives. The Montgomery Medal is NGAUS' second highest award. This medal symbolizes not only contributions to the National Guard, but to the entire United States military and our veterans.

Individual awards presented to Arkansas Guardspersons:

Lieutenant Colonel Damon Cluck received the NGAUS Distinguished Service Medal. This award recognizes individuals as performing exceptional outstanding service to the United States, the Armed Forces of the United States, or the National Guard Association of the United States.

Three officers received the Theodore Roosevelt Leadership Award for Company Grade Officers: Major Bridgette Scott (*promoted to major since being selected for the award*), Captain Seana Warner, and Captain Rex Thomen. This award is given for achievements and dedicated service to the Army and Air National Guard by demonstrating outstanding leadership and professionalism in their service to country and community.

The 189<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, Arkansas Air National Guard, was honored with the Distinguished Flying Unit Plaque for outstanding flying and support achievements; and the 189<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group was awarded the Mission Support Trophy as the top support unit in the Air National Guard.

We congratulate these fine individuals and units for their accomplishments ..... it was a proud and gratifying experience to witness our men and women receive this well earned recognition.

Kenneth E. Moix  
NGAA Executive Director

## ***Retiree Pay and Benefits Under Scrutiny .....***

The Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission is discussing future changes to the military retiree system and pay reforms. Their report due date is February 2015. Why is this important to retirees? Your pay and benefits could well be on the chopping block in light of the need for Congress to produce a balanced budget! Please take a moment to review the NGAUS summary of programs outlined in the August 2014 Compendium of Programs released for public review at the NGAUS website, [www.NGAUS.org](http://www.NGAUS.org) (click on Blog and scroll down to Hey National Guard: The Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission Needs Your Help). You can submit comments now and weigh in on the importance of keeping the military's promises to retirees for pay and benefits. Go to <http://www.mcrmc.gov/index.php/public-comments> to submit your comments.

# *2014 Resolutions Report .....*

Major Mike Culley and Captain Rex Thomen represented the Arkansas National Guard on the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) resolutions committees at the NGAUS Conference last month. The resolutions fall under three categories: Joint, Air and Army, and are divided into standing resolutions and draft (proposed resolutions). The draft resolutions were considered during a joint session and then the committee broke out to the individual components (Air and Army). Some of the resolutions reviewed include:

## Joint Draft Resolutions approved:

Authorize and appropriate funding to the National Guard to identify products, evaluate functionality, and define a secure VPN system with CAC bootable devices

Ensure National Guard is included as a critical partner in developing, planning, and executing the DoD's strategy in operating in cyberspace, and is appropriately resourced to support all facets of cyber operations

Provide a readily available and temporary patient holding area/weather billeting shelving system to modernize regional CBRNE unit preparedness and allow CERFPs flexibility to respond to regional events

Make the Common Analytical Laboratory National Guard variant 1, (Field Confirmatory- CST Analytical Lab Suites) the first fielding priority of the three variants, provide funding for three years, and maintain current fielding schedule with no further delays

## Army Draft Resolutions approved:

Replace AN/TSW-7A ATC control tower with AN/MSQ-135, Mobile Operations Tower System with similar capabilities of FAA towers

Update and enhance aviation platforms with Degraded Visual Environment Operational Needs Statement for medevac helicopters and Interactive Situational Awareness Software for UH-60s

Enhance Fire Support, Field Artillery and Air Defense units by adding Joint Effects Targeting Systems

Enhance Forward Observers capability by adding Increment 2 software to Pocket-sized Forward Entry Device linking sensor and forward observer with the shooter.

## Standing resolutions carried over from previous conferences include:

Joint #0 Ensure Appropriate Level of Defense Spending as a Percentage of the Gross National Product

Joint #3 Enhance the Army and Air National Guard by Providing Support for all Domestic Operation Missions to include Public Works and Engineering

Joint #5 Enhance the Army and Air National Guard by Providing Support for all Domestic Operation Missions to include Information and Planning

Joint #6 Procure multi-weather pre-engineered tension fabric structures and reusable covers in support of the National Guard role in Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing and Human Services

Joint #7 Enhance the Army and Air National Guard by Providing Support for all Domestic Operation Missions to include Domestic Operations Force management

Joint #8 Enhance the Army and Air National Guard by Providing Support for all Domestic Operation Missions to include Public Health and Medical Services

Joint #9 Funding to equip search and extraction elements of the Army National Guard and rescue technicians of the Air National Guard with modern, interoperable rapid extraction technology and equipment Search and Rescue

Joint #15 Enhance the Army and Air National Guard by Providing Support for all Domestic Operation Missions to include Military Construction and accelerating military construction to fund all new mission requirements

## Air Resolutions:

- Standing resolutions from previous years passed en-bloc and call for NGAUS to prioritize and pursue funding from Congress.

- Some examples of the standing resolutions that were continued support the procurement of the KC-46 Tanker and for the majority of the refueling capability to remain in the Air National Guard.
- Resolutions for the F-22 call for increased Situational Awareness capabilities as they execute the Air Defense mission.
- Procurement of the Joint Strike Fighter F-35 to replace the aging F-15 and F-16 Air Guard fleet was highlighted as a priority.
- The ISR field continues to grow in structure and capability. Many of the new resolutions proposed the growth and equipping of this capability to the Guard.
- The most discussed topic of the entire conference by every single high level officer dealt with the recapitalization of C-130Js to the Guard and/or to modernize the C-130H fleet. This topic is directly related to the state of Arkansas as it is the home of C-130 training for every USAF unit around the world. The major issue, though, is that the C-130J factory can only produce so many a year, so it wouldn't be until close to 2020 that new Js could be delivered to Air Guard units. Currently none of the J models being produced are CNS/ATM compliant, and currently there is no contract to modernize H models to be CNS/ATM compliant by 2017 either. Basically, it means the C-130 would be severely restricted and incapable to meet airspace restrictions in many countries around the world.

The greatest tool we have as an organization is communication. So, communicate to your congressional delegation and let them know what they need to do to support their state and the National Guard. It is imperative in the coming years to be right there in the fight for valuable equipment, resources and manpower in a budget that could be rapidly shrinking in the very near future.

## ***2015 Call for Resolutions .....***

With the 2014 NGAUS Conference just behind us and preparations already underway for our annual state conference next April, this call is to invite and encourage our members to consider issues within the National Guard that need to be addressed in Congress.

The resolutions process provides the means for a member or state to prepare and submit ideas aimed at enhancing the National Guard -- its equipment, capabilities, and quality of life of its soldiers and airmen and their families. As a member-based organization, NGAUS annually solicits proposed resolutions from its membership aimed at enhancing the National Guard. NGAUS categorizes the submissions as Joint, Army, or Air. Army and Air resolutions relate to missions or equipment under the purview of the Army and Air National Guard. Joint resolutions relate to issues involving personnel & benefits, medical, and domestic operations. Your proposed resolutions will be considered by the NGAA membership at the state conference, and those approved will be submitted to NGAUS for approval and prioritization before being submitted to Congress in the next legislative cycle.

Detailed information and an electronic input form are available at [www.ngaa.org](http://www.ngaa.org) (click on Legislative). Everyone is encouraged to participate in the resolutions process .... share your thoughts and ideas about National Guard issues that need to be addressed at the state and national level.

In addition, visit the NGAUS website, [www.ngaus.org](http://www.ngaus.org) (click on Issues and Advocacy/Resolutions), to view the resolutions approved at last month's NGAUS Conference.

If you have questions, contact 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)).

Proposed resolutions must be submitted to the NGAA office ([jshere@ngaa.org](mailto:jshere@ngaa.org)) using the electronic input form discussed above no later than 1 March 2015

# ***NGAA/EAANG Scholarships Program 2015-2016 .....***

**Fifty \$750 college scholarships will be awarded by NGAA and EAANG to members and their dependents for the school year 2015-2016. The scholarships apply to full time or part time enrollment at in-state or out-of-state colleges, four-year colleges, or vocational training. The scholarships may be used for any and all college expenses. Members of the Arkansas National Guard, their dependents, and dependents of deceased members of the Arkansas National Guard may apply. Applicant (or his/her sponsor) must also be a member of NGAA or EAANG (2015 dues must be current) and must be covered under the NGAA state sponsored life insurance (SSLI) program. Online scholarship applications as well as downloadable applications will be available in mid-October on the NGAA website, [www.ngaa.org](http://www.ngaa.org), and copies will also be available at the NGAA office, Building 8100, Camp Robinson.**

**Deadline for submission of completed applications is January 15, 2015. Applications must be received (or be postmarked if mailed) by the *National Guard Association of Arkansas Scholarship Program*, P.O. Box 663, North Little Rock, AR 72115, by that date.**

## ***Membership .....***

**Why Be a Member of NGAA? .....** This association was formed to enhance and promote the various interests of the Arkansas National Guard. NGAA strives to be your voice on issues that are of mutual concern to Guard members and their families. We want and need all officers to be active members in this organization. As military professionals, it is imperative that we maintain a solid organization and speak with one cohesive voice to ensure that the National Guard remains strong and relevant, achieves its goals, and receives the necessary funding, equipment and benefits to maintain a viable force in today's military structure.

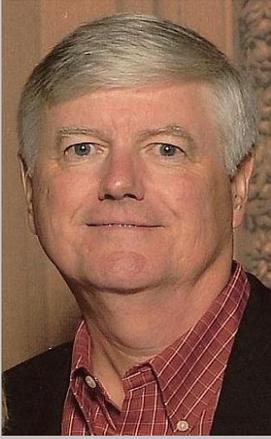
**NGAA achieved 100 percent membership in the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) for the ninth consecutive year in 2014. We need your help if we are to continue our 100 percent membership record in 2015. Dues may be paid on line at the NGAA website ([www.ngaa.org](http://www.ngaa.org) ... click on Membership). There is a small handling fee for on line payments and for payments made by credit/debit card. Members may also pay by check or cash with no additional fees involved.**

**Amounts of annual membership dues are listed below. Our objective is to collect all annual dues no later than March 15, 2015.**

**Membership in the National Guard Association of Arkansas is available to current, past and retired members of both the Arkansas Army National Guard and Arkansas Air National Guard. Allied memberships are available to members of other military organizations for an annual fee of \$25.00.**

<b>Second Lieutenant</b>	<b>\$ 42.00</b>	<b>Major General</b>	<b>\$169.00</b>
<b>First Lieutenant</b>	<b>\$ 60.00</b>	<b>Warrant Officer 1</b>	<b>\$ 38.00</b>
<b>Captain</b>	<b>\$ 74.00</b>	<b>Chief Warrant Officer 2</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>
<b>Major</b>	<b>\$ 92.00</b>	<b>Chief Warrant Officer 3</b>	<b>\$ 61.00</b>
<b>Lieutenant Colonel</b>	<b>\$105.00</b>	<b>Chief Warrant Officer 4</b>	<b>\$ 79.00</b>
<b>Colonel</b>	<b>\$133.00</b>	<b>Chief Warrant Officer 5</b>	<b>\$ 98.00</b>
<b>Brigadier General</b>	<b>\$153.00</b>	<b>Life Membership</b>	<b>*\$1300.00</b>

**\*One-year installment plan is available. Contact the NGAA office for details (501-758-6422)**



# *Remembering Bill Stanton*

Retired Colonel William E. "Bill" Stanton passed away Friday, July 4, 2014. He was 66 years old.

Bill was a loyal and devoted supporter of the association throughout his thirty-seven year career in the Arkansas Air National Guard. He was an active member of the NGAA board of directors for several years and served on numerous committees lending his remarkable expertise to all tasks presented. He served as president of the association during 2003-2004. Returning to the board of directors in 2012 as Retiree Representative, he held that position until April 2014.

Bill Stanton will be missed and remembered by the National Guard Association of Arkansas as a true gentleman, dedicated officer, and dear friend.

# *NGAUS Fellows Program 2015 .....*

The National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) Fellows Program is designed to bring Army and Air National Guard captains, lieutenants, and warrant officers in the grade of WO1 and CW2 to the NGAUS Headquarters for a period of one year. The intent of the program is to help develop practical experience in the fundamentals of interaction between the United States Congress and the agencies that affect the National Guard in both state and federal missions. Specifically, the program will concentrate around the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Department of Homeland Security, along with other agencies such as FEMA. The program is based on a twelve-month paid fellowship located at NGAUS Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

The program is intended to build on NGAUS' mission to empower, educate and increase the influence of the state associations' membership by networking with the National Guard Bureau and understanding the development and execution of federal legislation. Each NGAUS Fellow is encouraged and expected to return to their home state with skills that will promote leadership and encourage other National Guard junior officers to become advocates for the National Guard through engagement in governmental affairs at the local, state and federal level.

Go to <http://ngaus.org/sites/default/files/NGAUSFellowsProgram2015.pdf> for program qualifications and detailed information. Interested officers should submit the information requested in that document by close of business 15 October 2014. Selected individuals will be notified not later than 15 November 2014.



The Auxiliary to the National Guard Association of Arkansas (ANGAA) invites you to its annual Christmas Auction. This event provides an opportunity to raise money to support a Guard family in need at Christmas, the Camp Robinson Chapel, Minuteman Youth Camp, Arkansas National Guard Museum and other ANGAA activities as well. It allows us to get together and enjoy each others' company while keeping the spirit of the season in our hearts. This year we're having a chili supper, so get your taste buds ready! Bring the beverage of your choice so everyone has their favorite drink alongside the chili.

Pick out an item that you like and we will auction it off to you or someone you invite to bid against. Bring gifts that make you laugh or that you would like to have around the house. We will auction whatever you bring, but don't feel that you have to bring anything. All funds raised will be used for good causes.

We do hope you will attend and bring your friends along too .... the more the merrier!

The date and place for the event have not yet been finalized and will be on the agenda for discussion at the 14 October 2014 ANGAA meeting. We hope to schedule it on December 5<sup>th</sup> at Chappell Armory where it's been in the past few years. All ANGAA members are invited to attend the meeting at 6:30 p.m. on October 14<sup>th</sup> in the NGAA office, Building 8100, Camp Robinson, to help us make plans. If you have questions, please contact ANGAA President Nickole Brasfield ([nebrasfield@gmail.com](mailto:nebrasfield@gmail.com)) (Phone No. 870-267-2129) or Secretary-Treasurer Molly Bowen ([mollymbowen@gmail.com](mailto:mollymbowen@gmail.com)) (Phone No. 501-707-8850).

# *Meet John J. Hunt ..... 189<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Representative, NGAA Board of Directors*



Lieutenant Colonel John J. (J.J.) Hunt is an AGR officer who serves as Director of Operations for the 189<sup>th</sup> Operational Support Squadron, Arkansas Air National Guard. His military experience includes three years as a rocket scientist on Minuteman III Nuclear Missiles (Missile Maintenance) at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana. He has logged over 3700 hours in the C-130 E/H/AMP and has 525 combat hours. He is one of only four qualified C-130 AMP (Avionics Modernization Program) pilots in the DoD and has been to all seven continents in the C-130. He landed the first ever wheeled C-130 on Antarctica, was in one anti-aircraft artillery engagement and two separate surface to air missile engagements over Iraq in the C-130. He encountered numerous small arms fire in both Iraq and Afghanistan. His last seven years have been in the Arkansas Air National Guard training C-130 initial qualification, aircraft commander

and instructor pilots.

Lieutenant Colonel Hunt joined the National Guard Association of Arkansas in 2007 and was elected to represent the 189<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing on the NGAA board of directors in April 2014. He served as Sergeant at Arms for the NGAA Conference business sessions in 2013 and 2014 doing an outstanding job (*he will most likely be called on again and again for that!*).

His first exposure to the association was when he received an NGAA/EAANG scholarship to the University of Arkansas while in High School. He said he has always been grateful for that and for the countless ways that the NGAA and NGAUS support him as a Guardsman. So much so, that he knew he wanted to give back. As an individual, he realized that he has minimal power to make his voice heard by Congress but "by banding together with fellow brothers and sisters in the Guard, that is getting a seat at the table".

Lieutenant Colonel Hunt comes from a Guard family steeped in tradition. His father, Colonel (Ret) Charles Hunt, enjoyed a successful 40-year career in the Arkansas Army National Guard, and his uncle, Colonel (Ret) Tommy Hunt, also had a long and prosperous career in the Arkansas Army National Guard. He said he is honored that he can continue their legacy.

His interests include serving on the *Praise Team* in his local church as well as on the audio/video crew. He loves the outdoors and camping/hiking with his family. He is faithfully supported by his beautiful wife Nathalie and their three wonderful children: Ethan (12), Emily (11), and Elliot (4). The Hunts reside in Cabot.

NGAA is indeed privileged to have J.J.'s interest, expertise, and strong commitment to the success of the organization.

## *NGAA Corporate Members*

### Headline Corporate Member

PepsiCo Foodservice

### Platinum Corporate Member

Coca Cola Enterprises of Arkansas  
Nabholz Construction Services

### Gold Corporate Member

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

### Corporate Member

AM General, LLC  
Arkansas Blue Cross & Blue Shield  
Arkansas Federal Credit Union  
AXA Advisors, LLC  
BAE Systems, Land & Armaments  
The Boeing Company  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Eye Safety Systems (ESS), Inc.  
Glidewell Distributing Company, Inc.  
Hog Wild Wines and Spirits, Inc.  
Holiday Inn Airport Conference Center  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center, NW Arkansas  
Humana Government Business  
Kennedy Air Conditioning  
Litelfighter Systems  
Metova  
Perkins Technical Services, Inc.  
Rocky  
Tyson Foods, Inc.  
University of Phoenix

## *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

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### Coming Events

**NGAA Endowment Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m.  
NGAA Board of Directors Meeting, 5:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, 7 October 2014  
NGAA Office, Building 8100, Camp Robinson**

**62<sup>nd</sup> General Conference  
National Guard Association of Arkansas  
17-19 April 2015  
Springdale Holiday Inn &  
Northwest Arkansas Convention Center  
Springdale, Arkansas**