



NGAT FYI

**NATIONAL GUARD
ASSOCIATION OF
TENNESSEE**

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May 16, 2008

"I Guard America"

NGAT MEMBERSHIP 100% FOR 6TH YEAR

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The National Guard Association of Tennessee is proud to report 100% membership to NGAUS for the sixth year in a row. This is a very important milestone for Tennessee. At the 2007 National Conference, NGAUS approved a refund for 2008 in the amount of 25% and a retention refund of 5% for those states who report 100% member by 31 March 2008. We will meet this requirement. The amount of refund that NGAT will receive will be approximately \$24,000.

The 100% membership is something that Tennessee can be very proud of. NGAUS reported at the National Guard Executive

Director's meeting in January that NGAUS membership nationally is only 65%. Tennessee is the largest contributor of membership dues of all the states.

Accolades goes out to all the units for their hard work in collecting the dues and getting them in on a timely manner. A special thanks goes to all the deployed officers who made sure that their dues were sent in on time.

The 164th Air Wing in Memphis, Tennessee should also be recognized because they were the first Major Command to report 100% .

To all the Officers of the Tennessee

**National Guard,
THANK YOU for supporting NGAT.**



Colonel Harry Montgomery, CDR of the 164th Air Wing and President Elect, NGAT

Notes of Interest:

- * **Scholarships-**
www.ngatn.org go to Association Tab
- * **John Patterson, Amvet's Representative,** is available to meet with Veterans at the NGAT building each 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.

Information for our retirees-Lynn J. Jamroz, Delta Dental

Delta Dental of California has been awarded a new five-year contract for the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP). The current contract, which was set to expire on 30 April 08, has been extended until 30 Sep 2008. Contract Extension Letters will be sent to all TRDP

enrollees next several days. Since you might have questions regarding the letter- you can go to the web site at www.trdp.org for answers to some of their frequently asked questions about the contract extension. More information on the new contract will be forthcoming in late summer. If there is any-

thing I can do for you in the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact

[Lynn J. Jamroz, RDH](mailto:Lynn.J.Jamroz@RDH)
Delta Dental of CA
Phone: 630-587-6397
Fax: 630-587-6506
E-mail: ljamroz@delta.org
Website: www.trdp.org

New Executive Council members elected at NGAT's 79th Annual Conference

In addition to a very informative business session at the 79th Annual NGAT State Conference, new members were elected to serve on the NGAT Executive Council. Colonel Harry Montgomery was elected President Elect, Colonel Jeff Holmes moved into the Presidents seat, LTC Jimmie Cole assumes the Past Presidents position previously filled by Colonel (Ret) Jim Wells. 1st Lt Shawn Brad-dock was elected to the Company Grade West position, which was vacated by CPT Cory Kenton after he was promoted to Major.

All incumbents were re-elected. They are Colonel Mike Hatcher, Field Grade Middle Air, BG Mike Maloan, Field Grade West Army, MAJ James Blevins, Field Grade Army East, CPT Phil Hill, Company Grade Middle Air, and Colonel (Ret) Melvin Nelson, Retired at Large. Those serving who were not subject to re-election until 2010 are Lt Col Bernie Martin, Field Grade East Air, Lt Col Randy Myers, Field Grade West Air, MAJ Jim Reed, Field Grade Middle Army, CPT Steven Turner, Company Grade East Army, and CW3 Sherry Holman, War-

All executive council positions are elected for four years with the exception of the President, President Elect and Past President's positions. They serve in these positions for two years.



Col Jeff Holmes
NGAT President

AWARDS PRESENTED AT the 79th CONFERENCE

Several NGAT members were the recipients of the coveted **Minute Man Award** for their outstanding service to the National Guard. Those recognized were CW5 (Ret) Phillip E. Hill, SMSgt Imogene Carney, Captain Robin L. Celatka, Colonel Timothy Dearing, Colonel Douglas D. Delozier, Mrs. Diane Frates, Lt Col Jason W. Glass, Colonel Robert J. Parthenais, Mrs. DeShell Mitchell, Col Harry D. Montgomery and Lt Col Ronald C. Parker. These recipients were recognized individually at the Conference.

All other awards were given to commanders to be presented at the units.

The next group of awards were the **Outstanding Service Award**. They were presented to Maj Reathel Goff, 1st Lt Heidi Jackson, Col Randall K. Jones, Captain Marlin Malone, CMSgt Walter J. Swierk, TSgt Donald Arnold, MSgt Buffy Burton, Col Luttrell Schettler, SMSgt Carol Berley, CMSgt Donald McCloud, Capt Lawana Nelson and Lt Col Irene Parker.

The third awards were the **Achievement Plaques** and were presented to 2nd Lt Brian Celatka, Sra Brian Shutt, SSgt Glenn White and SSgt Amanda Wright.

The fourth awards were the **Certificates of Achievement**. They were presented to Capt Christopher Pease, TSgt Kristie Holt, Colonel John White, CMSgt Douglas Smelcer and LtCol Ben Welch, III, and LtCol Kevin Poster.

Congratulations to each of these deserving individuals.

State Sponsored Life Insurance-Beverly White

WHAT'S NEW?

NGATGIT is offering Whole Life (WL-200) and additional term (Lean~15 and Level to 50)

Available to all active and retired members of the Tennessee National Guard. Call 615.833.9100 or In-State Toll Free 1.888.642.8448.

NGATGIT is committed to providing high quality benefits to supplement your insurance needs. Our goal is to always to be able to provide the benefit with a check within 24 hours of notification. We know this is the most stressful time for a family.

GROUP COVERAGE AVAILABLE

Member Coverage

\$10,000—\$50,000

Spouse Coverage

\$5,000 \$10,000 \$25,000

Dependent Coverage

\$5,000 \$10,000

New Enlistee Receives \$10,000 Free for ONE Year.

(continued on page 3)

Support our Troops by Wearing Red on Fridays

Mr. Dean Delk, Principal of Forest Elementary and former Guardsman



H&S Pharmacy



Lloyd Hill and Jerry Holtz
American Equity



Celebration Inn,

Businesses all over the state are showing support. Have you purchased your RED SHIRT?

A few months ago we received a picture from American Equity, our insurance carrier, of all their employees wearing red shirts. They explained that they were showing support for our troops by wearing a red shirt on Friday. Thus the idea developed that we should be selling red shirts with NGAT's logo and the slogan "we support our troops." This idea took off and orders starting coming in from businesses all over the state. Even though we were not making but \$5.00 profit from each shirt, we decided to use the profits to support combat

wounded soldiers and their families who were in financial need. As word spread, we received an anonymous donation of \$10,000. Since NGAT is not a 501c3 non-profit organization, a separate organization had to be developed. A committee was organized and they are now working on their 501c3 non-profit status. The committee members are Lt Col Ken Jones, Capt Robin Celatka, Beverly White, Randy Harris and Sherri Weathers. The profits from the sale of the shirts will soon be available to help any combat wounded soldier and their families

who are in need of financial assistance.

If you know of soldiers who fit this category please contact Beverly White at 615-833-9100 for the application form.

Also if you would like to purchase a red shirt to support this worthy cause, please call the NGAT office at 615-833-9100 or email us at larry@ngatn.org.

The shirts are \$27.00 each.

NOTE : NGAT now accepts credit cards.

State Sponsored Life Insurance (continued from page 3)

UNIT BENEFIT ADVISOR (UBA)

NGATGIT has four retirees making visitations to the NG Army Units and the NG Air Bases.

1SG (Ret) Jim Rippetoe

SFC (Ret) Glen Brooks

CSM (Ret) James White

LtCol (Ret) Tim Childers

UNIT VISITATIONS

If you would like to schedule an Army unit presentation contact 1SG (Ret) Jim Rippetoe 615.833.9100 or In-State Toll Free 1.888.642.8448 or email Jimmy@ngatn.org.

For the Air National Guard contact LtCol Tim Childers at tim@ngatn.org

THANK YOU R&R

A Special thanks to the Recruiting and Retention Command and all Tennessee Recruiters for a job well done in providing availability of the New Enlistment Program which provides \$10,000 to each New and Prior Enlistee.



Members of the Auxiliary: (L to R)

***Nan Overton, Cyndi Echols, Carol Goslowsky, Sherri Weathers,
Nancy Patterson, Jamie McKnight, and Kelly Hatcher***

Spouse's Corner — Jamie McKnight, President of the National Guard Association of Tennessee Auxiliary

The National Guard Association of Tennessee Auxiliary (NGATA) is an organization comprised of officer's spouses or significant others. NGATA's mission is to:

Inquire from, receive, and disseminate information from Joint Forces Headquarters regarding family programs, benefits, emergency and other related information;

Organize the flow of information to effectively disperse to National Guard Spouses;

Promote service projects and social events to provide the National Guard spouses and opportunity to meet each other and provide a forum to educate spouses concerning family support.

NGATA provides spouses the opportunity to be involved in the Tennessee National Guard Experience.

NGATA awards the annual Margene

Mogan Proctor and General Jerry Wyatt Memorial Scholarship to ANY Guard Spouse, the deadline to apply is May 31st, annually. To obtain an application, go to www.ngatn.org, see the Conference/scholarship web page.

NGATA also hosts an annual membership meeting at the State National Guard Association's Conference. The membership meeting also includes breakfast and the opportunity for fun and fellowship. At the 2008 conference after the membership meeting and breakfast, we played Bunco and everyone had a great time.

In conjunction with the membership meeting, NGATA conducts an annual service project that benefits the local VA hospitals and residents. This year and in previous years, items such as clothing and hygiene products have been collected and donated to the hospitals and patients at local VA facilities.

NGATA also holds an annual fundraising event. At the 2008 conference, NGATA held a silent auction fundraiser that netted \$3,800. The money raised from this event goes to fund the annual scholarship.

NGATA would like to thank everyone who contributed to making this event a GREAT success!!

If you would like to join the NGATA Auxiliary contact Jamie McKnight, 615-

Smile, you're on NGAT Camera



SGM Mike Gentry was pinned at the NGAT Conference Room,

16 Jan 08

Assisting with the Pinning is LTC Jimmie Cole and Mike's son Drew.

Need to reserve our conference room for a meeting or ceremony? Just call and schedule it. It is YOUR building, USE IT!

Congressman Lincoln Davis speaking to the NGAT Membership at the 79th Conference Business Session, 23 Feb 2008



Miss Knoxville Lauren James and Cassidy Jenkins



Judy Bassham, Phyllis Molyneux, and Stephanie Arredondo (Playing Bunco)

What has NGAT & NGATIT done for the National Guard?

1. Solicit donations from Government Contractors to offset the cost of conference registration for our Company Grade Officers and defray the cost for the Company Grade Mixer on Friday night. This year NGAT raised over \$50,000 in donations.
2. The Association pays the delegate's registration fees for the NGAUS Conference. This year there will be 39 delegates attending the conference.
3. NGAT partners with the Military Department to sponsor an annual Officer Professional Development visit to Washington D. C. These company grade officers get an opportunity to visit the Capitol, Arlington, NGB, the Pentagon, NGAUS where
4. Donate \$9,000 for six NGAT scholarships
5. Donate \$6,500 to the Enlisted Association for their scholarship funds.
6. Promote legislative actions on issues benefiting the National Guard which includes congressional contacts, email alerts and processing resolutions for equipment that the Guard needs. In the past the Association has hosted a breakfast with state officials to promote the Guard at a local level.
7. Support the Enlisted Association by purchasing booth space at their annual conference.
8. Financial donations to Command and Enlisted Conferences.
9. Sponsor the Minute Man Awards program
10. This year the Association hosted the OCS Class and paid their registration fees.
11. Offset the cost of the Retiree Luncheon at the State Conference.
12. The National Guard Association of Tennessee Insurance Trust provides the building for the Officer and Enlisted Association and pays the utilities and maintenance of the building.
13. Every member of the National Guard is provided \$500 of free life insurance.
14. All new members of the National Guard are given a free \$10,000 for their first year of enlistment.
15. The Insurance Trust provides a quality life insurance plan of up to \$50,000 with no rate increase. Most recently new term life programs have been introduced that have up to \$250,000 in coverage for the soldier and their spouse.
16. Each member who has the group insurance is eligible for up to \$8,000 additional contributory coverage after 3 years.
17. The Insurance Trust will pay the life insurance premiums for five years of every qualified, retired member of the National Guard.
18. Most importantly, the insurance will pay within 24 hours after notification of a death.

Tennessee is one of the few states that has 100% membership at NGAUS and we pay more dues than any other state.



LTC Jimmie L. Cole, Jr. is shown receiving the Minuteman award for his service as President of NGAT 2006-07. Shown with him is President Elect Harry Montgomery (left) and COL Jeff Holmes President of NGAT.

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A note of Appreciation

We are very grateful for the support that the Tennessee National Guard gives to the National Guard Association. If it were not for the hard work of our Executive Council, all elected volunteers, we could not be a successful Association. But, there are others who also work behind the scenes that make things happen. It would be hard for me to name all those individuals who are constantly offering help and guidance and who are always there when we need them. To everyone involved in the Association, THANK YOU. It is a pleasure working for you.

Larry McKnight