

Tarheel Guardisman

February/March 2011



*Charlotte Marriott
Executive Park Hotel*

*Left: Skyline of downtown Charlotte
(Image courtesy of Visit Charlotte)*

Association Report By Fisk Outwater, NCNGA President

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

As we leave 2010 and enter the fourth quarter of the Association's Fiscal Year, there are eight areas where I would like to see significant progress over the next year.

*A 50th convention with 500 member attendees, growing to 750 in 2012, and 1000 in 2013.

*Our Association financially independent.

*An Association that provides a forum for and listens to voices from our youngest Soldier and Airmen to our most senior retiree.

*An extension of our goals to include taking on a humanitarian project/cause.

*Our membership at 85% in 2011, 90% in 2012, and 95% in 2013.

*Retiree membership increasing by 5,10, and 15% over those same three years.

*An organization that is totally connected to and living in the digital world.

*Achieving an interactive communications system that keeps all of our members informed of Association activities.

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

To make these things happen we need to remind ourselves that there is and always will be strength in numbers. That educating our legislators, our local community leaders, and our citizens about what the North Carolina National Guard brings to our communities, our State and our Nation is a never-ending requirement for success. That while progress often comes slowly we must be prepared to act deliberately and quickly if required.

Let us remember too that we are not alone. To help us we have the NG associations of all the other 54 states and territories. We have NGAUS, EANGUS, the Adjutants General Association, the Governors Association and its associated military caucus as well as State and Federal Legislative military caucuses. We have the Military Officers Association, the VFW and the American Legion. And there are many other local, regional, and national groups and organizations who are available to assist us.

Let us remember to take advantage of the untapped experience and skills we have residing within our own Association's ranks for financial, legislative, organizational, fundraising, IT and other skill sets for guidance and innovation.

Finally, let us remember that our Association officials, Executive Council, 11 active committees, HQ's Staff, Unit Reps, and Retiree Network are continually working these issues, using the lessons from the past and always on the alert for fresh new ideas to keep the Association moving forward.

WHAT CAN BE DONE NOW?

There are two important places to start. The first is the 50th Convention in April and the second is the Legacy Bridge Program (LBP). Quite frankly

our numbers for both are disappointing to say the least.

Last year only 139 registered members/delegates were present to vote at the Convention. That means that national resolutions, Bylaws changes, and the officer and Executive Council positions were approved by less than 1% of our membership. Those numbers are frightening because they confirm a downward trend in participation and interest at our conventions that has occurred over the last 6-7 years. This event gives us the only real means to join together as a body and renew our support for our Association and take a stand. It is here where we can discuss the serious issues facing us, get your ideas to the floor and prepare the Association for the future. Without solid numbers these efforts are not only weakened but they are only a shadow of the true representation of our 16,000 members. Additionally, low numbers weakens our ability to attract vendors and exhibitors which reduces the quality of the services that we can provide at the convention. So please, join us at the convention in April and bring someone who has never been before. I promise you it will be enlightening, and, it will be fun. (See VP Honeycutt's article in this issue)

Similarly, numbers for the LBP are surprisingly low. That too is disappointing considering the importance of the program and its very low cost to join. Membership is a one-time payment of \$100 dollars, less than one months state pension for most of us. To date we have 77 participants which is a lot less than what we need. The LBP is our connection to financial independence. Without that independence we live month-to-month, "hopng" that our income will match our expenditures. This business-as-usual approach means we cannot guarantee our survival as an entity. That makes me very uncomfortable. I know that money is tight, but this is good insurance to protect a very valuable asset.

You will find Convention and LBP registration forms in this magazine. Take the time right now to fill them out and mail them to the Association headquarters. Doing so will help take your Association to new and more secure levels, and we can all rest a lot easier.

AND WHY IS THIS ASSOCIATION NECESSARY?

As we continue face these tough financial times and address the high use of NCNG personnel with its accompanying stresses on their families and employees, we are the voice that speaks for all of them. Unrestricted by political affiliation we can help to protect the state and federal benefits so painstakingly gained for our members over the years and to make sure that they remain the best-trained, equipped and manned military force in the world. We are also the voice for our retirees who gave for so many years. And, we are the voice that in many ways can speak for your future during this period of uncertainty.

Our NCNG Association is not the largest in the country in terms of numbers, but we are among the very best in terms of effectiveness, visibility, and obtained benefits. Our 2011-2012 legislative agenda kicks off with our annual Legislative Breakfast in February and it will be substantive but pragmatic. It will address benefits that apply directly to our younger Soldiers and Airmen while holding on to the benefits that already exist. We will continue to look to our national organizations for help with major issues that are best handled at that level. But here at home we will solicit resolutions that address those specific issues brought to us by our own NC Soldiers and Airmen to meet their needs.

We will continue to seek financial independence by nurturing our new revenue sources, aggressively seeking new members, and looking for new and better ways to do the business of the Association. We will be ambitious on your behalf but realistic. We will be assertive yet patient. And, we will work as hard for you as you do for your State and your Nation. Continued success is within our grasp. It is affordable, and it is doable. You can help us in all these areas and in so doing help yourself, your family, and your units.

Us. We. You. Me. Them. Together it can all happen.

TARHEEL GUARDSMAN

Official publication of the North Carolina National Guard Association

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2011 Volume 45 Number 1

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**Active and Retired
Officers and Warrant
Officers — It is not too
late to register for the
Military Ball. See page
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hotel information.**

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Jack Midyette

Marty Reigher

139th Regiment (CA)

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Air Guard

Warren Newell

Bob Bensley

Associate Class

John Atkinson

Al Rose

Deadline for submitting articles to the Tarheel Guardsman:

APR/MAY issue: 1 MAR 2011

Send articles/photos to Teri Foster,
Editor at the NCNGA (7410 Chapel Hill
Rd, Raleigh, NC 27607-5047) or email
(terieakes@bellsouth.net)

Address changes or questions?

Call us toll free in NC at
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The *Tarheel Guardsman* is the official publication of the North Carolina National Guard Association, a non-profit organization. The publication's mission is to promote the general welfare of the NCNGA, assist in increasing the readiness of the NC Army and Air National Guard of North Carolina and serve as a vehicle of expression for members of the National Guard.

Members receive the publication free with their membership. The annual subscription rate for non-members of the Association is \$15.00. Please include your old address when requesting change of address.

Deadline for submitted material to the *Tarheel Guardsman* is the 5th of the month, two months preceding the calendar date of issue. Manuscripts and photographs on subjects of general interest are invited. Unless otherwise indicated, material may be reprinted provided credit is given to the *Tarheel Guardsman* and the author where listed. Articles and photos will not be returned, unless requested. (USPS 533-640)

Advertising is accepted. For details contact the Association headquarters. Advertising, including political ads, published in this publication does not represent the endorsement or approval of the North Carolina National Guard Association.

Legacy Bridge Program

In the August/September issue of the Tarheel Guardsmen magazine, Active Associate Representative Al Rose introduced a new program that is designed to financially carry the Association through our present fiscal transition period. As we move from a system where we depended on our investments and insurance premiums to pay our Association's expenses to one that will rely on new revenue sources to cover our budget, the Legacy Bridge Program will provide the interim funds to meet budget costs until the transition is complete. Our projection is that this should occur within 2-3 years, and as such it is a closed end program.

The short-term plan is to use the income from the Legacy Bridge Program until our new revenue sources come on-line allowing us to insulate our investments so that they are allowed to grow over the long-term. At the end of 2-3 years, the new revenue sources, along with insurance premiums, will be our main income sources and the Legacy Bridge Program will close.

Long-term, we hope to reach an investment fund goal of \$3 million. At that point, even at a modest 4%, the Association could survive indefinitely should our insurance and new revenue sources take a hit during lean times.

The Legacy Bridge Program, to be used strictly for budgeted expenses, targets our retirees (Active Associates) and our lifetime members for obvious reasons. However, it is open to anyone who would like to help with this initiative. The more who participate, the stronger we will be financially.

I cannot stress how important this program is as an integral and necessary part of your Association's efforts to become financially sound. As you will read in my President's Comments, the National Guard, the US Military, and our Nation face significant challenges over the next two decades. State associations like ours are critical advocates for our Soldiers and Airmen as we face these challenges. As such, if we are to support our Soldiers and Airmen, their families, and our retirees, we must remain strong in membership numbers, we must work to identify and legislate for relevant initiatives, and we must partner with other organizations with similar goals and agendas. We simply cannot do these things if we are not financially well-grounded. The Legacy Bridge Program will help to keep us in a position to do just that.

Please consider joining us in the Legacy Bridge Program. Take a few minutes to fill out the application and to write a check. Al and his team have started us in the right direction. It is up to us now to make it happen.

NCNGA LEGACY BRIDGE PROGRAM DONATION

\$100 Donation (Donations are not tax deductible)

\$25 Quarterly Installments:

Check Money Order

\$100 Full Payment:

Check Money Order
 MasterCard/Visa (Add \$2 CC Fee)

Credit Card Information:

Acct #: _____

Exp. Date: __/__/__ 3 Digit Sec. Code: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Unit: _____ Rank: _____

NCNGA Life Member: Yes No

E-Mail Address: _____

Return Application & Payment To: NCNGA

Attn: Legacy Bridge Program
7410 Chapel Hill Road
Raleigh, NC 27607-5047

Questions? Call 919-851-3390 or 800-821-6159 (NC Only)

MEMBERS — (Since last publication) LEGACY BRIDGE PROGRAM

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 42. George S. Parks | 60. Donald N. Wamsher |
| 43. Jack B. Midyette, Jr. | 61. Haywood D. Lancaster |
| 44. Gregory R. Trantham | 62. E. Keith Nelon |
| 45. Jim Carper | 63. Norman H. Beatty |
| 46. Gary Holbrook | 64. John C. Crump |
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| 52. Vencen V. Morton, Jr. | 70. Bill Richardson |
| 53. Willie E. Poole | 71. Thomas M. Carter |
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| 57. Elton G. Grice | 75. Joseph C. Bowling, Jr. |
| 58. Bobby R. Dowless, Sr. | 76. Steven D. Martin |
| 59. Ronnie Gregory | 77. Robert E. Suber, III |

A Look at the NC National Guard Association During the 1990's.....

1990-91 was a busy year for President Samuel A. Coleman and the North Carolina National Guard Association. The call came for the North Carolina National Guard to participate in "Operation Desert Shield." Almost fifty years to the day after North Carolina National Guard units of the 30th Infantry Division were mobilized for service in World War II, eight North Carolina Army National Guard units and individual members of the Air National Guard again answered the call of the President of the United States. With the NC National Guard beginning to be more involved in conflicts across the oceans, the delegates at the 30th Annual Convention approved a contingency operating plan in the event of mass mobilization. Quite a few North Carolina National Guard members were deployed for Operation Desert Shield/Storm and the NCNGA staff visited every unit in order to process new allotment forms for those soldiers/airmen insured through the NCNGA group life insurance program. (At the time, I was the Assistant Insurance Administrator and remember climbing into a very small plane at Raleigh-Durham Airport with Insurance Administrator Barbara Roche for a trip to Asheville, where several MP units were being mobilized. You could talk with the pilot and co-pilot through a curtain at the front of the plane and there might have been 10 or 12 seats on the whole plane – I was worried we weren't going to get off the ground because Barbara and I had two very large suitcases filled with nothing but printouts and forms that I just knew weighed more than the plane!)

In July 1990, the NC General Assembly repealed the NC National Guard's \$1500 State income tax exemption. The Executive Council, under the leadership of President Coleman, approved the Legislative Committee's recommendation to pursue a \$150 annual payment to each member of the NC National Guard in order to remedy the effects of the income tax exemption repealed. During Coleman's tenure, the NCNGA headquarters building renovations were completed. Membership figures as of 30 April 1991 – members: 14,572 and insured: 12,188.

Jerry T. Oliver was elected President of the NC National Guard Association for 1991-92. During his presidency, the *Tarheel Guardsman* magazine, which had been published monthly,

would be reduced to six copies a year due to spiraling printing/ mailing costs. The legislative request to provide a \$150 annual allotment for each member of the Guard, replacing the \$1500 state income tax exemption that was repealed in 1990, was not included in the appropriations bill for that year. President Oliver appointed a Long Range Planning Committee "to discuss and chart the Association's path well into the future."

Changes were made to the NCNGA Group Life Insurance program, providing improved and expanded coverage to those insured members aged 60 and older. Annual dues were increased to \$10 per year. The NC Military Historical Society realized a dream come true with the opening of the North Carolina Military History Museum at historic Fort Fisher. Approximately 200 people were on hand for the dedication ceremonies. A tax consultant, specializing in non-profit organizations, was hired to review the NCNGA's tax status, with an eye to providing tips on how the Association could reduce its rather large tax bill. The consultant recommended the NCNGA file amended tax returns with the IRS for 1988-89 and 1989-90 tax years in order to claim deductions for various programs and activities which the NCNGA believed to be tax deductible. Two non-voting seats were added to the Executive Council, one each for the presidents of the NC Military Historical Society and NCNGA Educational Foundation. One major legislative item that was a victory for the NCNGA and its members was the United States Supreme Court ruling that National Guard and Reserve members have unlimited reemployment rights when they request a leave of absence from their civilian jobs to undertake a tour of active duty. Membership as of 30 April 1992 was 14,739 with 12,395 insured.

1992-93 was a tough year financially for the NCNGA and incoming President Basil Haunn. For the second time in three years, the NCNGA was audited by the Internal Revenue Service. However, this audit was voluntarily triggered by the Association when it filed amended tax returns for tax years 1989-90 and 1990-91, claiming significant refunds on taxes previously paid. Insurance death claims for members and their dependents from 1 May 1992 - 8 March 1993 totaled over \$814,000 and the months of March and April were still remaining before the fiscal year-end. The dramatic downturn in revenue from the insurance program presented the Finance Committee with a difficult task in developing the next year's budget – an 18% cut in operating expenses was being considered. As of 30 April 1992 – membership: 14,372 and insured: 12,055.

In 1993-94, Genes Norris served as President of the NCNGA. During his term, he recommended (and it was approved by the Executive Council) to limit the number of Council members serving on the various committees. He felt this would allow more representation from the units across the state. At its first meeting, the Executive Council approved naming the NCNGA boardroom the "Myron Lee Pigg Boardroom." The NCNGA computer database programming was completed. NCNGA Executive Director Sam Johnson reported that the Association received notification from the Internal Revenue Service in mid-September that the amended returns seeking refunds for taxes paid in 1989 and 1990 were approved and would be fully refunded. The NCNGA annual convention was reduced from three days to two days, beginning with the 1997 convention. The NCNGA Group Life Insurance program was changed to

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Looking Back...continued from page 5

include increasing spouse coverage to \$50,000 and improving dependent coverage for children less than one year of age. As of 30 April 1994 – membership: 14,289 and insured: 11,960.

Andy Hoyle was elected President of the North Carolina National Guard Association for 1994-95. One of his first tasks as President was to replace NCNGA Executive Director Sam Johnson, who resigned effective May 20, 1994 in order to pursue a master's degree in accounting at North Carolina State University. Hoyle appointed former NCNGA President Ken Stalls to chair the Headquarters and Employees Committee and interview prospective candidates for the Executive Director position. Bob Upchurch was selected as the new Executive Director and began his new position February 1, 1995. Other events that took place during Hoyle's tenure included that through the joint efforts of the Association, the Adjutant General and his staff, funding was approved by the General Assembly for an additional \$350,000 for Tuition Assistance and \$200,000 in additional funds for armory repairs and maintenance. The Accidental Death coverage program that was offered to all insured members of the NCNGA, at no cost to them, was cancelled effective April 30, 1995 based on high costs, small benefit and the potential for disaster to the Association. As of 30 April 1995 – membership: 13,989 and insured: 11,457.

Vaughn Steele served as President in 1995-96. The 35th annual convention, held in Greensboro saw approximately 500 attendees – a downward trend for the NCNGA conventions from the previous four years; high cost was listed as one of the culprits on a survey of our members. Beginning in 1996, the NCNGA Educational Foundation decided to award scholarships only to members of the North Carolina National Guard Association and the spouse, children, grandchildren and legal dependents of active, retired or deceased members. Scholarships would no longer be given to members of the general public. NCNGA Executive Director Bob Upchurch tendered his resignation effective 31 December 1995. President Steele appointed an ad-hoc committee to review all job positions, particularly the position of the Executive Director. As of 30 April 1996, the Association's insurance program had paid claims totaling \$9,570,500 to members and their dependents. As of 31 March 1996 – membership: 13,644 and insured: 11,044.

The 36th President of the NCNGA was

W. B. Bullock, who served from 1996-97. During his tenure a new Executive Director was hired; Basil Haunn began his employment with the NCNGA on November 1, 1996. The Association also put into place an investment plan to earn better returns than previously earned. The NCNGA Educational Foundation began an Endowment Campaign and a "Walk of Honor" was established at the Claude T. Bowers Military Center in Raleigh, recognizing those individuals that contributed to the Endowment Campaign. As of 28 February 1997 – membership: 13,234 and insured: 10,290.

David Earnhardt served as President of the NC National Guard Association for 1997-98. The Legislative Committee was very active in lobbying for free tuition to all State-supported colleges and trade/technical schools. While the free tuition was not approved, an increase in the Tuition Assistance funding was approved as well as an increase in benefits for State Duty. President Earnhardt appointed an Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee, and they developed a long-range plan with goals and objectives for the future of the NCNGA. The NCNGA moved forward into the 21st century – we had an email address! As of 31 January 1998 – membership: 13,173 and insured: 10,064.

Marty Falls was elected President of the NCNGA for 1998-99. The NCNGA lost a long-time employee (and staff position) with the retirement of Rita Chaffin. Rita had been with the NCNGA for 32 years. President Falls' year was mostly occupied with the realignment of staff positions at the NCNGA; due to downsizing in the National Guard and the loss of Association members the NCNGA reduced its staff from six employees to five. Membership as of 31 March 1999 was 13,495 with 9,998 insured.

In 1999-2000, Bob Stonestreet served as President. During his term of service, the *Tarheel Guardsman* was changed dramatically, effective with the June 1999 issue - the magazine was published quarterly, with a 4-6 page newsletter published the other months. The change was made to cut production costs. At the annual convention, the delegate system was eliminated in order to allow all members of the Association the right to vote. The Public Relations Committee began work to establish a web site for the Association. As of 31 March 2000 – membership: 12,890 and insured: 9,757.

See the April/May issue of the *Tarheel Guardsman* for the final chapter of the North Carolina National Guard Association's historical recap!

Happy Valentine's Day!



North Carolina National Guard Integrated Behavioral Health System

Submitted by Stephanie W. Nissen, NCC, LMHC, LPC, State Behavioral Health Programs Director

“While Army policy and processes are fundamentally sound, gaps allow Soldiers to exploit or slip through the current system... There is a requirement to improve integration of surveillance, detection and accountability.” Army Health Promotion, Risk Reduction & Suicide Prevention Report July 2010

— In response, the North Carolina National Guard (NCNG) has created the NCNG Integrated Behavioral Health System.

The NCNG Integrated Behavioral Health System has been created to assist service and family members using an 800 number telephonic portal to access timely assessment of risk and needs (clinical and other). The newly created Psychological Services Section staff is the driving force of the NCNG Integrated Behavioral Health System.

The Psychological Services Section is one that will incorporate the use of several contractors in order to better meet the needs of the North Carolina National Guard. The Section is made up of a contracted State Behavioral Health Programs Director, two contracted Directors of Psychological Health (PHP DPH and Wing DPH), four contracted Behavioral Health Clinicians, and two contracted Behavioral Health Case Managers. The NCNG System is designed to bring all of the best resources together and to function collaboratively for the betterment of behavioral health assessment, care, referral and case management for the service and family members of the NCNG.

Important features:

1. In-house behavioral health care for and case management for the first time for NCNG Service and Family Members. The System is serving as a stop gap for Soldiers and Airmen slipping through the cracks due to lack of insurance coverage or VA ineligibility because they have not deployed.

2. Easy access with no wrong door for all Service Members and Families.

3. Leaders, Service Members, and Families can call the 1-800-621-4136 auto-attendant 24-hours a day, 7 days a week, to gain access into the System for consultation, assessment of need and risk, and to receive appropriate referrals to internal and external resources. All cases are then followed up by the NCNG case management

team. The System is manned and facilitated by contracted licensed NCNG clinical staff. While the 800 # is not a hot line, answered live, all calls are returned in time sensitive fashion.

4. This system is voluntary, confidential, professionally staffed and completely separate from the MMRB/Fit for Duty/PEB and NCNG medical processes. While accessing the System is free of charge, referrals are sometimes made to external resources that would require payment.

Leadership no longer has to try to figure out what to do, or how serious an issue is, or where to send somebody. (I.e. Does my Soldier need an appointment through Military OneSource or do I need to take them to the hospital? Is it just an employment problem or do they need more help?) The NCNG Integrated Behavioral Health System can be considered a one-stop portal to resources both clinical and non-clinical.

North Carolina National Guard
Integrated Behavioral Health System

VOLUNTARY, CONFIDENTIAL,
PROFESSIONALLY STAFFED and FREE

Taking Care of Our Own

CALL ANYTIME 800-621-4136

ATTENTION RETIREES!

On April 15-16, 2011, the North Carolina National Guard Association will conduct its 50th Annual Convention at the Marriott Executive Park in Charlotte.

Recently, a group got together to discuss the feasibility of hosting a Retiree Hospitality Room at the upcoming convention. As many of you know, the hospitality rooms are an integral part of the festivities, and this being the 50th Annual Convention, it would be nice to have a hospitality room hosted by the retirees. This initiative would provide us an opportunity to maintain connectivity between active Guardsmen and those of us who are retired.

We are excited about this idea, but as you know, it takes money and volunteers to fund and operate a first class hospitality room. The purpose of this article is to request your support. We would like to request you consider a donation to support this event in the amount of \$10 to \$25 dollars. Checks may be made payable to: Retiree Hospitality Room – 2011 and mailed to the Association office at 7410 Chapel Hill Road, Raleigh, NC 27607 no later than March 1 in order for us to begin serious planning.

If you can attend the convention and would be willing to assist in the setup, operation of and cleanup of the area, please include a note along with your donation.

Our Association has provided many benefits for our membership over the years. We enjoy the benefit of the State Retirement Plan every month! Please seriously consider sending a donation today, and come have a great time and make this project a success.

Please feel free to contact those listed below if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns.

John Atkinson — 910-739-3567

Gene Ray — gene7356@nc.rr.com

Kerney Peoples — 919-389-7725

Steve Blackwood – 919-724-0625

Military Saves Week

By Barbara Bennett, Investor Education Specialist, Secretary of State Securities Division

The fifth annual Military Saves Week, a readiness initiative authorized by the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, is set for February 20-27 this year.

Per Military Saves it is “a social marketing campaign to persuade, motivate, and encourage military families to save money every month,” to pay off debts, and reach financial goals. For families, “healthy finances and open communication about money contributes to marital stability and gives kids a solid foundation for the future.”

Whether you expect to stay with the Guard to retirement and beyond or just do your part while going to school or pursuing other career paths, it’s never too early to work toward your short and long term financial goals.

In October 2010, the FINRA Investor Education Foundation released The Military Survey, one of three linked surveys analyzing the financial capability of American adults. It measures, for the first time, the overall financial capabilities of U.S. military personnel. The results indicate that military

personnel rank higher than civilians in all sections of financial literacy and are often in better financial positions than their average civilian counterparts.

Commendably, less than 1% of military respondents are “unbanked” (do not have a checking or savings account) and fewer military accounts are charged late or over-limit fees. That’s great! The bad news is, only 50% of military respondents have a “rainy day” fund for unanticipated financial emergencies. This may explain why more than one in five military respondents has used alternative borrowing methods such as payday loans, tax refund advances, auto title loans, rent-to-own or pawn shops. As of 2007, the interest rate on these transactions are limited to 36% APR. That’s still a very hefty price to pay for money. In addition, 65% of military are not paying their credit cards in full, as opposed to only 56% of civilians. Even with low interest rate credit cards, the interest cost is eating up part of your paycheck every month.

National Guard Savers are grossly underrepresented in the program. Take a good look at your budget, spending habits and savings plan. Then visit Military Saves for “tips and tools to help you set goals, develop strategies to reach those goals, and to start saving.” But remember, there are scammers out there! Before investing, call the Securities Division at 800-688-4507 to verify the registration of anyone promoting or selling securities. Then invest in yourself for a more secure financial future.

The Women's Memorial: Arlington, VA

Dedicated in 1997, the Women's Memorial is the only major national memorial that honors servicewomen.

- During the American Revolution, women served as nurses, water bearers, cooks, laundresses, and saboteurs on the battlefield.
- During the Civil War (1865), Dr. Mary Walker received the Medal of Honor.
- 1901 – Army Nurse Corps established.
- 1908 – Navy Nurse Corps established.
- During World War I, more than 400 military nurses died in the line of duty.
- Army Reorganization Act (1920) grants military nurses the status of officers with “relative rank” from 2LT to MAJ, but not full rights and privileges.

• During World War II:

- o Women's Army Corps (WAC)
- o Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP)
- o Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) – Navy Reserve
- o Marine Corps Women's Reserve
- o Semper Paratus – Always Ready (SPAR) – Coast Guard Reserve
- o Cadet Nurse Corps – US Public Health Service

• 1947 – Army Nurse Corps and Women's Medical Specialist Corps become a part of the Regular Army and permanent commissioned officer status is granted to Army and Navy nurses.



Courtesy of Orion Photography, Manassas, VA

- 1948 – Women granted permanent status in the Regular and Reserve Forces of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force.
 - 1949 – Air Force Nurse Corps established.
 - 1955 – Men are accepted into the Army and Air Force Nurse Corps.
 - 1965 – Men are accepted into the Navy Nurse Corps.
 - During the Vietnam War, over 7,000 women served in Southeast Asia.
 - 1969 – Air Force ROTC opens to women.
 - 1972 – ROTC is opened to Army and Navy women.
 - 1976 – Women are admitted to the Service Academies.
 - 1978 – WAC is disestablished. Members integrated into the Regular Army.
 - During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, more than 40,000 women are deployed.
 - Over 2.5 Million women have served (to include those currently serving) with the United States Armed Forces since the American Revolution.
- For more information, visit them on-line at www.womensmemorial.org.



***The North Carolina Department
of the American Legion
Thanks You for Your Service to
Our State and Nation!***

***We invite you to visit any of our 334
Posts, statewide, visit our website
www.nclegion.org,
email us at nclegion@nc.rr.com,
or call 919-832-7506.***



***“For God and Country -
Still Serving Proudly.”***





NC National Guard Association
50th Annual Convention Registration Form
Charlotte Marriott Executive Park, Charlotte, NC
15-16 April 2011

Registrant's Name _____	Association Member <input type="checkbox"/>	First Convention <input type="checkbox"/>
Guest Name _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Address _____		
City _____ State _____ Zip _____		
Telephone _____ E-mail _____		
*Number of children attending: _____ Ages: ____/____/____/____/____		

***See page 11 for child activity information.**

****No Refunds after 8 April 2011****

Pre-Registration	_____ @ \$50 per person	=	\$ _____
Registration-after 1 April	_____ @ \$60 per person	=	\$ _____
Business Session Only	_____ @ \$0 per person	=	\$ N/A
*Spouse/Guest Brunch	_____ @ \$10 per person	=	\$ _____
*Registered Guests Only			
Child's Dinner	_____ @ \$15.00 per child	=	\$ _____
Credit Card Fee	_____ @ \$2.00	=	\$ _____

Total Amount = \$ _____

Saturday Dinner Selection:

Attendee:

Grilled Chicken Breast ___ or London Broil ___

Spouse/Guest:

Grilled Chicken Breast ___ or London Broil ___

Child's Dinner:

Grilled Chicken Breast ___ or London Broil ___

Method of Payment:

_____ Check enclosed (payable to NCNGA)

_____ Charge my: ___ MasterCard ___ Visa

Account # _____

Expiration date _____

Authorized Signature _____

Complete & return to:

NCNGA, 7410 Chapel Hill Rd. Raleigh, NC 27607 (Or Fax: 919-859-4990 Or Call: 919-851-3390)

Charlotte Marriott Executive Park Accommodations Information

For Reservations:

Call Toll Free 800-359-7961 or go to <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/cltnc-charlotte-marriott-executive-park/>.
 Mention **NGD** to receive special group rate.

*Marriott accepts most major credit cards — *Rooms \$95 (plus 16.25% room tax)

*Check-in time: 3:00 p.m. — Check-out time: 12:00 noon

*If disability accommodations are required, please notify Charlotte Marriott Executive Park.

Reservations must be received prior to the cut-off date of 24 March 2011. After the cut off date, reservations will be accepted at the group rate, based on availability. All reservations must be guaranteed and accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card. Deposits (taken either in cash or by credit card) are refunded or credited only if notice is received 24 hours prior to arrival date and cancellation number must be obtained by guest.

CONVENTION INFORMATION

The 50th Annual Convention will be held at the Charlotte Marriott Executive Park in Charlotte, NC. Rates for guestrooms are \$95 per night, plus tax, single or double occupancy. Reservations must be received prior to the cut-off date of 24 March 2011. Reservations not received by this date will be reserved at the group rate on an availability basis only. Special room requests should be directed to Charlotte Marriott Executive Park.

Please join us this year as we celebrate the NC National Guard Association's 50th **Anniversary!**

The Charlotte Marriott Executive Park has many amenities such as indoor/outdoor pools, fitness center and nearby golf. Charlotte also has many attractions including Discovery Place Science Museum and Renaissance Park Golf Course.

Convention officially begins Friday with afternoon business sessions, but the Educational Foundation holds their annual Golf Tournament and Reverse Drawing on Thursday. These events are fundraisers for the scholarship program. Please join us for those as well...it's always a great time!

After the business session on Friday, hospitality rooms with food and drinks are open. This is a great time for you to get to know members running for a seat on the Executive Council. Afterwards, we are having Casino Night with a DJ and Dance. Each guest will receive \$25,000 in casino chips to play Blackjack, Roulette, Poker and Craps Tables. Purchase raffle tickets afterwards with your earnings for great prizes!

Saturday morning, the spouses and guests can enjoy brunch and then learn Zumba from Queen City Dancing Queen. Zumba fuses Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program so don't forget to sign up! The cost is \$10 per person.

Saturday evening, we will have dinner followed by a night of dancing and entertainment, to include the "Newly-Wed Game" hosted by the NCNGA Auxiliary.

This year, if we receive enough responses on the registration form, we will have an activity planned for the kids during Saturday morning business session.

NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION 50th ANNUAL CONVENTION 15-16 APRIL 2011

Tentative Schedule of Events

Thursday, 14 April 2011

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Educational Foundation
Golf Tournament |
| 6:30 p.m. until | Educational Foundation
Reverse Drawing |

Friday, 15 April 2011

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Registration/Exhibitors
Educational Foundation
Silent Auction |
| 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | First Business Session
Enlisted/Jr Officer Forum
Social – Exhibitors Only |
| 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. | Hospitality Rooms |
| 8:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. | Casino Night/DJ/Dance/Cash Bar |

Saturday, 16 April 2011

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Registration/Exhibitors |
| 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Educational Foundation
Silent Auction |
| 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. | Second Business Session
Awards & Installation Ceremony |
| 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | Spouse/Guest Brunch
Zumba Dance Lessons |
| 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | NCNGA Auxiliary Business Session |
| 11:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Unit Representative Workshop |
| 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | Educational Foundation
Annual Meeting |
| 6:30 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. | Dinner/Cash Bar/DJ/Dance |

“Red Leg Brothers”

Submitted by BG (Ret) Rock Lindsay and COL (Ret) Bob Goss



Pictured above is part of the group at the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara presentation in Blowing Rock, NC (left to right) BG (Ret) Rock Lindsay, COL (Ret) Earl Taylor, LTC (Ret) Bob Collins, COL (Ret) BOB Goss, COL (Ret) Larry Lupus, and COL (Ret) Bob Dowless.

There are a group of Retired FIELD ARTILLERY officers who have established a unique and personal comradeship that has lasted over 40 years. It began with service as officers in 1-113th FA Battalion in Charlotte, NC. The bond grew by participation in NC National Guard Association conventions, unit and personal parties and gatherings, Charlotte Prayer Breakfast and now a yearly gathering in Blowing Rock, NC. Part of the **Red Leg Brothers** gathered in Blowing Rock in October of this year. It was special since they honored one of their own (COL (Ret) Bob Goss) by a presentation of the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. This is a special Artillery award to recognize officers who have served the branch with a special distinction.

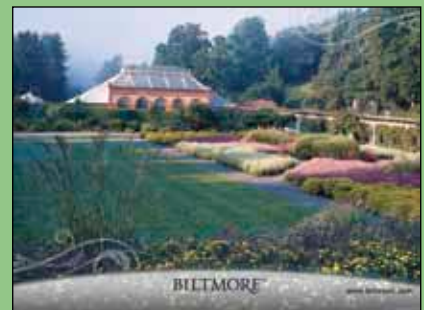
The group also earlier this year belatedly honored CSM (Ret) Harold Eddins with the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. He served with all the officers while CSM of 1-113th FA Battalion.

During the gathering in Blowing Rock the group made a special toast to Col (Ret) Jerry Taylor who signed out on Memorial Day of this year. He is greatly missed.

Happy Birthday!!



RALEIGH, N.C. – The cake before the official cutting at the North Carolina National Guard’s celebration of the National Guard’s 374th birthday. The ceremony was held at the North Carolina National Guard’s Joint Forces Headquarters building on December 13th. The National Guard was first founded on December 13, 1636, when Massachusetts General Court in Salem, for the first time in the history of the North American continent, established that all able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60 were required to join the militia. (US Army photo by Sgt. Miko Booth, North Carolina National Guard Public Affairs.)



Biltmore Estate

Adult Discount Tickets \$27.00 - Valid for any self-guided daytime tour through 3 April.

(Gate/online prices range from \$29-\$39)
Youth 10-16 FREE until 3 April. Children 9 & under FREE year-round with paying adult.

You may also order and print discount tickets at <http://www.biltmore.com/ncnga> (prices may vary).

PLAY GOLF AND SUPPORT THE NCNGA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

FORMAT: 18-Hole Modified Captain's Choice
WHERE: Emerald Lakes Golf Club, Matthews, NC 28104
WHEN: Thursday, April 14, 2011 – Shotgun Start at 9:30 AM
ENTRY FEE: \$60.00 (Make checks payable to NCNGA Educational Foundation, Inc.)
DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING: All checks must be received by Monday, 28 March 2011
TEAM PRIZES: 1st Place Team — 4th Place Team
MAIL TO: NCNGA Educational Foundation, Inc., 7410 Chapel Hill Road, Raleigh, NC 27607

The cost includes cart and green fee, all prizes (Longest Drive Front and Back Nine, Closest to the Hole All Par 3's, Hole in One All Par 3's, Putting Contest at Conclusion of Round, Door Prizes) and Driving Range prior to round. Mulligans may be purchased for \$5 (maximum of 2). Money from mulligans will be added to the donations to the NCNGA Educational Foundation. Cost for Putting Contest is \$10. Prize for Putting Contest is 50/50 split the pot on the cost, with the remainder also added to the donations to the NCNGA Educational Foundation.

You may put together your own team or sign up individually and I will place you on a team

For additional information, contact Terry Westbrook at (919) 664-6393

Open to all golfers during the 48th NCNGA Annual Convention in Charlotte, NC and their guests. All proceeds go to the NCNGA Educational Foundation. Check must accompany entry form. Convention attendance not required to enter tournament. Entry fee will be returned if tournament is cancelled due to rain.

If you would like to register as a team, all four entry forms must be submitted together with checks totaling \$240.00.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____

I declare myself physically able to compete in this event. I waive all rights for claims for injury or illness which may occur during this event.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

NCNGA Educational Foundation estimates the value for each entrant to be \$45.00. Charitable contributions are deductible only to the extent that they exceed the value of any goods and services received. Your cancelled check is acknowledgement of your contribution.

Correction to Dec/Jan issue:

After publishing information regarding ID card facilities across the state, the Editor was informed of a few errors. Listed below is the correct information for the Asheville and Charlotte ID card facilities.

Asheville -

Asheville National Guard Armory
100 Minuteman Dr, Asheville NC 28806
Phone: 828-271-5011
Hours: By appointment only –
Tue/Wed/Thurs – 8:30am - 11:00am and
12:00pm - 4:00pm

Charlotte -

NC Air National Guard Base
4930 Minuteman Way, Charlotte NC 28208
Phone: 704-398-4782
Hours: By appointment only – Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri –
8:00am-3:00pm
No appointment required – Tuesday – 8:00am-11:00am

Help Your Association – Run for the NCNGA Executive Council!

The Nominating & Credentials Committee is actively seeking qualified candidates to run for Executive Council seats. Upcoming vacancies for each major command will be filled at the next convention to be held 15-16 April 2011 at the Charlotte Marriott Executive Park in Charlotte, NC.

Qualifications to run for office: you must be a member of the North Carolina National Guard Association and have served on an active committee within the past five years.

If you are qualified (see above) and interested in being an important part of your Association, complete the application below and mail to the NCNGA. If you have any questions, please contact Teri Foster at the NCNGA 1-800-821-6159 ext 1 (terieakes@bellsouth.net).

2011-2012

**Application for Nomination
Candidate for the Executive Council
North Carolina National Guard Association**

Name _____
Home Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Home Telephone No. _____
Business Telephone No. _____
Unit _____
Email address: _____

**Attach a list of your current/past committee
and/or Executive Council involvement.**

Indicate office you want to be considered for:

- ___ President (at large)
- ___ Vice President (at large)
- ___ 30th HBCT – Council Seat
- ___ 130th CSB (ME) – Council Seat
- ___ 60th Troop Command – Council Seat
- ___ JFHQ-NC – 2 Council Seats
- ___ HQ 449th Theatre Avn Bde – Council Seat
- ___ 139th Regiment (CA) – Council Seat
- ___ HQ 113th Sustainment Bde – Council Seat
- ___ Air National Guard – Council Seat
- ___ Associate Membership – Council Seat

Deadline for submitting applications: 1 April 2011



Attention — Active and Retired Officers and Warrant Officers

2011 North Carolina Army and Air National Guard Military Ball

Where: Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center
4700 Emperor Boulevard, Durham NC

When: 12 February 2011, Cocktails at 1700, Dinner at 1930

Dress: Formal

REGISTER ONLINE: Go to <https://einvitations.afit.edu/2011NCNGMilitaryBall/anim.cfm> to register online (preferred method). Once you've registered, mail your signed check payable to the Military Ball Committee by 28 January 2011 to JFHQ-NC-J9-DCMA, ATTN: NCNG Military Ball Committee, 4105 Reedy Creek Road, Raleigh, NC 27607-6410.

TICKETS: CSM/WO1/CW2/O1/O2 - \$48 per ticket; CW3/O3/O4 - \$53; CW4/O5 - \$58; CW5/O6 - \$63; O7 - \$68; O8 - \$73 per ticket. Tickets are per individual, not couple.

ACCOMMODATIONS: The Sheraton offers outstanding accommodations at the rate of \$92 per night, plus tax, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights 11-13 February. Call toll-free 800-325-3535 and book your room as part of the "2011 NCNG Officers Military Ball" block. A link to online booking can be found when you register online at the above address.

For more information, call J9-DCMA at 800-621-4136, ext 6082 or e-mail dcmanc@ng.army.mil.

Giving to Those Who Gave All

By Army Staff Sgt. Robert Jordan and Tech. Sgt. Brian E. Christiansen, North Carolina National Guard Public Affairs

RALEIGH, N.C. - More than 400 students and faculty members of Montreat College brought much needed holiday cheer to those who have lost loved ones on active duty since 2001.

Over \$4,000 worth of wrapped presents and gift cards were delivered to families across the state by Paul Gradus, Survivor Outreach Service Coordinator for Eastern North Carolina.

"Montreat has always been active in the community, but this year we wanted to do something with more impact," said Jonathan Shores, Vice President, Professional and Adult Studies, at the college.

Shores, who is also a traditional North Carolina Air National Guardsman, reached out to his military comrades; Air Force 1st Sgt. Jonathan Stallings and Gradus, who is a retired Army First Sergeant. Together they decided to help military families in the community who have suffered the loss of a loved one on active duty.



"It was important to say 'you are not forgotten' to those families who have sacrificed the most," said Shores.

Flyers were designed and distributed to student groups called "cohorts" across the college's campuses in Charlotte, Black Mountain and Asheville, NC. Each flyer listed a family's name and their needs. Soon, teddy bears, gift baskets and bags, children's toys, dozens of gift cards and numerous other presents wrapped with a child's name covered floors and tables in rooms at each campus.

In a van packed full of the donated gifts, Gradus and Pattie Desens, mother of Spc. Daniel Desens, Jr., a Soldier of the North Carolina National Guard's 1-120th Combined Arms Battalion killed in action in Iraq, 2004; Tammi Bittiker and Mary Wheat, the wife and mother of Army Sgt.

Robert Bittiker of the 1-120th CAB, killed in action in Iraq in 2009, respectively, visited a special family.

The group visited the family of North Carolina Army National Guard Sgt. Juan Carlos Baldeosingh, killed in action in Iraq in 2009, in New Bern, NC. Greeted at the door by Melita Torres, Baldeosingh's mother, they were invited in for coffee and doughnuts. Photos, awards and decorations earned by Baldeosingh lined every wall in the house. During the hour-long visit, gifts were passed out, stories told, hugs exchanged and memories were made. Then it was on to the next family that day, for more gifts, smiles, and memories.

In total, 25 families throughout the state were helped this season, and there are already plans for next year, said Shores.



Army Maj. William "Buck" Rogers, Jr., Commander of the North Carolina National Guard's 130th Military History Detachment, presents Army Maj. Gen. Gregory A. Lusk, State Adjutant General, with a gift of two military history text books as a token of appreciation for the general's support during the 130th MHD's deployment ceremony. This is the sixth deployment for the unit since 1991, said Rogers.

130th Military History Detachment Deploys

(By Sgt. Miko Booth, NCNG Public Affairs Office)

RALEIGH, NC — Army Maj. William "Buck" Rogers, Jr., commander of the 130th Military History Detachment, North Carolina National Guard, gives a speech during the unit's deployment ceremony at Joint Forces Headquarters January 3rd in the State Adjutant General's office.

"We look forward to this assignment," said Rogers. "We will carry on the proud tradition of the Military History Detachment." Staff Sgt. Todd Self, the Military History Detachment's non-commissioned officer, is standing behind Maj. Rogers.





Tarheel Guardsman
NC National Guard Assoc.
7410 Chapel Hill Road
Raleigh, NC 27607-5047

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Your North Carolina National Guard Association Offers The Following Life Insurance Options:

A Group Term Policy For Active Guard Members:

Coverage of \$10,000 for as little as \$3.66 per month, up to \$50,000 for \$17.00 per month.
Premiums are deducted from National Guard pay
Claim Paid within 24-48 hours
No War or Aviation Exclusions
Coverage is also available for your spouse and dependent children
Coverage may be continued following separation from Guard
Premiums are level term until age 65
Automatic conversion to a whole life policy without proving insurability

A Whole Life Policy for Active or Separated Guard Members and/or their families:

Coverage of \$2,500 - \$100,000 is available (rates based on age)
No War or Aviation Exclusions
May be purchased between the ages of 18 - 65
Premiums and coverage are level for the duration of the policy
Accrues a cash value over time
May be drafted monthly from a bank account
Matures at age 100

(Both of these policies are underwritten by American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company.)

If you are currently insured through the NC National Guard Association:

Do you know who your current beneficiary is?
Have you moved recently?
Are you newly married?
Do you have a new child?
Are you recently divorced?
Are you separating from the NC National Guard in the near future?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, please contact the NCONGA at 800-821-6159 (if in NC) or 919-851-3390 to update your policy. Your insurance staff, Teri Foster (ext 1) or Rhonda Arndt (ext 0), will be glad to assist you.

If you are not an insured member of the NCONGA, please consider applying today - Buying life insurance is an easy way to protect your family after you are gone and provide immediate funds for burial expenses. If you're single, remember there are still going to be immediate expenses someone has to pay for your burial.