

# Tarheel Guardian

April/May 2011



## Legislative Breakfast 2011



**Working  
Together For You —  
NC National Guard Association  
and the NC National Guard**



**Do you know where this is?**

**Will you be joining us there?**

**See pages 10-11 for information.**

# Association Report By Fisk Outwater, NCNGA President

As we rapidly close in on the time when the gavel will fall signifying the opening of our Association's historic 50<sup>th</sup> Convention, it is time to say "thanks." First for the five that got us started 51 years ago; Bowers, Hardesty, Manning, Waynick, and Whitley. Then to all of our members over these five decades who have supported our Association. Next to all the Officers, Executive Council, and Committee members who have worked tirelessly to get us here. And, of course thanks to the Staffs throughout all these years who have managed the affairs of our Association while allowing us to provide the services that make the lives of our Soldiers, Airmen, their Families and our Retirees better. Indeed, there are many to thank.

## With Appreciation

For me personally, I have been pleased and literally humbled to work with a unique and gifted group of caring individuals that presently hold all those positions stated above. I add my thanks to them individually and as a group. During these last two years, I have been constantly impressed with the talent, intensity and commitment of these members who have stepped up to support their Association. I watch in wonder as they struggle with budget issues, financial investment strategies, earth breaking communication changes, membership numbers, legislative issues during their hard working sessions of the Association's 11 active committees or Executive Council meetings. It is here that the work is done to improve all of our lots in life and to protect the benefits that we now have and that those who have gone before worked so hard to obtain.

Likewise, I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude, as we all do, for our present Association Staff. Adene, Teri, Kathy and Rhonda each play a vital role in overseeing and tying together each part of the administrative part of the Association's business and providing stability as new Officers, Council and Committee Members pass thru their offices year-after-year. The *Tarheel Guardsmen* magazine, our membership and financial reports, the Convention, the Association website, Retiree Network and Unit Rep program are all better for their efforts.

And if indeed there are in fact plenty of "Thank You's" that are necessary, and if you add plenty of "Where do we go from here's?" that need to be answered, then isn't the Convention a great place to make that happen? Let's talk about that for a moment.

## The Convention

This special 50<sup>th</sup> edition, with it's theme of "50 Years, Setting the Gold Standard; Past, Present and Future" promises to be the one convention you don't want to miss.

Beginning on Thursday with the Golf Tournament and the Reverse Drawing we're off to a swinging start. Next comes the first business session on Friday afternoon quickly followed by the opening of 4, count-em 4, Hospitality Rooms. Then to end the evening on a high note, there will follow a Casino Night with plenty of music for listening and dancing. How fun is that!

The Second Business Session kicks off Saturday morning. That is followed by a breather that afternoon with free time to explore the local Charlotte area. Saturday evening's festivities will include a dinner and dance where some fun filled half time entertainment will keep you smiling.

Look for door prizes galore, the Silent Auction, and plenty of time to spend with each other to renew old acquaintances and meet new ones.

Make sure to visit the History Board of the Association documenting our highlight of events, and you are invited to the Brainstorming Board where you can put your comments about anything that strikes your fancy.

As always, forms will be available to make sure that we have all your correct contact and beneficiary information as well as providing you with the opportunity to increase your insurance.

And we encourage you to fill out other available forms to become a candidate for Association Officers, Executive Council, or join one of our committees.

This year's speakers promise to enlighten us. Two of our own, a recently returned NC Army Guard Soldier and NC Air Guard Airman will tell us about their experiences and those of their families while they were deployed.

We will hear from one of our legislators, who has been very supportive of the NCNG as he tells us how things are going in the historic new General Assembly and what we can expect both as NC citizens and NCNG and NCNGA members.

Finally, to our young members, this is a special and historic time for you as well because, with passage by the membership present, you will have two seats on the Executive Council, giving you the same voice as a major command.

All in all then, this should be one for the books. There is still time to get your registrations in if you hurry. I encourage you to take the time right now to grab the registration form in this magazine, or on line, and get it in to us. You won't be sorry!

## The Legislative Breakfast

Please see Dick Carlton's article in this magazine where he nicely summarizes the recent NCNGA Legislative Breakfast. We were able to bring together over a third of the members of the General Assembly at 7:00 AM to support us, learn more about us, as an Association and our NCNGA Soldiers and Airmen. Not a small feat. The general consensus was that this one was one of the most comfortable and interactive Breakfast's that we have had. Our Legislative members were attentive, curious, appreciative, and very supportive. I came away feeling that this was a body that we can work with and while money will be very tight, we have their ear and John Thompson and the Legislative Committee along with Dick, will make sure we keep their attention.

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# TARHEEL GUARDSMAN

Official publication of the North Carolina National Guard Association

APRIL/MAY 2011 Volume 45 Number 2

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Al Rose

*Teri Foster, Editor*

## **Cover page photo cutlines:**

*Top Left Photo: Fisk Outwater, president of the NC National Guard Association emphasizes the importance of programs and policies that support Soldiers and Airmen of the NC National Guard and the Association. NCNGA Association members and Guardsmen hosted the legislators at the annual NC National Guard Association breakfast in Raleigh. The event is a chance for NC Legislators to learn about how NC programs and policies are affecting serving members of the NC National Guard and members of the Association.*

*Photo on right: Lt. Barry Hull a Legislative Liaison officer with NC National Guard greets Justin Burr, a NC Representative at the annual NC National Guard Association legislative breakfast in Raleigh. Burr represents Stanly, Union and Montgomery Counties.*

*(NCNGA Photos by Maj. Matt Handley)*

## **Address changes or questions?**

Call us toll free in NC at  
1-800-821-6159 or if  
out of state, 919-851-3390.

Our email address is  
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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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

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# Legacy Bridge Program

In a recent issue of the Tarheel Guardsman 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.

*On the next page you will see a list of all those members who have contributed to the Legacy Bridge Program — thank you for your donation and support of the North Carolina National Guard Association!*

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# Legislative Report

By Dick Carlton, NCNGA Lobbyist

The 2011 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly convened on January 26, 2011. It has been widely reported that the Republican Party is now in control of both bodies of the Assembly for the first time since the 1800's. While the North Carolina National Guard and the Association has received very good support in the past, many of the current members are also very supportive. The annual NCNGA breakfast attracted 18 Senators and 45 members of the House. This represented one of the best turnouts ever for this event. This should bode well for the future of NCNGA's legislative agendas.

Grassroots has become a more important tool in lobbying. The NCNGA Legislative Committee has worked hard in recent years to build its grassroots organization. There is nothing better than a Guard member or spouse who knows his or her local representative and educates that official about the North Carolina National Guard Association. Please let John Thompson, Chairman of the Legislative Committee, know if you will contact your local State Senator or Representative, on behalf of the NCNGA.

Historic budget deficits in North Carolina continue for this year. The current budget deficit for fiscal 2011 is \$2.4 billion dollars.

*Maj. Gen. (NC) Greg Lusk, Adjutant General of the NC National Guard, thanks NC*



*legislators for their support during the annual NC National Guard Association breakfast held at the NC Legislative Cafeteria in Raleigh. He said he looks forward to building on the bonds that his predecessors had established with the NC General Assembly. The event is a chance for NC Legislators to learn about how NC programs and policies affect serving members of the NC National Guard and members of the Association. (US Army Photo by Maj. Matt Handley, NCNG PAO)*

The NCNGA is fighting hard to protect pension and education benefits that the Association has helped obtain in the past. Our goal is to ultimately get the maximum pension amount to \$300 per month. Another goal is to obtain a tax exemption for Guard pay. These are tough goals in the current economic environment, but with persistent work, they can be obtained in the not too distant future.

The NCNGA is supporting a bill this session that provides for a free North Carolina license plate to all active Guard members. Representative Ric Killian (R) Mecklenburg is sponsoring that bill. Rep. Killian is Chair of the Transportation Committee and Chair of the Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs. He will be a featured speaker at this year's NCNGA's annual convention in Charlotte. See you in Charlotte.

## Looking Back from 2000 - 2011

By Teri Foster, Editor

**2000-2001:** John Frank was elected President of the North Carolina National Guard Association. His goals included concentrating our legislative efforts to secure 100% tuition for all members of the NC National Guard and to develop an investment program for the Association to cover the operating budget. One of the biggest accomplishments of President Frank's term was the transfer of our insurance carrier from Jefferson-Pilot Life Insurance Company to American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company. The change of carriers was made for several reasons, primarily because it would improve the financial stability of the insurance program (we would no longer be self-insured) and Jefferson-Pilot, which itself was going through a transition, was no longer offering group plans. As of February 28, 2001 we had 12,815 members and 9,675 were insured.

**2001-2002:** Johnny McKinney was elected President of the North Carolina National Guard Association. The Association headquarters underwent major programming changes in the membership database, allowing for more information to be maintained in the database versus paper files. The Legislative Committee made staff visits to Washington, DC this year and worked with the Adjutant General's Legislative Steering Committee for both the federal and state legislative initiatives. The Membership Committee made numerous membership and benefit presentations. The NCNGA worked with the Division of Motor Vehicles and the Adjutant General's office to update the appearance of the National Guard license plate.

**2002-2004:** Baron Hignite was elected President at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention on April 6, 2002; due to no convention being held in 2003 his term, and the Executive Council's, were extended an additional year. During President Hignite's term many of our members were deployed around the world for various conflicts and missions. Committees continued to be active, in spite of the deployments and the NC National Guard Association continued to operate with the necessary business being conducted. The Finance Committee continued to monitor the Investment

*continued on page 9 ~*

# Memorial for NC Guard Soldiers Killed in Action Dedicated in Wilmington

By Army Staff Sgt. Robert Jordan, 30<sup>th</sup> Heavy Brigade Combat Team, Public Affairs

WILMINGTON, N.C. — Four newcomers waited, mute under a snowy sky. Hundreds came to see them for the first time as they joined four brothers in silent testimony. The eight stone markers are part of a memorial honoring North Carolina National Guard Soldiers of the 120<sup>th</sup> Combined Arms Battalion killed in action since 9/11.

The memorial, built for the unit's Soldiers who were killed in action during an Iraq deployment in 2004, was rededicated and expanded to honor Soldiers killed in action in Iraq in 2009. The ceremony was held at the unit's armory in Wilmington Jan. 23.

The four 120<sup>th</sup> CAB Soldiers killed in action in 2004 are Spc. Jocelyn Carrasquillo, Army Capt. Christopher Cash, Spc. Daniel Desens and Army Staff Sgt. Michael Voss. The four 120<sup>th</sup> CAB Soldiers killed in action in Iraq in 2009 are, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Edward Kramer and Army Sgts. Juan Baldeosingh, Robert Adams and Robert Bittiker.

At the ceremony Soldiers, friends and family assembled, bands played, the crowd recognized kin of Soldiers killed in action, and all stood for presentation of the nation's colors on a cold winter's day.

"This memorial is a labor of love, a tribute to their courage, sacrifice and honor," said Army Brig. Gen. James Trogdon, Assistant Adjutant General - Army, of the North Carolina National Guard, as he addressed the crowd.

The memorial is a circle of gravel and



manicured landscaping plants and shrubs. The hub is a flagpole and centerpiece, the border on one side home to eight smaller stone markers.

The centerpiece is a carved unit patch of the 30<sup>th</sup> Heavy Brigade Combat Team, higher headquarters to the 120<sup>th</sup> CAB. Before it, stands the traditional icon of a Soldier killed in action: a rifle, boots and helmet.

In a semicircle, 10 yards away, are four markers for Carrasquillo, Cash, Desens and Voss. Continuing the semicircle are four covered markers draped by a camouflage-colored shroud.

Speaker after speaker praised the Soldiers in attendance and those who have fallen in combat.

"The real North Carolina is right here, big city or small town. The state is so proud of you," said Elaine Marshall, North Carolina Secretary of State. "We love our veterans and especially those who fall in defense of our freedom. Memorials and speeches are easy compared to what you do."

"These Soldiers showed courage and that right can win," said Army Lt. Col. Randy Powell, commander of the 30<sup>th</sup> HBCT. "Their legacy lives on, never forget them."

"They took the fight to the enemy and protected this nation," said Trogdon.

Praise for the memorial came not just as a work of art but also a place for those who feel the loss of the Soldiers passing and pride in their deeds.

"This memorial is important for families, friends to gather, remember and love those who fell," said Marshall.

The time for speaking was over and the time came for the unveiling of the newcomers. Slowly, 120<sup>th</sup> CAB Soldiers approached and pulled the camouflage shrouds away, revealing the nearly two-foot granite markers with the Soldiers' name and unit chiseled in stone.

Families, fellow Soldiers, police and so many others filed past. Some saluted, some hugged, some cried; all mourned.



*A North Carolina National Guard Soldier touches one of four new stones after the rededication ceremony for the Fallen Soldiers Memorial Garden at the 120<sup>th</sup> Combined Arms Battalion Headquarters in Wilmington, NC. The memorial garden is a place where soldiers and families can come to remember the fallen Soldiers who are honored here. (US Army Photo by Sgt. Mary Phillips, 30<sup>th</sup> HBCT, Public Affairs)*

## President's Report: Continued from page 2

### Questions can be healthy

Finally, as the end of our fiscal year draws to a close and we gather for our 50<sup>th</sup> it would be easy to look back and see more questions than answers.

- \* Why are we spending money on certain things when we are asking our membership to support the Legacy Bridge Program?
- \* How soon will our new revenue sources begin to make a difference?
- \* Why can't people afford a one-time payment of \$100?
- \* Why do we still have only 2,300 out of 16,000 of our member's emails?
- \* How many of our members have actually personally called, phoned, or visited their local legislators on our behalf in this historic new congress where the focus of power has significantly shifted?
- \* Why do we not have more candidates for the Association's Officer and Executive Council seats?
- \* Why has attendance figures at the Convention waned in the past few years?

If we're not careful, these challenges can obscure our visions and purposes much like the trees do for the forest, getting in our way as we try to continue the business of the Association. But still, they are legitimate questions that will need addressing. And in looking for their answers we can get a clearer picture of where we want to go.

I have three or four suggestions as to what prompts the questions and even some possible answers. But you know, it's getting late and these comments are long enough. So, if you want to hear more or wish to discuss all of this further then join me at the convention. You'll find me there in grand spirits and grand company from Thursday through Sunday.

**Stay tuned for the June/July issue of the Tarheel Guardsman — we will have photos and articles from our 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention. Who knows, you might be in one of them!**

## ATTN: INSURED MEMBERS OF THE NCGA — HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR BENEFICIARY LATELY?

We have experienced several claims in the past year where beneficiaries had not been updated and ex-spouses received the death benefits of the member's NC National Guard Association Group Life Insurance. Have you had a change in your marital status? If so, please contact us to ensure your beneficiary is who you think it is! Call 919-851-3390 ext 1 (Teri Foster) or ext 2 (Rhonda Arndt)



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## Looking Back...

Continued from page 6

Policy  
Statement  
for the

Association and minor changes were recommended. The Legislative Committee hosted a Legislative Breakfast, which was well attended. The Magazine Committee is now called the Communications Committee to reflect the changes in how we communicate with our members – in addition to the award-winning *Tarheel Guardsman* magazine; we now have a web site ([www.ncnga.org](http://www.ncnga.org)). Membership dues were increased from \$10 to \$15 per year.


**2004-2007:** Jonathan D. Gaskins was elected to serve as President for three consecutive terms! During his tenure the committees were very busy. The Legislative & Resolutions Committee hosted several legislative breakfasts for the General Assembly. They also hosted a Military Liaison Assistant congressional luncheon in Washington, DC. The committee also recommended the NCNGA hire a lobbyist to spearhead our legislative actions in the General Assembly; based on this recommendation Dick Carlton was hired to represent the NC National Guard Association at the General Assembly. The Membership Committee developed a Retiree Network program, which consists of retired members that visit units on drill weekends to promote the Association. The Public Relations Committee produced and distributed a Flag Etiquette Booklet. The insurance program continued to be stable and the NCNGA also began offering a whole life insurance policy. The NCNGA signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the American Legion for more cooperation and support with like projects that support the veterans of both organizations. The Association also provided building space for the Soldiers and Airmen Relief Fund organization. The Past Presidents Advisory Committee developed a Strategic Planning Guide for 2006-2016.

**2007-2008:** Shawne Johnson was elected as the first female President of the North Carolina National Guard Association. During this busy year, the Membership Committee revised the Corporate Membership program; NCNGA staff member Barbara Roche retired and Rhonda Arndt was hired; job descriptions and duties were updated by the Headquarters/ Employees Committee; and membership increased by 1,160 new members!

**2008-2009:** Steven Johnson was elected President at the 47<sup>th</sup> annual convention. During his tenure, he was mobilized and Vice President Fisk Outwater stepped up to assist him. While the NC Guard had a busy year with numerous mobilizations, the Association was also busy. The Communications Committee ran a survey in the *Tarheel Guardsman* then reviewed the results to improve the magazine; the magazine was changed to six 16-page magazines every other month. The NCNGA had large losses in investments for the past year, due to the world market economic crisis.

**2009-2011:** Fisk Outwater became our President at the 48<sup>th</sup> annual convention and served two terms. The NCNGA had 15,770 members at the 49<sup>th</sup> annual convention and 76% of them carried our group life insurance program. The investments are stable and the Executive Council, Finance Committee and Staff have worked hard to significantly reduce operating expenses for the Association. Under a new printing company, the *Tarheel Guardsman* is now being published in four-colors and at a cost lower than with the previous printing company. The Association is exploring new revenue sources to include E-commerce, endowments, insurance products, Legacy Bridge programs, etc. Legislative initiatives have been difficult to pursue due to the current status of the State's budget. We are working hard to maintain what legislation and funding we have in place, as well as pursue other possible initiatives where feasibly possible.

*Editor's Note: It has been an interesting journey through the years, writing this recap of our Association's history over the past several issues. We have been very fortunate to have had wonderful, forward-thinking leaders to move us along through our over fifty years of history, and I am sure we will continue to be blessed as we proceed in the future.*

**DEPLOYED RESOURCES** 

TURN-KEY FOB/COB/COL SUPPORT  
SHOWERS / RESTROOMS / LAUNDRIES  
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[WWW.DEPLOYEDRESOURCES.COM](http://WWW.DEPLOYEDRESOURCES.COM)  
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**NC National Guard Association**  
**50<sup>th</sup> 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: ____/____/____/____/____		

**\*\*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	=	\$ _____
<b>*Registered Guests Only</b>			
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 NCSGA)

\_\_\_\_\_ Charge my: \_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_ Visa

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete & return to:**

**NCSGA, 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

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 "fun money" 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 NCONGA Auxiliary.

### **Directions to Charlotte Marriott Executive Park —**

From Raleigh: Take I-40W to I-85S; follow I-85S to exit 38 (I-77S). Follow I-77S to exit 5 (Tyvola Road) and turn left at the top of the ramp onto Tyvola Road. Go approximately .2 miles, turn right onto Westpark Drive; continue right on Westpark Drive and hotel is on right.

Directions from Asheville: Take I-40E to exit 123A-B (US-321S towards Gastonia). Follow US-321S to I-85N; follow to exit 33 (Billy Graham Parkway/US-521), turn right at top of ramp and follow to I-77S (toward Rock Hill). Follow I-77S to exit 5 (Tyvola Road); turn left onto Tyvola Road and go approximately .2 miles and turn right onto Westpark Drive; continue right on Westpark Drive and hotel is on the right.

Address for the hotel is: 5700 Westpark Drive, Charlotte NC 28217.

## **NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION 50<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION 15-16 APRIL 2011**

### **Tentative Schedule of Events**

#### **Thursday, 14 April 2011**

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

#### **Friday, 15 April 2011**

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Registration/Exhibitors<br>Educational Foundation<br>Silent Auction             |
| 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  | First Business Session<br>Enlisted/Jr Officer Forum<br>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<br>Silent Auction                  |
| 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.  | Second Business Session<br>Awards & Installation Ceremony |
| 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  | Spouse/Guest Brunch<br>Zumba Dance Lessons                |
| 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | NCONGA Auxiliary Business Session                         |
| 11:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  | Unit Representative Workshop                              |
| 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.   | Educational Foundation<br>Annual Meeting                  |
| 6:30 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.  | Dinner/Cash Bar/DJ/Dance                                  |

*Did you recognize the cover photo? It is the "Firebird" statue outside the new Bechtler Museum of Modern Art in downtown Charlotte, NC. (photo by Teri Foster)*

## ATTENTION RETIREES!

On April 15-16, 2011, the North Carolina National Guard Association will conduct its 50<sup>th</sup> 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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. 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 April 10<sup>th</sup> 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  
Kerney Peoples — 919-389-7725  
Gene Ray — [gene7356@nc.rr.com](mailto:gene7356@nc.rr.com)  
Steve Blackwood – 919-724-0625

## NCARNG Presents Certificate of Achievement to Community Home Health

On Monday, 17 January 2011, SFC Jerry Townsend, on behalf of LTC Eric S. Kohl, Battalion Commander and CSM William C. Creech, Battalion Command Sergeant Major, 105<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, 130<sup>th</sup> Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, presented a Certificate of Achievement and Task Force Thor's Deployment Coin of Excellence to Mr. Sandy Roberson, President and CEO of Community Home Health, for their continued support of the Soldiers of the North Carolina Army National Guard. While the Soldiers of the 105<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion were deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation



Enduring Freedom (OEF 09-10), the employees of Community Home Health gathered non-perishable items and put together numerous large care packages for the Soldiers of the 105<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion.

This action in itself was selfless and helped support the overall well being and morale of the Soldiers for the 105<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, but Community Home Health's dedication and commitment to the North Carolina Army National Guard goes further than that. Over the past six years, Community Home Health and its employees have partnered together as part of the North Carolina Army National Guard's Community Outreach Program by not only sending care packages to deployed Soldiers, but to raise money for the Community Hospice Foundation which provides much needed support for so many veterans who have had to utilize Hospice care.

Through annual golf tournaments and motorcycle rides, Community Home Health's involvement goes above and beyond the call of duty. Speaking with Mr. Roberson, he stated that "for all that the Soldiers and veterans have given to our country this is the least that we can do to help with their needs and well being." Mr. Roberson went on to state that "it has been a privilege to have such a great working relationship with the North Carolina Army National Guard and continue to look forward to working with the Soldiers in the future."

Community Home Health is the largest home health care and hospice company in North Carolina with offices that support virtually every county throughout the state and upstate South Carolina.

# 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:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team — 4<sup>th</sup> 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 48<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Plan to Attend

133<sup>rd</sup> NGAUS  
General Conference  
and Exhibition

August 27-29, 2011  
Frontier Airlines Center  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Program: [www.ngaus.org](http://www.ngaus.org)  
Exhibits: 410-997-0763  
301-596-3028  
Fax: 410-997-0764  
[ngaus@epponline.com](mailto:ngaus@epponline.com)  
[www.epponline.com](http://www.epponline.com)



*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](http://www.nclegion.org),  
email us at [nclegion@nc.rr.com](mailto:nclegion@nc.rr.com),  
or call 919-832-7506.*



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





# Candidates for the 2011-12 NCNGA Executive Council

## President:

Ronnie Honeycutt  
263<sup>rd</sup> CBCS  
New London, NC

## Vice President:

John Atkinson	John Thompson
Active Associate Member	145 <sup>th</sup> LRS
Lumberton, NC	Charlotte, NC

## Joint Forces Headquarters - NC (two seats available):

Paul Barbee	Jeremy Davis	Charles "Wes" Morrison
JHFQ-NC	JFHQ-NC	JFHQ-NC
Raleigh, NC	Raleigh, NC	Raleigh, NC

## 30<sup>th</sup> HBCT (one seat available):

Bobby E. Lumsden	Leo Schnack
HHC 1-252 <sup>nd</sup> Armor	HHC 30 <sup>th</sup> STB
Fayetteville, NC	Durham, NC

## 130<sup>th</sup> MEB (one seat available):

Robert R. Holland  
Det 1 878<sup>th</sup> EN Co  
Forest City, NC

## 60<sup>th</sup> Troop Command (one seat available):

Dale Baker  
B Btry 5-113<sup>th</sup> (MLRS) FA  
Winston-Salem, NC

## 113<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade (one seat available):

Stephen McCormick  
690<sup>th</sup> BSB  
Kinston, NC

## 139<sup>th</sup> Regiment (CA) (one seat available):

Steve Boyles  
139<sup>th</sup> Regiment (CA)  
Fort Bragg, NC

## Active Associate Membership (one seat available):

Al Rose	Bob Suber
Matthews, NC	Pittsboro, NC

***\*\*as of press time, there were no candidates for the  
449<sup>th</sup> TAB or NC Air National Guard Council seats.***

## Did You Know...

As a member of the NCNGA, you are entitled to discounts from many businesses, nationwide and statewide. Listed below are a few of them. If you would like a complete listing, please contact Kathy Ford at 1-800-821-6159, ext. 2.



### Mainstay Suites -

### Charlotte/Arrowood -

\$59.99 per night for studio suites, \$69.99 for doubles.  
7926 Forest Pine Dr.  
(704)521-3232

### Candlewood Suites - Raleigh/Crabtree

\$69 per night for studio suites.  
4433 Leadmine Rd. (919)789-4840

**Deadline for the June/July  
issue of the  
Tarheel Guardsman:**

**4 May 2011**

**Check out our new and  
improved website**

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

We are continuously updating and improving our web site — please take a few minutes to check us out and let us know what you do and don't like about it; we have created this site for you. If you have problems accessing certain pages of the web site or you don't like where something is on the web site, let us know that too. There is a link on the web site to contact the webmaster; just click on that and let us know what you think about our site.

You can also "Find us on Facebook" or "Follow us on Twitter!"



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

**Periodicals  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Raleigh, NC**

## **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.