



# THE NGAW NEWS

THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER

July 2008

## From The NGAW President

John P. Carpenter

### Current Membership:

NGAW has made great progress this year in Officer Membership. In the May 2008 copy of National Guard Magazine, Washington is listed as 45<sup>th</sup> in the Nation. This is a significant increase from last year when we were 52<sup>nd</sup>. What is also significant is that of the 11 states that had an increase in membership, Washington was # 6. Washington ranks 36<sup>th</sup> in the nation for 2008 collected dues. Per our Strategic Plan our goal for membership this year is 35%. We are currently at 21% and so we need everyone that is currently a member to get one person to join. We also need to continue to increase our membership in the enlisted ranks.

### The NG Beach:

NGAW has administered the NG Beach for many years. The contract ended early this year and in order to be in compliance with contracting regulations the contract was put out for bid. NGAW has completed our bid and we have been notified that we have been awarded this contract. The funds received from the management of the NG Beach in part pay for the NGAW Staff. The NGAW staff is proud of the work that has been done in management of the NG Beach and look forward to being involved in the administration and management of the NG Beach in the future.

### Legislative Action:

NGAW continues to work closely with the Washington Military Department and our State Legislators on issues of interest to National Guard Members. Following up from our Annual Conference we are working with Senator Steve Hobbs in the development of several bills for 2009. Specifically these bills will address College Tuition, Tri Care premiums and tax incentives for Small Businesses that hire or employ members of the National Guard. As we get further into the legislative year NGAW members will be called upon to assist in the movement of these bills. NGAW has also sent our input to NGAUS on this year's resolutions. Specifically, we recommended changes to Draft Resolution No.J-3, relating to DoD requirement for Medical and Dental Readiness. MAJ Kevin R. Windsor of the 194<sup>th</sup> Medical Group revised the resolution to provide more significant benefits to National Guard members. On September 19<sup>th</sup> we will follow up on our recommendation at the NGAUS Conference.

### Conferences:

National Conferences this year are NGAUS, 20-22 September in Baltimore Maryland and EANGUS, 18-21 August in Savannah, GA. The Washington National Guard is authorized to send seven personnel in an official duty, federally-funded status to both NGAUS and EANGUS. Personnel attending in a duty status should be weighted toward enlisted members in the grade of E-6 and below and Company Grade Officers. Personnel who attend as a delegate must be current NGAUS or EANGUS members. The Wing and MSC Commanders will nominate personnel to attend in a duty status. NGAW will provide a \$200 stipend to none duty status NGAW members who attend as delegates. Both the NGAUS and EANGUS websites have information on the conferences.

## Minuteman Fund Update

The NGAW continues to administer the Minuteman Fund and the Minuteman Emergency Assistance Program. We are already seeing an increase in applications due to the upcoming deployment. The program is operating on very limited funds at this time, so if any of you would like to make a personal donation, please send your tax-deductible contribution made payable to the:

### **“Minuteman Fund”**

**NGAW**

**PO Box 5144, Camp Murray**

**Tacoma, WA 98430-5144**

### **Reminder!**

**All NGAW members will receive the newsletter via email ONLY starting third quarter. Any member wishing to continue to receive a hard copy must let Dale know.**

### **NGAW Office Hours**

Normal business hours are Mon. – Fri. 9 am – 4 pm. Due to vacations and sick days, there will be times when there is no one available at the office. Please take advantage of our voice mail 253-584-5411, or our email- [ngawa@aol.com](mailto:ngawa@aol.com) to contact us.

## NGAW Conference 2008

April 18-19, 2008

Puyallup, WA

The NGAW 2008 Conference was a success. Over 50 members attended and five exhibitors presented booths. Guest conference speakers were MG Lowenberg, BG Toney, BG Magonigle, and COL Wilkins from the Sate Guard. During the evening social the association raised \$4,003 for The Scholarship Fund. Thank you to all who attended and made our event successful. Look for more pictures of the conference on the web site at [www.ngaw.org](http://www.ngaw.org).

### NGAW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The NGAW Memorial scholarship awarded three \$500.00 scholarships this year. The winners are Ricky L. Lindemuth, assigned to the 194<sup>th</sup> SVS; La Kercia L. Nichols, assigned to the Western Air Defense Sector; and Angela L. Pearson, assigned to E Co 181<sup>st</sup> BSB. Congratulations to all our winners!



MG Lowenberg and COL John Carpenter present Ricky L. Lindemuth his scholarship.

### Life Insurance

The State Sponsored Life Insurance Plan is a supplement to the SGLI program and is available to all active National Guard members and their families. All drilling National Guard members are automatically covered for \$1,000 in FREE insurance coverage. The supplemental coverage is available for up to an additional \$260,000 for the currently active National Guard members; \$155,000 for the spouse; and \$5,000 on dependent children. The maximum family coverage is available for those under the age of 50 for \$32.99 (non-smoker rates). If you would like to schedule a unit briefing on this benefit or would like to apply for coverage, please contact Bonny at the NGAW office at 1-800-588-6420.

## National Conference 2008

The NGAUS and EANGUS conferences are the best platforms for the Guard community to get together through outreach and continued professional development sessions. It's an opportunity to express your thoughts and concerns through your respective area representatives. Make a positive impact on the current and future direction and effectiveness of NGAUS or EANGUS and attend a conference this year.

### EANGUS

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States

#### 37th Annual Conference

Savannah, Georgia

August 18 - 21, 2008

The cost to register for the 37th Annual Conference before August 1st, 2008 is \$85.00. Room reservations are the responsibility of the individual attendee. The delegates elected at conference are Doug Simpson, Donna Corp, and Martha Wilson. Alternates are: Erin Barr, Eric Corp, and Wanda Hightower.

For registration or conference information go to the web site [www.eangus.org](http://www.eangus.org) or contact Dale at the NGAW office: 1-800-588-6420 or 253-584-5411 or email [ngawa@aol.com](mailto:ngawa@aol.com).

### NGAUS

National Guard Association of the United States

#### 130th NGAUS General Conference

Baltimore, Maryland

September 20-22, 2008

The WA state designated hotel will be the brand new **Hilton** which is adjacent to the **Baltimore Convention Center**. The rate is \$160 per night and we have a very limited amount of rooms. If you are thinking of attending please let the NGAW office know as soon as possible.

**All registration and hotel arrangements are made through the NGAW association office. NGAUS will not accept registrations directly from individuals.** If you plan on attending please contact Dale at the NGAW office: 1-800-588-6420 or 253-584-5411, or email [ngawa@aol.com](mailto:ngawa@aol.com).

### Web Site

There has been considerable work done on our web site. If you haven't been there lately take a look at how it has changed. You can even pay your dues on-line now!

[www.ngaw.org](http://www.ngaw.org)

## Election Results!

### Board of Directors

#### Officers:

<b>President</b>	<b>John Carpenter</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Robert Barr</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Mark Soulier</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Peter R. Subitch</b>
<b>Enlisted Guild Chair</b>	<b>Abby West</b>
<b>Officer Guild Chair</b>	<b>Dan Kern</b>
<b>Retiree/SG Chair</b>	<b>Martha Wilson</b>

#### Board of Directors:

<b>Officer BOD</b>	<b>Derrick Reese</b>
<b>Officer BOD</b>	<b>Anne Marie Peacock</b>
<b>Officer BOD</b>	<b>Joe Maassen</b>
<b>Officer BOD</b>	<b>Larry Hager</b>
<b>Enlisted BOD</b>	<b>Aubrey B. Shirley</b>
<b>Enlisted BOD</b>	<b>Wayne T. Dixon</b>
<b>Enlisted BOD</b>	<b>Daniel Legler</b>
<b>Enlisted BOD</b>	<b>William Spaulding</b>
<b>Retiree/SG BOD</b>	<b>Peter Schultz</b>

## License Plate

Olympia – Washington family members of eligible veterans and military personnel can purchase Armed Forces License Plates for their vehicles beginning in June 2008.

The Washington Department of Licensing began issuing Armed Forces specialty plates in Jan. 2006, offering six separate designs, each representing a different branch of the armed forces to include Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and WA National Guard.

Since the passing of the armed forces and veterans license plates law during the 2005 legislative session, sale of the plates has been restricted to active duty, reserve, retired, or honorably discharged veterans, or surviving spouses.

During the 2008 legislative session, at the request of a number of families who wanted to honor the service and sacrifice of their sons, daughters or other family members currently serving in the military, those restrictions were broadened to include family members.

Senate Bill 6237, which changed “spouses of deceased veterans” to “families of veterans and service members”, goes into effect June 12, 2008.

Qualifying family members eligible to purchase one of the armed forces license plates now include spouse, child, parent, sibling, aunt, uncle or cousin. A child includes stepchild, adopted child, foster child, grandchild, and son or daughter-in-law. A parent includes stepparent, grandparent, and in-laws. A sibling includes brother, half brother, stepbrother, sister, half sister, stepsister, and brother or sister-in-law.

The special license plates may be used in place of regular or personalized license plates for motor vehicles, including motorcycles, required to display one and two motor vehicle license plates.

Two new decals will be available, at no extra charge, for the plates:

\* The Family decal is for those who have family members who are now serving or have served in the armed forces; and

\* The Gold Star decal is for those who have had a family member die while serving in the armed forces or as a result of such service.

The original cost to purchase an Armed Forces plate(s) is \$40 plus any applicable licensing fees. \$28 from the purchase and renewal of each plate will be directed to the Veterans Stewardship Account and is tax deductible.

The Veterans Stewardship Account is used for activities that benefit veterans, such as maintaining the future state veteran’s cemetery in eastern Washington and providing programs and services for homeless veterans.

The same bill also now allows Washington residents that are members of the National Guard in another state to purchase an Armed Forces plate, and changes the POW ruling to having received a prisoner of war medal, instead of being captured and incarcerated for more than twenty nine days.

For additional information, please call 1-800-562-0132 option 1, or visit the WDVA website at <http://www.dva.wa.gov> and click on Armed Forces License Plates in Quick Links.

## Our Corporate Members

American Lake Credit Union

Tri West Healthcare Alliance

DRS Technologies, Inc

AAR Mobility Systems

Chase Home Mortgage

USAA

WL Gore & Associates, Inc

Applied Industrial Technologies

Puget Sound Energy



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