NGACT News

National Guard Association of Connecticut

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NGACT kicks off Annual Membership Drive

On November 1st, the membership Tri-Chairmen – Dawn Works-Dennis, Mike Wieczorek, and Dan Reilly – officially kicked off the 2010 NGACT Membership Drive. After a disappointing 2009 in terms of membership for the organization – CT ranked 42nd in NGAUS membership and 35th in EANGUS membership, NGACT is hoping for greater participation in 2010. "Membership equals constituent support when talking to elected officials and as the state and federal government are running into tough economic time it will be increasingly difficult to accomplish our legislative objectives to support the soldiers and airmen of the CTNG if we can not demonstrate that NGACT speaks for a large voting population" stated NGACT President Ralph Hedenberg.

NGACT is attempting to implement some major changes in hopes that it will help with membership within the organization. NGACT is working on improving its communication with members. First, the organization communication plan has been re-energized. The NGACT web site is undergoing a complete facelift in order to make information more available to its members. NGACT has restarted the quarterly newsletter to pass information to its members. Second, NGACT is looking to reestablish unit liaison officers and NCOs at the battalion level to pass information to its members and at the same time act as the channel to get feedback to the Executive Council. Third, with the amount of deployments and the hard economic times, the Corporate Membership Program has been developed. The hope is to use Corporate Membership to pay the dues for deployed members and then based on the success of the program provide rebates to unit funds for members start at the lower ranks. It is our hope that these initiatives will help increase membership and allow NGACT to continue to ***"work for you."***

Rank	NGAUS/ EANGUS	NGACT
O6	$108	$11
O5	$185	$11
O4	$72	$11
O3	$59	$11
O2	$45	$11
O1	$30	$11
W5	$73	$11
W4	$59	$11
W3	$46	$11
W2	$35	$11
W1	$26	$11
Enlisted	$9	$11

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Key Events:

- 13 Jan 10 - Executive Council Meeting
- 10 Feb 10 - Executive Council Meeting
- 10 Mar 10 - Executive Council Meeting
- 27 Mar 10 - Annual Conference

2009 Officer's Dining In Raises Money for NGACT Scholarship

On November 5, the 143rd Support Group (Area) hosted the 30th Annual Connecticut Military Department Dining In. This year's event honored the 30th Anniversary of the 43rd Dining In and was held at the Aqua Turf in Southington, CT. Over 285 officers from the Connecticut Air National Guard, Connecticut Army National Guard, and State Militia attended the event this year. The guest speaker for the evening was MG (ret) James Throwe. MG (ret) Throwe's description of the history of the event, as well as some of his time while serving as the Brigade Commander, was both educational and entertaining the entire audience. As further entertainment, a short slide show was shown with photos from previous years Dining Ins.

The 43rd Brigade Officer's Dining In was started by MG (ret) Throwe, while he was serving as the Brigade Commander in 1979. At the 1st event, the 1st Battalion 102nd Infantry was the host battalion. LTC Richard Heroux was the battalion commander and President of the Mess with MAJ Robert Salka as the Executive Officer and Mr. Vice. The event was held at the Stillwell Inn in North Haven. The guest speaker was BG (Ret) Albert Cotter, former Assistant Adjutant General. The 43rd Brigade Dinning In moved to the Aqua Turf for the 5th Annual Dining In in 1984 and has been hosted at the Aqua Turf since. Each year, the honor of hosting the evening was rotated between the battalions of the Brigade. In 1997 with the deactivation of the 43rd Brigade, the tradition was continued by the Connecticut National Guard and expanded to a statewide event.

The total raised for the Nation Guard Association of Connecticut Scholarship Fund from the evening was $2,344. At the completion of the evening this year, the two goals for the evening were met and exceeded – Money was raised to support the scholarship fund and officers met socially at a formal military function to build and maintain esprit de corps. Everyone is looking forward to next years event which will be hosted by the 103rd Airlift Wing.

Mr. Vice, CPT Steve Landry, and LTC Chris Egan wrap COL Mike Wieczorek in bubble wrap to prevent him from any further injuries at the 2009 Officer's Dining In

NGACT - Working for You.

NGACT

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NGACT - Working for You

Coming Soon the new and improved www.ngact.com

The National Guard Association of Connecticut (NGACT) was founded in 1994 as a combined officer and enlisted organization for the purpose of representing active and retired members of the Connecticut National Guard. The NGACT was originally organized as a non-profit organization designed to serve as the collective voice of all Guard officer and enlisted personnel. Together members share in the pride, patriotism, and vigilance that keep America strong. To accomplish together what no person could accomplish alone. A united voice helping to keep the Connecticut National Guard ready and equipped to defend our freedom.

NGAUS
The National Guard Association of the United States

EANGUS
The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States

NGACT Announces Award Nominations for 2010

NGACT announces that nominations are open for this year's NGACT Award recipients. Each year NGACT recognizes outstanding achievement or service in keeping with the purpose, goals, objectives and policies of the Association through the presentation of any or all of the awards set forth below:

The Minuteman Award: This award is the highest honor bestowed on a member of the Association. It recognizes exceptional achievement, a patriotic act, highly distinguished service and/or an outstanding contribution to a military organization, community, the State, the Nation or the National Guard Association of Connecticut. Posthumous awards may be made to next of kin.

Eligibility: Member or former member of the military; Member of NGACT

The NGACT Leadership Award: This award recognizes a company grade officer who epitomizes the loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage exemplified in the Officer's Creed.

Eligibility: Company grade officer, member of the Connecticut National Guard; Member of NGACT; Recommendation endorsed by the chain of command

The CSM Anthony V. Savino Award: This award recognizes a noncommissioned officer who epitomizes the loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage exemplified in the NCO Creed.

Eligibility: NCO and member of the Connecticut National Guard; Member of NGACT; Recommendation endorsed by the chain of command

The Meritorious Service Award: The Meritorious Service Award is bestowed on an individual, firm or organization for outstanding service to the Connecticut National Guard and/or the National Guard Association of Connecticut.

Eligibility: Any individual, firm or organization, military or civilian

The President's Corporate Member Award: This award recognizes a corporate member that distinguishes itself through noteworthy contribution in furtherance of the purpose, goals and objectives of the Association.

Eligibility: Current corporate member of NGACT.

The President's Retiree Award: This award recognizes the retiree member who distinguishes him/herself through noteworthy contribution in furtherance of the purpose, goals, objectives and policies of the Association.

Eligibility: Retired member of the military: Member of NGACT

Award nominations can be made by made by submitting the name, organization, and achievements of the nominee with the recommenders name, email, and phone number to NGACT, Attn: Awards Chairman, 360 Broad St, Hartford, CT 06015. The awards presentation will take place at the NGACT Annual Conference on March 27, 2010.