NGAKY Prepares for 125th NGAUS Conference

Plans are underway for the National Guard Association of Kentucky to attend the 125th annual National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) conference to be held in Biloxi, Mississippi from 14-17 September. Major General D. Allen Youngman, The Adjutant General of Kentucky, will lead a delegation of 45 officers and guests to Biloxi, Mississippi. The theme for this year’s conference is, “Now More Than Ever”, and will concentrate on the present and future role of the National Guard.

The conference will kick off on Sunday afternoon September 14th with a ribbon cutting and grand opening reception at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center. The opening reception will be followed by a TAG’s Delta Blues Party and Company Grade/Warrant Officer Mixer both beginning at 1900 hours.

On Monday morning a Fun Run will be conducted at Keesler AFB. That afternoon a Company Grade Professional Development Seminar will be held.

See 125th NGAUS Conference, page 4...

NGAKY establishes dues collection goals

The NGAKY Executive Council has established the following goals for dues collection for 2003-2004. It is the goal of the Council to collect 90 percent of state association dues and 80 percent of national association dues from eligible officers during the next year.

Bob Snyder, NGAKY President, calls on all officers to support both organizations. “Without the support of our members we will not have the financial resources to carry out the important missions of both associations. Now more than ever, we need the support of our officers so we can continue to represent their interests before state and national legislative bodies.”

In the past, both organizations had 100 percent of the officers in Kentucky as dues paying members, but this has not been the case in the last several years. The Executive Council is striving to meet this year’s goals and then aim for 100 percent state dues collection and 90 percent national dues collect next year.

See Legislative Priorities, page 7 ...

CW5 Joe Wilkins, long time friend of NGAKY retires

Much of the success the Association has had recruiting corporate sponsors and exhibitors rests with CW5 Joe Wilkins, who recently retired from the National Guard after 41 years of service. Mr. Wilkins joined the military on June 27, 1960. He has served the Guard in numerous assignments throughout Kentucky and has served in many positions within the NGAKY to include being a member of the Executive Council.

Mr. Wilkins was the last serving Kentucky Guardsman to have earned the Berlin Crisis Service Ribbon. The NGAKY salutes Chief Joe Wilkins on his retirement.
President’s Message

By LTC Lewis R. “Bob” Snyder
President, National Guard Association of Kentucky

It’s hard to believe it’s been eight months since we published the last issue of The Kentucky Guardsman. I can truly say that it is difficult to get everything completed these days. I wrote a good deal of the last issue with several other officers submitting articles. Once the articles were written they were sent to LTC Steve Bullard (our editor) for formatting and placing into a PageMaker document for printing. Steve has been deployed so this time I had the opportunity to learn PageMaker and format the newsletter, in addition to writing a substantial portion of the document.

I want to personally thank Lieutenant Colonel Bullard for his past support and for the effort he has contributed toward producing a quality magazine for our members. I can personally tell you, it takes a great deal of time to create this publication. I would also like to ask for volunteers to assist with the next newsletter. Do you know PageMaker? Would you like to write an article? Have you taken some pictures that may be of interest to other officers of the Kentucky Guard? If so, please consider submitting an article or picture for possible publication in our next edition -- which we hope to publish before the end of the year.

After 18 months as your president, my term will be ending when Major Bob Hayter returns from Bosnia sometime within the next month or so. I have enjoyed serving as your president and serving on the Executive Council for the past 14 years. Many of the officers who have served on the Board for many years are already retired or will be retiring soon. I mention this because we must do something to get our junior officers more involved in our Association and also to get more senior officers interested in taking a leadership role within the Association.

Colonel Michael Dornbush will take over as president of the Association at the end of February 2004 and he is a great individual with many good ideas. He has served on the Executive Council for several years and understands how the Association operates. Colonel Dornbush also understands the importance of educating junior officers about the Association.

It’s been a very challenging year since our last conference due to the deployment of the Major Bob Hayter (President Elect 2003), Major Tim Barrett (Vice President - Army), Major Todd Lally (Vice President - Air), LTC Steve Bullard (Immediate Past President), and at one point seven additional members of the Council. Your Council has worked diligently to keep the Association’s business moving forward and I believe they have done an excellent job. In those areas where we should have done more, we hope you will understand that we have done the best we could given our limited staff resources and limited funds.

In fifteen years, when the loan on the Foundation’s building is paid in full, we will have additional money to accomplish all of our missions. I am hopeful that we can find a way to pay off the building loan before fifteen years, so we can get on with more important business. We have lowered the mortgage interest rate again this year and we did not increase the length of the loan, so progress is being made.

I look forward to the day when the Association can hire at least one additional staff person to help with membership services and legislative affairs. We need the additional person to help make this organization successful. At present, the funds are not available, but they will be someday. I encourage each of you to contribute your membership dues and also to make a special donation to both the Association and the Foundation.

I want to personally thank Major (Ret.) Bob Linkous, our acting Executive Director, for taking a difficult job when I asked him to for little pay and for giving twice as much as one should expect. I appreciate having had the opportunity to be your president and I hope I have made a difference.
## NGAKy CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM (20 - 22 Feb 2004)

(If you are only attending the business session, there is no fee to be paid, but please still submit this registration form.)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Army</th>
<th>Air</th>
<th>Rank/Name</th>
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### General Information

- **Address**:
- **City**:  
- **St**:  
- **Zip**:  
- **SSN**:  
- **Phone # (home)**:  
- **Phone # (work)**:  
- **Unit**:  
- **Spouse / Guest**:  
- **Names for name badges**: (Yourself)  
- **(Spouse / Guest)**:

### ACTIVITY INFORMATION

**Do you plan to attend the Exhibitors Reception Friday evening?**

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<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th># attending</th>
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**Do you plan to attend the Business Session Saturday morning?**

Yes | No  
(see proposed agenda)

**Does your spouse plan on attending the Business Session?**

Yes | No  

### SAVE MONEY BY REGISTERING IN ADVANCE!!!!!!

**Price includes:** Entrance to Friday Night Exhibitor Reception, coffee/donuts during Business Session, Military Banquet and Entertainment (Prices are per person attending)

<table>
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<th>Registration fees:</th>
<th>Number Attending</th>
<th>Total $</th>
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<tr>
<td>1LT &amp; CW2 ($25.00)</td>
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<td>Captain &amp; Retirees ($30.00)</td>
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<td>Major &amp; CW3 ($35.00)</td>
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<td>LTC &amp; CW4 and CW5 ($45.00)</td>
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<td>Colonel &amp; General Officer ($50.00)</td>
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A late registration fee of $10.00 per person will be assessed after 6 February 2004.

**Does your spouse plan to attend the Spouse Breakfast and Tour?**

Yes | No

**Spouse/Family Function - ($10.00 per person)**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number Attending</th>
<th>Total $</th>
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**Military Banquet meal choices are:**

- **Sliced Tenderloin of Beef with Chicken Breast in Portabella Sauce**
- **Vegetarian Plate**

### Please enclose check or complete credit card information below

- **Credit Card #**:  
- **Exp.**:  
- **Signature**:  

Circle One:  **VISA** or **MASTERCARD**  
(A 3% fee is added to credit card payments to cover processing fees.)

### Lodging / The Drawbridge Villager Premier Hotel

Fort Mitchell, Kentucky

Make your own lodging reservations by calling The Drawbridge at 800-352-9866 or 800-354-9793 (from outside Kentucky).

To receive discount rates, please state that you are attending the "National Guard Association of Kentucky '04 Conference."

Please make your room reservations by 29 January 2004.

**Discount rates** –
- **Main Building**: $79.00/night (single/double), $89 (triple/quad)
- **Garrison Building**: $69 (single/double), $79 (triple/quad)

Please return this Registration Form by mail or fax to:

NGAKy, 1111 Louisville Road, Frankfort, KY 40601

FAX – 502-564-7504

For more information, call the Association at 502-564-7500 or 800-251-2333

### Sign up for NGAUS email alerts!!!

The National Guard Association of the United States now has an active email news alert system and Congressional Action Team. If you are interested in receiving these updates, please visit the NGAUS website at www.ngaus.org. If you have any problems logging in or don't know your NGAUS membership number, please contact Nick Lashinsky, public affairs assistant, at 202-454-5301.
Continued from page 1...

...The first conference business session will also be held on Monday. This session will feature speeches by key military leaders.

On Monday evening the delegates will take part in the Governor’s Reception that will be held outside of the Biloxi Convention Center. Governor Ronnie Musgrove (D-Mississippi) has invited all the delegates to be part of the diverse state of Mississippi as he showcases Mississippi’s distinctive cultures with entertainment and food.

Tuesday will feature another business session with military leaders talking about the role of the National Guard in current and future operations. Lieutenant General Blum, Chief of the National Guard Bureau is scheduled to speak during the conference.

On Tuesday evening the Kentucky Delegation will host a Kentucky Night featuring country ham, bourbon ball candy, and mint juleps. Several hundred NGAUS delegates and exhibitors will take part in Kentucky Night activities.

LTC Bob Snyder, NGAKY President, said, “Kentucky Night is a great opportunity for our delegates to mix with delegates from other states and to show them good southern hospitality.” He went on to say that this event “provides us with the opportunity to talk to many military vendors about coming to the NGAKY state conference and how their participation can help both the Association and their business.”

Wednesday will feature the final business session of the conference as well as separate break out sessions for the Army Guard and Air Guard.

The finale of the conference will be held Wednesday evening when the delegates will join together for the formal All States Dinner.

The NGAUS conference is a great opportunity to interact with key military leaders and hear directly from the National Guard Bureau about issues concerning the Guard. The conference provides a great networking opportunity and sufficient down time so delegates have plenty of free time to socialize with friends and colleagues. Make plans now to attend next September’s conference in Las Vegas.

New Army Chief of Staff is sworn in

General Peter J. Schoomaker
35th Chief of Staff of the Army
Arrival Message (1 August 03)

This afternoon I stood in the office of the Secretary of the Army and was sworn in as the 35th Chief of Staff of the Army. Thirty-four other distinguished leaders have preceded me — well-known stewards of our Army. It is a great honor to walk in their footsteps.

Twenty-three years ago I stood in another place — in the Iranian desert on a moonlit night at a place called Desert One. I keep a photo of the carnage that night to remind me that we should never confuse enthusiasm with capability. Eight of my comrades lost their lives. Those of us who survived knew grief… we knew failure…but we committed ourselves to a different future.

There were some important things we did not know about the future that night. We did not recognize that this was a watershed event…that the military services would begin a great period of renewal that continues to this day.

See Chief’s Message, page 10...

Introducing Level To 50 Term Life: Affordable Life Insurance You Can Take With You!

You can still protect your family...

...even when you’re done serving your country.

As a Kentucky National Guard member, you now have access to affordable group rates on as much as $250,000 in term life insurance protection. And best of all, this is coverage that doesn’t have to end just because you leave the service. To receive your FREE Enrollment Kit, which includes further details on eligibility, renewability, rates, limitations and exclusions, just call the National Guard Association of Kentucky on their toll-free number.

* Although not guaranteed, rates are designed to remain level to age 50. Coverage terminates at age 70. All coverage is subject to the approval of New York Life Insurance Company. Underwritten by New York Life Insurance Company, 51 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010. In cooperation with the Uniform Services Benefit Association (USBA).

Call Today!

Call 1-800-251-2333
Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum is the new Chief of the National Guard Bureau

American Systems International Corporation

American Systems International Corporation proudly provides professional liaison to the entire Department of Defense and Congressional community. We work diligently with each state Adjutant General and Major Commands throughout the country. Our work and related accomplishments continue to reflect their appreciation for the positive impact that our efforts have on their appreciation for the positive impact that our efforts have on their success as well.

“Precision Lift, Inc. has been working with American Systems International Corporation (ASIC) for three years. Each year ASIC has helped our company generate new business and we can state without reservation that their performance on our behalf has been outstanding. We are happy to be associated with such a professional group of people, the ASIC staff.” – Chris Croft, Precision Lift

“We began working with ASIC a little more than a year ago. In that time, American Systems has worked with congress and the DOD to help them understand the value of our battery technology. As a result of their efforts, we are confident that our DOD market-share will increase significantly in FY 04.” – Gary Johnson, Hawkwer Batteries

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www.asic-dc.com
New General Officers for Kentucky

General Hank Morrow, Chief of Staff, Headquarters Kentucky Air National Guard, Frankfort, Kentucky was promoted to Brigadier General on June 23, 2003. He also serves as the ANG Advisor to the USAF Assistant Surgeon General for Expeditionary Operations, Science, and Technology and on the DOD Directed Energy Weapons Collection and Analysis Task Force for the Defense Intelligence Agency. General Morrow received his Air Force commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina, in 1977.

General Morrow continued his education in Europe at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, completing a master's degree in Aeronautical Science in 1984. An outstanding graduate of undergraduate pilot training, General Morrow has served as an F-111 and F-16 instructor pilot. His flying assignments include two tours in Europe, one in the F-111F, and one in the F-16. After completing the USAF F-16 Fighter Weapons School in 1985, he was assigned to Hill AFB, Utah, and served as both a squadron and wing weapons officer.

Prior to joining the Kentucky Air National Guard in March 2002, General Morrow served as Commander, 149th Fighter Wing, TXANG. His previous experience with the Texas Air National Guard also includes assignments as 182 Fighter Squadron Commander, 149FW Operations Group Commander, Director of Operations, HQ TXANG, and Vice Commander, 147th Fighter Wing, Houston, Texas. General Morrow is a combat veteran and command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours in trainer and fighter aircraft.

Dates of Promotion:
Second Lieutenant, 22 December 1977
First Lieutenant, 14 May 1980
Captain, 14 May 1982
Major, 28 September 1991
Lienutenant Colonel, 15 October 1995
Colonel, 30 July 1999
Brigadier General, 23 June 2003

General Norman E. Arflack, Assistant Adjutant General (Army) was promoted to Brigadier General on February 2, 2003. As Assistant Adjutant General for Army, he serves as an assistant and advisor to the Adjutant General.

General Arflack is responsible for STARC’s contingency planning and execution when called to federal active service. While serving as commander, he appropriately balances the requirements of readiness, modernization, structure and sustainment to further the effectiveness of the Army National Guard as mobilization entities. He represents the Adjutant General when authorized and during peacetime assumes the role as the chief trainer for the STARC Headquarters to ensure its operational readiness upon mobilization.

General Arflack is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University and holds a Master’s degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg University. He is also a graduate of the Army War College.

General Arflack has served as a platoon leader, company commander, battalion S3, battalion S4, executive officer, battalion executive officer, battalion commander, Chief Training Division, Director of Logistics, Director of Personnel, Military Personnel Officer, Director of Plans and Operations, and as several other positions in Headquarters, State Area Command.

In his full time capacity he serves as the Deputy Adjutant General where he coordinates and supervises the functioning of activities of the office of Adjutant General. He acts as executive officer of the Adjutant General with responsibility for administrative functions including personnel matters, purchasing of supplies and equipment, and financial accounting and budgeting. General Arflack develops departmental budget estimates and requests. He advises the Adjutant General on policy matters. General Arflack also develops, interprets, applies and enforces policies approved by the Adjutant General.

Dates of Promotion:
Second Lieutenant, ARNG, 29 Jun 75
First Lieutenant, ARNG, 28 Jun 78
Captain, ARNG, 18 Jul 80
Major, ARNG, 7 Dec 87
Lienent Colonel, ARNG, 19 Dec 91
Colonel, ARNG, 26 May 98
Brigadier General (LINE), ARNG, 02 Feb 03

100% Units
The following units collected 100% NGAKY dues during the last collection year. THANKS!

Army Guard Units
HHB, 2/138th FA Brigade
HHSB, 1/623rd FA Battalion
Btry A, B, C, 1/623rd FA Battalion
HHB, 2/138th FA Battalion
Btry A, B, C, SVC 2/138th FA Battalion
HHIC 63rd Aviation Group
CO F (DET 1) 135th AVN
DET 11, Osn Spt Airlift CMD
Recon Air Interd Det (RAID)
Det 3 CO H 171st AVN
Recruiting Command
75th Troop Command
Company B and C 201st EN Battalion
Company A, B and C 206th EN Battalion
HHID 206th EN Battalion
HHID 206th Chemical Battalion
HHID 103rd Chemical Battalion
Det 1, 298th Chemical Company
299th and 301st Chemical Companies
307th Maintenance Company
2113th Transportation Company
231st MI Company
Company A 1/123rd Armor Battalion
1103rd MP Det (Law & Order)
Det 2, HHIC 35th IM (M)
940th MP Company
141st Pers Svc Det, 133d PAD, 202 Army Band

Air Guard Units
State Headquarters, KyANG
123d Mission Support Group
123d Services Flight
123d Mission Support Flight
123d Civil Engineer Squadron
123d Security Forces Squadron
123d Communications Flight
HQ 123d Logistics Group
123d Logistics and 123d Maintenance Sq
123d Logistics Support Flight
123d Operations Support Flight
123d Airlift Control Flight

2003 NGAKY/NGAUS Dues Structure

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<th>NGAUS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td>NGAUS $125.00</td>
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(NOTE: Retired members have life memberships only - no annual dues)
Reserve health-benefits too costly

We have all the major military associations working for improved health benefits for the reserve component, but the Pentagon has strong objections to any plan to provide “full-time military health care to part-time service members” according to Rick Maze, Army Times staff writer. He said the opposition is so strong that it is “creating doubts about whether a planned study of guard and reserve health benefits will lead to any changes.”

A month ago we thought we had a good chance of getting some form of additional health care for our members, but that fell apart during the evening of July 17th. We did get a small victory in the Senate when it supported a proposal between Senator John Warner (R-Va.), the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and the House to authorize another study of this issue as a compromise between the Senate and the House.

The study will likely have a report date late enough into the second session that it will be too late to make to get anything into the next authorization bill. This basically will take the pressure off the legislators until after next year’s elections.

The following account is provided by Christopher Prawdzik with NGAUS:

With the National Guard and Reserves as pawns in the defense authorization chess game, a last-minute agreement has virtually moved Tricare hopes for National Guard and Reserve personnel off the table in the current Congressional session.

Even though specifics are greatly disputed, they will have to wait at least a year.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld told lawmakers in a July 8 letter that providing Tricare on a cost-share basis to the Guard and Reserve would cost $5.1 billion a year, forcing cuts in other areas of the defense budget.

That amount is 17 times the $300 million the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimated for the program earlier this year.

Retired Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, NGAUS president, said that Rumsfeld’s figure assumes nearly every eligible Guardsman and Reservist would enroll in Tricare, not just the one in five who lack medical insurance.

The $5.1 billion figure is wildly out of sync with every enrollment and cost projection,” Alexander said. “It’s clear an attempt to scare Congress from its planned, prudent investment in the health readiness of American’s citizen soldiers.”

Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., was equallyadamant.

“I can’t imagine where [Rumsfeld] would have gotten the figure that this would cost billions of dollars,” he told the Associated Press.

Rumsfeld said he would recommend that President Bush veto the defense authorization bill if it included the Senate plan to expand Tricare.

Then, on July 16, Daschle introduced an amendment to H.R. 2658, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for 2004, which would provide Tricare coverage to National Guard and Reserve forces. The measure passed 93-2.

The Senate also overwhelmingly approved the program in a May amendment to the authorization bill.

The original Senate plan would offer annual Tricare coverage to Guardsmen and Reservists, with fees waived upon mobilization. Enlisted members would pay $330 for individual coverage and $560 for family coverage. Officers would pay $50 more.

The premiums are about the same as military retirees and their families pay for a year of Tricare coverage.

This was a compromise between Daschle and Sen. Lindsay Graham, R-S.C., who served in the South Carolina Air National Guard during the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

Senate and House conferees were scheduled to address the issue in conference, but the same day Daschle introduced his Tricare amendment to H.R. 2658, Graham agreed to a compromise among Sen. John Warner, R-Va., the Defense Department and the House that would authorize another study on Tricare. This could put the Tricare issue on the shelf until after the 2004 election.

---- Now is the time to contact your legislators and let them know your opinion on this issue. You can contact your legislators toll free by calling the NGAUS Capitol Hill Hotline at 1-888-642-8799.

Other Guard/Reserve Issues:


H.R. 1466 (Cosponsors: 26): Reduces the health insurance costs for family coverage of reservists called to active duty. Introduced by Rep. Michael Capuano (D-Mass.) and referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

S 202 (Cosponsors: 23): Allows a deduction for expenses in connection with services as a member of a reserve component. Introduced by Senator Mike DeWine (R-Ohio) and referred to Finance Committee.

S. 647 (Cosponsors: 11): Provides funding for a continuation of health benefits plan coverage for reservists called or ordered to active duty (continued next column)

and their dependents. Introduced by Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) and referred to the Armed Services Committee.

S 715 (Cosponsors: 2) Repeals the calendar year limitations on the use of commissary stores for reservists. Introduced by Senator Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) and referred to the Armed Services Committee.

Many other bills have been introduced that impact the Guard and the military in general. The following websites provide updated information about legislation impacting the military.

NGAUS at www.ngaus.org

Association of the United States Army at www.ausa.org

Military Officers Association of America at www.moaa.org

NGAKY Legislative priorities

Continued from page 1

The NGAKY continues to hear from our members about two major issues: the need for improved health care benefits and the need to lower the age at which you can begin to draw your military retirement. Favorable legislation has been introduced concerning both of these issues, but there is little hope that anything can be passed this year given the current budget situation and the major opposition coming from the Pentagon. We will continue to work for your best interest and we ask each of you to talk to your congressmen. They need to hear from the grassroots about matters that are of concern to each of you.

Other issues that we have followed may appear to be less public, but nonetheless they are important ones. They range from opposing the syphoning of Guard funds to provide weapons for State Defense Forces which are not needed since we already have the National Guard, the USA Freedom Corps and other legitimate structured vehicles for those who want to volunteer to serve their community and state.

We have also talked with the Kentucky legislative delegation about our opposition to the consolidation of military appropriations accounts. We view this as just another effort of the active component to take charge of the funds appropriated for the National Guard.

We have also talked to the Kentucky delegation about the need to keep all of Kentucky’s twelve C-130 aircraft in Kentucky. Your Executive Council passed a resolution stating that our top priority is to work to retain Kentucky’s twelve C-130 H 2.5 aircraft.

In addition to these policy issues we are also very interested in securing additional funds for a new or expanded state Emergency Operation Center ($13 million) and additional funds for the counterdrug program. Last January, Bob Linkous, our acting Executive Director, attended a legislative action seminar at NGAUS and also participated in the “Storming of Capital Hill.” He delivered our appropriation requests to each member of the Kentucky delegation.

(continued next column)
Colonel (retired) Harold Loy (left), State Director of the Selective Service System, presents Senator Dan Kelly (R - Springfield) with a framed certificate of appreciation for his support in getting HB 64 passed during the 2003 Legislative Session.

House Bill 64, an act relating to the United States Selective Service system, was passed by the Kentucky Legislature and signed into law by Governor Paul Patton. This is one of the bills which the NGAKY supported during the last legislative session.

Colonel Harold Loy, NGAKY Continuity Chairman and State Director of the Selective Service, coordinated the effort to get HB 64 passed. Colonel Loy credits Senator Kelly with being the key legislator responsible for the passage of HB 64.

This act created a provision which ties registration for the selective service for males age 18 to 26 to the driver license renewal process. In states with comparable legislation, Selective Service works with the Department of Public Safety or Motor Vehicles to include a consent statement on all applications or renewals for driver’s permits, licenses, and identification cards. The statement informs the applicant that by submitting the application, he is consenting to being registered with Selective Service if he is required to do so.

Selective Service has the challenge of reaching more than 5000 young men in America who turn 18 every day with a message that they’re not always interested in hearing. “It’s especially gratifying to see state governments take this issue so seriously,” said Lew Brodsky, acting director of the Selective Service System. “By tying registration directly to something that is a top-of-mind association for pretty much every young man in America – the ability to get a driver’s license – states are sending the clear message that they support registration and expect young men to take their responsibilities seriously.”

A young man who fails to register, if prosecuted and convicted, may face a fine up to $250,000 and/or a prison term of up to five years. Even if not tried, a man who fails to register before turning 26 years of age will find many doors permanently closed. For example, he will not be eligible for federal student loans to include Pell Grants. He will also not be eligible for Federal Job Training or for jobs in the Executive branch of government or the U.S. Postal Service.

Major General Youngman congratulates Norman Arflack and his wife, Cindy, on his promotion to Brigadier General. BG Arflack is a former President and Executive Director of the NGAKY. (See article on page 6)

General Youngman is pictured here during a recent retirement ceremony in Frankfort. To General Youngman’s right are, Col Allen Abel and his wife Carol, Major Cameron Roberts and his wife Cynthia, and CW5 Joe Wilkins. Several other retired officers and soldiers were recognized at the ceremony to include: CW4 Hager Hollon, 1SG Richard Spencer, 1SG Gregory Routin, 1SG James Caudle, MSG Charles Eblen, SFC Kenneth Bruner Jr., SFC John Geddes Jr., SFC George Wright, SFC Albert McDonald Jr., SFC Danny Hollon, SSG Judy Woods, and SGT Jennifer Beatty.

General Youngman presents Brigadier General Hank Morrow with a blue one star general’s flag during his promotion ceremony. (See article on Page 6)

1LT Bob Geary talks with Christine Stoops (left) and Amanda Weakley (right) during the August 9th Capital City Airport Aviation Day.
BG Earl L. Doyle Retires from the Kentucky Army National Guard

LTC Bob Snyder, President NGAKY, presents Bill Skipper, President of American Systems International Corporation and NGAKY Lobbyist on Capitol Hill, with a world globe memento in appreciation for the speech he delivered during the NGAKY conference.

BG Edward Tonini, former Chief of Staff, Kentucky Air National Guard, presented an excellent speech describing the Guardians of Freedom program he developed and manages for the Air Force. This is an outreach program designed to build and sustain public support for America’s airmen in direct support of the global war on terrorism. General Tonini serves as the Director of Your Guardians of Freedom, in the office of the Secretary of the Air Force Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C.

(Editor’s Note: Photos on this page were taken by SSG David Altom, HQS STARC Public Affairs Office)
We did not know that we were at the start of an unprecedented movement to jointness in every aspect of our military culture, structure, and operations...a movement that must continue. We also did not realize that we were in one of the opening engagements of this country’s long struggle against terrorism...a struggle that would reach our homeland and become known as the Global War on Terror.

Today, our Nation is at war and we are a critical part of the joint team — an Army at war. This is not a new war. Our enemies have been waging it for some time, and it will continue for the foreseeable future. As the President has stated, “This is a different kind of war against a different kind of enemy.” It is a war we must win, a war for our very way of life.

War is both a physical reality and a state of mind. War is ambiguous, uncertain, and unfair. When we are at war, we must think and act differently. We become more flexible and more adaptable. We must anticipate the ultimate reality check — combat. We must win both the war and the peace. We must be prepared to question everything. What is best for the Nation? What must endure? What must change?

This war has demonstrated that our Soldiers, civilians, and families are up to the task. It has also provided new insights into the current operating environment. Can we sustain our high performance with our current methods of preparation? Can our Combat Training Centers better reflect the joint context in which we will fight? Are we organized for the long haul? We must answer these questions and more. We need to be mindful that the world has changed and it will never return to what we knew before. As my great friend, Dick Meadows, always said, “The Army ain’t like it used to be...and it never was.”

Sustained engagement of our Army will be the norm, not the exception. How do we man the Army in a way that provides cohesive, high performing units in this reality of continuous engagement?

Our recent combat operations reinforce the requirements for units and echelons that are flexible and tailorable. Can we balance our force structure and develop increased modularity so as to enhance our critical role in effective joint contingency operations while maintaining our campaign qualities?

We have already shown that we have innovative and adaptive leaders. But our enemies are adapting as well. Will our development programs continue to produce leaders who can meet this challenge?

Leadership and courage are easily recognized as prerequisites at the tactical level, but they are essential at the operational and strategic levels as well. Are we developing the George C. Marshalls of the future?

The National Guard and Army Reserve are indispensable, full members of the team. Do we have the proper mix of both active and reserve units? Are we properly balanced? Is all of our structure readily accessible to meet the requirements of this and future wars?

As we transform the Army from the current force to the future force we must ask these questions and more. While some things will change, others will not.

The American Soldier remains indispensable. Our Soldiers are paramount and will remain the centerpiece of our thinking, our systems, and our combat formations. As General Creighton Abrams taught us, “People are not in the Army, they are the Army.”

We are, have been, and will remain a values based institution. Our values will not change and they are non-negotiable. Our Soldiers are Warriors of character. They exemplify these values every day and are the epitome of our American spirit. They are the heart of the Army.

As long as the United States Army has existed we have transformed...and we always will. For four years under General Shinseki our Army has asked hard questions and made tough choices. We will continue to go where the answers to those questions take us. Our azimuth to the future is good. The Army must remain relevant and ready.

Our Army has much to be proud of. It is the preeminent land force in the world – and continues to be respected by our friends...and feared by our enemies. We set the standard. We were part of the joint team that defeated the Taliban in Afghanistan and took down a brutal regime in Iraq. Today we are deployed and conducting contingency operations at an unprecedented pace. Our Soldiers, civilians, and their families set the standard every day for selfless service.

The Army continues to serve our great Nation well and faithfully as it has in the past. For more than 228 years, the Army has never failed the American people, and it never will.

As an American Soldier, I have never left your ranks; but it is a great privilege to wear our uniform once again.

Chief’s remarks ...

Continued from page 4 ...

Quotable

Manual on military leadership: Good leaders develop through a never-ending process of self-study, education, training, and experience.

Dwight D. Eisenhower: Leadership: the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it.

Please Contribute to the KNGHF

We want to thank all those officers who have made contributions to the Foundation during the past year. Your kind contributions are greatly appreciated. The Foundation is still in need of additional contributions. If you would like to do something you want done because he wants to do it.

The KNGHF is a non-profit IRS designed 501-(c)(3) foundation and this means that we can accept contributions and offer donors a tax deduction for their gifts. Contributions to the Foundation are fully tax-deductible to the amount allowed by law. The Foundation again wishes to thank those that have already contributed this year and encourages others to make voluntary contributions to the Foundation.

Please detach or make a copy and send to:
KNGHF
1111 Louisville Road
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-6118

I wish to have my donation put to work for the following (if you wish to split your donation, please indicate how much to allocate to each area):

_______ Scholarships
_______ Retiring the KNGHF Building Loan
_______ Ongoing Building Maintenance Account
_______ As Determined by the Officers of the Foundation

Name: _______________________     Rank:  _______________
Address:  __________________________________________________________________
Current or Last Unit of Assignment:  _____________________________
Retired/Separated (Yes or No) _______  When:  ____________
A report from Bosnia

By Major Alan Slusher
Task Force Orphan
Bosnia

Greetings Friends and Family,

We are about halfway though our time here in Bosnia (article written in May 2003). Things are going smoothly, we have relatively little excitement.

Well...that all changed last weekend. Acting on a tip from an anonymous intelligence source, we conducted a very successful raid and seized about $500,000 worth of weapons, ammunition, and explosives. It was our first truly tactical deployment since we arrived. Our intelligence reports indicated a hunting lodge that was probably a front for a local militia type organization, and a surrounding area about 10 kilometers square that had some suspicious movements in it (discovered by aerial and satellite surveillance). This area, located in the Opstina (or county) of Han Pijesak has long been suspected of harboring and supporting war criminals. We deployed about 40 men from Alpha Company to establish a perimeter, and after the area was secure, we then deployed about 50 men from Charlie Company to conduct a thorough search of the area. We expected the entire operation to last about three days. (continued next column)

For those of you in the National Guard with me, I thought of this as a MUTA 5 with live rounds and hand grenades. My group went in next with the TOC, or Tactical Operations Center, to run the headquarters and track the progress of our search operations. I have managed to promote myself out of all the fun jobs I ever had, so the only people in after me were the logistics folks (civilians), who brought our tents, water truck, and portable latrines. Although I helped plan this soiree, I didn’t get to spearhead it. Maybe someday I’ll accept the fact that I am 36 and not 22 anymore.

We had reports of armed guards in the area, but no one was around except a few civilian loggers when our forces arrived. A group of Italian soldiers conducted an uneventful search of the Hunting Lodge. Turns out it was actually a hunting lodge, but was still very suspicious by its proximity to the stash we found. The Italians left after a few hours, and we began our square-by-square search. It wasn’t long until we found the first of ten bunkers. These were old ammunition storage bunkers from the Cold War era Yugoslavian Army. This area used to be a Yugoslavian training base. Two were caved in, six were empty, but two contained a LOT of illegal goods. See the attached pictures for descriptions of the loot.

After the first day, we didn’t find anything, but we did finish our search over the next three days. It was GREAT to live out in the woods and get off base for a few days. The support team brought out hot breakfast everyday. (continued next column)

Major Alan Slusher is shown here with some of the 80mm anti-tank launchers that were seized during a SFOR 13 raid. During these raids the task force is likely to find cases of rifles, ammunition, hand grenades, rifle-launched grenades, and mortar ammunition. On a recent raid they found a Browning .30 caliber machine gun and a Thompson .45 caliber submachine gun.

Commenting on the impact of these raids, Major Slusher said, “I’m not stupid enough to believe that seizing everybody’s weapons will do anything to deter violence, but I do know this was a serious blow to somebody’s wallet.” Major Slusher said that SFOR 13 is “very satisfied with our efforts.”

and soup and coffee every night so we didn’t have to eat MRE’s the entire time. We had a small aid station, the battalion TOC, and the mess serving area all in tents, but the weather was great. No rain the entire time, and temperatures were mild, mid 70’s at the high and 50’s at night.

Today, we found another, smaller stash. The details are still unfolding, but it looks like this may not be such a boring mission after all.

Editor’s Note: Over two hundred Kentucky Army National Guard soldiers are supporting SFOR 13 in Bosnia. Most of the soldiers are from the HHC 2-123rd Armor Battalion and Company C 1-149th Infantry Battalion. There are also several soldiers from Company C 206th Engineer Battalion and from the Detachment 2 (Forward) HHC 35th ID (M).

Brigadier General James R. “Ron” Mason, former commander of the 149th Armor Brigade and current Deputy Commander of the 35th Infantry Division (Mechanized), is the Commander of the Multinational Brigade in Bosnia.

For more information please visit the 35th Division’s website at: http://www.ks.ngb.army.mil/35id/sfor13.htm.

BG Mason will become next 35th ID (M) Commander

A Division Change of Command ceremony will be conducted on November 8th between Major General Lloyd Krase (pronounced “cross”) out going 35th Division Commander and Brigadier General Ron Mason the current Deputy Commander. The change of command ceremony will take place at the Division Headquarters at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. (Time to be announced later.)

BG Mason received his commission through OCS in 1974. His assignments have included command of units from the company level to the brigade level. He has held many staff level positions to include the Deputy Director of Personnel for the Kentucky ARNG.
MAJ Galloway, James - Asst-S 3-75th Troop Cmd (77FAA-200) to Supply Sys Tech
HQS STARC KY ARNG, 01 Aug 03

MAJ Gilkey, Michael William - S1 HHB 138th FA BDE to Logistics Ofcr S4 HQ 238th Reg (CA), 05 Jun 03

MAJ Lee, Charles Ray - S6 HHB 138th FA BDE to C-E Off HHB 2138th FA BN 155 SP, 21 May 03

MAJ Morrow, Andrew S - Chief Inspector HQ STARC KY ARNG to Executive Ofcr HHC 206th FA BN (Hvy Div), 22 Jan 03

CPT Campbell, Adam Joseph - Fire Support Offcer HHB 2/138th FA BN 155 SP to CmDr Btry B 2/138th FA BN, 3 Mar 03

CPT Davis, Richard Bradley - S-1 HQ 1st BN 75th Troop Cmd to CmDr 2113th Trans Co, 30 Jan 03

CPT East, Jackie Ray - Detachment Cmdr DET2 SPT Co 1st BN 20th SF Grp to S2 HHB 138th FA BN 155 SP, 29 May 03

CPT Grebe, David Lance - Cmdr HHC 206th En Bn (Hvy Div) to Cmdr HHD 206th Chemical Bn, 20 Jan 03

CPT Honican, Philip Wayne - Tactical Infof Ofcr HHB 138th FA BDE to S1 HHB 2138th FA BN 155 SP, 21 May 03

CPT Moore, Matthew Donald - Fire Support Officer HHB 2/138th FA BN 155 SP to Liaison Officer HHHB 138th FA BDE, 7 Feb 03

CPT Preston, Teresa Smith - Clinical Nurse KY ARNG Medical Command to Medical-Surgical Nurse Det 1163d Medical Co (ASG), 01 Feb 03

1LT Bishop, Amy Anne - Maint Control Ofcr 307th Maint Co (DS) to Platoon Ldr DET 2 307th Maint Co (DS), 01 Feb 03

1LT Caldwell, Andrew Franklin - Platoon Ldr Co A 2/138th FA BN to Ops Ofcr Co A 206th EN BN (Hvy Div), 29 Jan 03

1LT Cann, Mark Edward - Platoon Ldr Btry C 1/138th IN BN (Mech) to Platoon Ldr Det 1 HHC 1/149th IN BN (Mech), 01 Feb 03

1LT Cann, Mark Edward - Platoon Ldr DET 1 HHC 1/149th IN BN (Mech) to Cmdr DET1 SPT Co 3rd BN 206th SF Grp, 05 May 03

1LT Carpenter, Travis Clay - Fire Direction Officer Det 1 Btry A 2138th FA BN to Platoon Ldr Btry B 1st BN 623D FA (MLRS), 7 Feb 03

1LT Carpenter, Travis Clay - Platoon Ldr Btry B 1st BN 623D FA (MLRS) to Platoon Ldr Btry A 2/138th FA BN, 21 May 03

1LT David, Matthew John - Fire Support Officer 2138th FA BN 155 SP to Liaison Officer HHSB 1st BN 623D FA 7 Feb 03

1LT Davis, James Travis - Plans Ofcr HQ STARC KY ARNG to Platoon Ldr HHHB 1st BN 138th FA BDE, 07 Feb 03

1LT Gillespie, Charles Robert - Platoon Ldr Det 1 Btry C 2138th FA BN to Platoon Ldr Btry C 1st BN 206th FA BDE, 03 Feb 03

1LT Jones, Kevin Matthew - Platoon Ldr DET 2 307th Maint Co (DS) to Maint Control Ofcr HHC 206th Maint Co (DS), 01 Feb 03

1LT Kozlik, David Ottico - Platoon Ldr Btry B 2/138th FA BN to Platoon Ldr Btry C 1st BN 623D FA (MLRS), 7 Feb 03

1LT Lanham, Edward Eugene Jr - Platoon Ldr Btry A (Det-1) 2nd BN, 138th FA to Maint Ofcr HHC 2138th FA BN 155 SP, 02 Aug 03

1LT McDowell, Angela Maier - Tactical Infof Officer 231st MI Co to Tactical Infof Officer HHHB 138th FA BDE, 7 Feb 03

1LT Mitchell, Timothy Lewis - Platoon Ldr 2113th Trans Co to Platoon Ldr 307th Maint Co FWD, 04 Jun 03

1LT Naylor, Matthew Evan - Platoon Ldr Btry C 2138th FA BN to Platoon Ldr Btry B 1st BN 623D FA (MLRS), 7 Feb 03

1LT Neal, James Richard Lee Jr - Ops Ofcr 2123rd Trans Co ( ) to Maint Control Ofcr 207th Maint Co (DS), 19 May 03

1LT Palmgreen, Michael Brandon, Fire Direction Offcer Btry B 2/138th FA BN to Platoon Ldr Btry A 1st BN 623D FA (MLRS), 7 Feb 03

1LT Rush, Donald James - Platoon Ldr HHHB 138th FA BDE to Platoon Ldr 372 Maint Co (Non-Div) (DS), Cleveland OH, 13 Jan 03

1LT Sallee, Joseph Brian - Platoon Ldr Btry B 2/138th FA BN to Platoon Ldr Btry A 1st BN 623D FA (MLRS), 7 Feb 03

1LT Sherman, Theodore Randolph - Platoon Ldr Det 1 Btry A 2138th FA BN to Fire Control Offcer HHHB 138th FA BDE, 7 Feb 03

2LT Boone, John Malcolm - Tactical Infof Officer HHHB 138th FA BDE to Fire Support Officer 3rd BN 206th FA BDE, 03 Feb 03

2LT Caldwell, Andrew Franklin - Platoon Ldr Co A 206th EN BN (Hvy Div) to Platoon Ldr Co A 206th EN BN FWD, 29 Jan 03

2LT Cates, Susan Marie - Tactical Infof Ofcr HHC 149th BDE 35th ID (M) to Tactical Infof Ofcr 255th MI Co, Jackson MS, 14 Dec 03

2LT Kendrick, Dean Allen - Platoon Ldr HHHB 138th FA BDE to S6 HHB 138th FA BN 155 SP, 21 May 03

2LT Kendrick, Dean Allen - Platoon Ldr Btry C 1st BN 623D FA (MLRS) to Platoon Ldr Btry C 2138th FA BN, 21 May 03

2LT Shelton, Eric Scot - Platoon Ldr Co A 2/138th FA BN to Platoon Ldr Co B ( ) 2/138th AR, 01 Feb 03

2LT Jackson, Diana Louise - Mat Control Ofcr GM Sup Co G5 ( ) to Ops Ofcr 2123rd Trans Co ( ), 19 May 03

2LT Jones, Franklin Lashawne - Fire Direction Offcer Det 1 Btry C 2138th FA BN to Platoon Ldr Btry B 1st BN 623D FA (MLRS), 7 Feb 03

2LT Jones, Franklin Lashawne - Platoon Ldr Btry B 1st BN 623D FA (MLRS) to Fire Direction Ofcr Btry C 2138th FA BN, 21 May 03

(Continued next column)

(Continued next page)
Kentucky Army National Guard Celebrates 20 Years of the UH-60 Black Hawk

On August 9th the Kentucky Army National Guard celebrated 20 years with the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter in a special ceremony at the Army Aviation Support Facility (AASF), Boone National Guard Center, in Frankfort, Kentucky. The guest of honor for the ceremony was Mr. Sergei Sikorsky, son of Igor Sikorsky, inventor of the helicopter. Also in attendance were several dignitaries from Sikorsky Aircraft, Inc., the Kentucky National Guard, and the local community.

Mr. Sikorsky spoke on the history of the helicopter and delighted the audience with personal memories about the early days of aviation with such pioneers as Howard Hughes, Charles Lindbergh, Orville and Wilbur Wright and his father, Igor.

Sikorsky Aircraft representatives Tom Nicolet, Joe Ferreira, and Sergei Sikorsky presented a special plaque commemorating the event to Maj. Gen. D. Allen Youngman (Commanding General, KYNG) and Maj. Gen. (Ret) Billy G. Wellman, who was Adjutant General when Kentucky received the first UH-60s.

Col. Benjamin F. Adams III (State Army Aviation Officer) and Col. Ricky W. Branscum (Commander, 63rd Aviation Group) received a large flag from Sikorsky featuring the familiar Black Hawk. Also on hand was the Kentucky National Guard pilot flight crew which flew the first UH-60 from the Sikorsky factory in Connecticut to the Kentucky Army National Guard AASF. Maj. (Ret) Brad Bailey, CW4 (Ret) Wallace Walker, and Staff Sgt. (Ret) Larry W. Slaughter received miniature aircraft Black Hawk models to commemorate their flight and the integration of the National Guard into the modern Army Aviation community.

Background

The first UH-60 Black Hawks assigned to the National Guard went to Kentucky on January 31, 1983. The first unit to receive them was the 211th Aviation Maintenance Company, later to become F Company, 135th Aviation. The Kentucky Army National Guard currently has eight UH-60L Black Hawks assigned to E Company, 135th Aviation Regiment and seven UH-60A models assigned to Detachment 1, B Company, 118th Combat Support Aviation Battalion.

In the past two decades the Kentucky Army National Guard Black Hawks have become a familiar sight in the Commonwealth, fighting forest fires in eastern Kentucky, performing critical air lift missions during winter storms and floods, along with missions as diverse as supporting fish and wildlife surveys and aviation education efforts. Most notably, Kentucky law enforcement agencies have received extensive support from Black Hawk crews in the statewide counterdrug mission.

The Kentucky Army National Guard is proud to be part of that history!

Kentucky Army National Guard Black Hawk deployments include:

- Hurricane Hugo, the United States Virgin Islands (1989)
- Disaster Relief Support, Rhode Island (1995)
- Hurricane Fran, North Carolina (1996)
- Supported 7th Special Forces, JRTC, (1999), supported SEAL TEAM 4 training 1999-2002
- Supported Special Warfare Training Center at FT. Bragg, NC on 2003 for ROBIN SAGE Exercise (Phase IV of Special Operations Qualification Course)

Special achievements:

- 20 Years with over 31,000 Blackhawk hours flown.
- 30 Year Lindbergh Award for accident-free flying.

The UH-60 Black Hawk is the Army’s front-line utility helicopter used by air assault, air cavalry, and aeromedical evacuation units. It is designed to carry 11 combat-loaded, air assault troops, and is capable of moving a 105-millimeter howitzer and 30 rounds of ammunition. First deployed by the US Army in 1978, the Black Hawk’s advanced technology gives the U.S. Army capabilities it never had before. In addition, modified versions of the UH-60 operate as command and control, electronic warfare, Search and Rescue, and Special Operations platforms.

Editor’s Note: This article was written by CW5 Dean Stoops, NGAKY Executive Council Representative for the 63rd Aviation Group, and by SSG David Altom, HQS STARC Public Affairs Office. The NGAKY welcomes and encourages the submittal of articles from our members.
Explanation of Benefits (Plan is currently being revised)

LOW GROUP RATES: By offering group rates on term life coverage - the kind many financial experts consider the best value - you may be able to afford more protection than you ever thought possible. And if you and/or your spouse have not used tobacco or nicotine in any form for the past 24 months, you may qualify for non-smoker rates that will reduce your premium payments even further!

HIGHER COVERAGE AMOUNTS: With this plan, you can apply for $100,000 to as much as $250,000 in coverage (in $50,000 increments). Coverage will reduce 50% at age 60, and again at age 65.

COVERED STAYS WITH YOU: Although this is a group plan, you retain ownership of your certificate - even if you leave the Guard or transfer to another state. As long as you continue to pay your premiums when due, and the group policy is not terminated by New York Life or the Policyholder, you can retain this valuable protection all the way to age 70.

NO EXEMPTIONS: It doesn’t matter if you are on active duty, inactive duty, or are engaged in a high risk occupation, once accepted, you are fully covered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

GUARANTEED ACCEPTANCE FOR NEW RECRUITS: If you are a new recruit who is under the age of 45, your acceptance into the plan is 100% guaranteed. As long as you submit your application within 60 days of joining the Guard, you do not have to provide any medical information whatsoever.

ACCELERATED DEATH BENEFIT: This feature allows you to receive 50% of your death benefit (amount of coverage) to help with your health care should you contract a terminal illness. To receive the accelerated death benefit, you must be under age 69, have been diagnosed by a physician, and given a life expectancy of 12 months or less.* The benefit is paid only once and the future may be taxable. Prior to applying for accelerated death benefits, insureds should consult with the appropriate social services agency and qualified tax advisor.

PAYROLL DEDUCTION: For your convenience, you may elect to have your premiums automatically deducted from your monthly pay.** With this option, you never have to waste money on postage, or worry about a late or missing payment.

** In May 1974, Congress passed public law 93-289 authorizing State National Guard Associations to payroll deduct Group Life Insurance (SLLI) from their payroll. The Militia Insurance Trust program is authorized for payroll deduction through your state National Guard Association.

DEPENDABLE COMPANY: This plan is underwritten by New York Life, one of America’s oldest and most respected insurers. New York Life has been protecting America’s families for more than 155 years – including those of 9 U.S. Presidents. They have honored their obligations and remained fiscally sound through the Great Depression, two World Wars and countless natural disasters.

Questions and Answers

Why “Term” Life Insurance? To help keep this plan affordable, Level to 50 Term Life provides cost-effective term life coverage. Rather than charge you for a lifetime of coverage, this plan gives you solid, basic coverage that can last until age 70. Many people feel that by age 70, the majority of their family obligations have been fulfilled (the house has been paid-off, children have grown, etc.) and as a result, their need for protection has decreased.

Why is it called “Level to Age 50”? Once accepted, your rate*** - is designed to remain the same (or level) until you reach age 50.

What happens when I turn 50? While this coverage can last all the way to age 70, rates are scheduled to increase at age 50, and again at age 55. After age 55, the rates are expected to remain level.

What happens to my benefit at age 60 and 65? Your coverage will be reduced 50% at age 60 and again at age 65.

What if I’m already 50 or older? As long as you (and your spouse) are under the age of 60, you may both apply for this coverage – provided you are still a member of the National Guard. Your rate will be determined by your age at the time of enrollment, and adjusted accordingly.

What happens if I leave the Guard, switch units or transfer out of state? As long as you continue to pay your premiums, and remain a citizen of the United States, and the group policy remains in force, leaving the Guard will have no effect on your ownership of the coverage.

*** Rates are not guaranteed even though they are expected to remain level to age 50 and after the increase at age 55.
Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld applauded Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum’s early efforts as Guard Bureau chief and outlined areas he thinks will allow the Guard Bureau and DoD to work even closer together.

"Your initial steps to instill a greater joint focus in the National Guard Bureau (NGB) staff are on the mark," Rumsfeld wrote in a letter to Blum dated July 30.

Rumsfeld then suggested Blum assemble proposals to foster a better relationship among the defense secretary’s office, joint staff and Guard Bureau.

He also said Blum should “intensify” efforts to ensure the Guard “remains an effective participant” in joint forces, as well as formulate plans that strengthen the Guard’s ability to respond to homeland defense needs.

Perhaps most important, Rumsfeld wants a better working relationship with U.S. Joint Forces Command and the Bureau to “change and modernize the mobilization and demobilization process.”

"Nothing the military has been asked to do since World War II is as important as the task we face today — fighting the war on terrorism," Rumsfeld wrote. "You and the national citizen-soldiers are key to winning that war, at home and abroad." (Article provided by NGAUS)

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**Kentucky National Guard Historical Foundation Building available for meeting rentals**

The Conference Room and the Library/Small Meeting Room in our Kentucky National Guard Historical Foundation Building on U.S. 60 in Frankfort are available for half ($100) and full ($200) day rentals for meetings and training events. For more information, contact the NGAKy/KNGHF office at 502-564-7500 or 800-745-3144.

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**Sign up for NGAUS email alerts!!!**

The National Guard Association of the United States now has an active email news alert system and Congressional Action Team. If you are interested in receiving these updates, please visit the NGAUS website at www.ngaus.org. If you have any problems logging in or don’t know your NGAUS membership number, please contact Nick Lashinsky, public affairs assistant, at 202-454-5301.
**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**CLOSES ON DECEMBER 31, 2003**

**ELIGIBILITY . . .**

Applicants must be dependent children of:
- Present members serving honorably in the Kentucky National Guard;
- Members who have retired from the Kentucky National Guard after 20 years or more of qualifying service; or
- Deceased parents/legal guardians who were members of the Kentucky National Guard at the time of death.

**AWARDS . . .**

Scholarships are awarded to dependent children of enlisted members, commissioned and warrant officers, retired members and deceased members. When applications are not received in one or more of these categories, the scholarships may be awarded to other qualified applicants. Selected recipients will be announced in February of each year. Scholarships must be claimed by April 30th of the award year.

**THE APPLICATION PROCESS . . .**

Scholarship applications can be obtained by visiting the KNGHF website at [http://www.ngaky.org/ScholarshipApplication.pdf](http://www.ngaky.org/ScholarshipApplication.pdf), or by writing or calling the Kentucky National Guard Historical Foundation at:

Kentucky National Guard Historical Foundation, 1111 Louisville Road, Frankfort KY 40601 /// Toll-Free 1-800-251-2333 (Kentucky) or 502-564-7500

Three documents must be attached to the application. These are:
- A copy of your high school transcript and any applicable college transcripts;
- Three character reference letters from public, educational, and/or religious leaders who are not members of your family; and
- A recent photograph for publication purposes. (Photo will not be returned.) The application and attachments must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2003.

**SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION . . .**

The KNGHF Scholarship Committee meets in January to select the applicants judged best qualified and most deserving. The amount of each scholarship depends upon the amount of money available and donations received for this special purpose. Last year the Foundation awarded six scholarships each in the amount of $600. Selected applicants must provide an enrollment verification from the college or university before KNGHF will issue a check for tuition, books, fees, and supply costs.

**2003 PHOTO CONTEST**

**“KENTUCKY CITIZEN SOLDIERS IN ACTION”**

**Deadline to Enter:** December 31, 2003

The Kentucky National Guard Historical Foundation (KNGHF) will sponsor a photographic competition for active, retired, and former members of the Kentucky National Guard, to include their family members. The competition’s purpose is to show the military side of how Kentucky Guardsmen live, train, and perform in an armory and field environment during annual training and periods of state or federal active duty.

Photographs will be judged on pictorial composition, originality, subject interest, and visual appeal consistent with the theme of “Kentucky Citizen Soldiers in Action.” Photographs need not have been taken during the last year. All photographs are eligible as long as the photograph is of a Kentucky National Guard Unit or individual. Only the person that took the photograph may submit the photograph to this contest. Photographs that have previously been submitted to this contest are ineligible. No entry fee is required. Up to three entries may be submitted per person.

On the back of each photograph submitted, tape a sheet of paper indicating your name, address, phone number, name(s) of person(s) and/or unit(s) in the picture, and when and where photograph was taken. Please do not write on the back of the picture(s). Photographs will be retained by the KNGHF and may be displayed in the Foundation’s building and/or in other Foundation or National Guard Association of Kentucky publications (including our website) without any payment to the photographer. Proper credit will be given if your photograph is used in one of our publications.

Color or black and white pictures only (no slides or negatives). Smallest size picture allowed is 3” x 5” (drug store variety). There is no maximum size restriction. Cash prize of $100 for “Best of Show” and $50 each for “Best Color” and “Best Black & White” picture.

Submit your photographs to: KNGHF Photo Contest, 1111 Louisville Road, Frankfort KY 40601

All photographs received will be displayed at the National Guard Association of Kentucky’s Annual Conference at the Drawbridge Inn, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky from 20-22 February 2004.

For additional information please contact the KNGHF at 1-800-231-2333 or 502-564-7500 if calling from Frankfort.

**2004 NGAKY ELECTIONS**

Anyone interested in being considered by the Nominations Committee for the positions of President-Elect, Vice President Army, or Vice President Air, must make their interest known to the Association by December 31, 2003 by calling 800-251-2333.

**What is . . . The National Guard Association of Kentucky?**

Since its beginning in 1931, the National Guard Association of Kentucky has marched with the Kentucky National Guard to attain the objective and goals of military preparedness that we presently maintain. The Association was formed to promote and support adequate National Security. It looks after the common welfare of the members of the National Guard Association of Kentucky and the Kentucky National Guard. The Association also regularly works to improve public relations with the general public for the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard. The Association is governed by an Executive Council consisting of the President, President-Elect, Vice President-Air of Air National Guard and Vice President of Army National Guard. 20 directors, the Executive Director and the Secretary-Treasurer. All officers, except the Executive Director and the Secretary-Treasurer, are elected annually. Directors serve for three years and represent every command in the state. The Association sponsors a high coverage, low cost insurance program providing protection for Kentucky Guard members and their families. The Association is proud to boast virtually 100 percent of all officers as members of the Association. Most former officers of the Kentucky National Guard maintain their relationship by becoming a life member. The enlisted guard members are associate members through their participation in the insurance program. For more information, call 800-251-2333. In Frankfort, call 502-564-7500. Or write:

NGAKy -- 1111 Louisville Road -- Frankfort, KY 40601-6118 /// Phone: 502.564.7500 or 800.251-2333