

MEMBERSHIP

THE OHIO NATIONAL
GUARD ASSOCIATION



As of 3 Sept 2011

2011-2012 ONGA Leadership

- Executive Director
 - Brig Gen (Ret) Robert Lawson
- President
 - LtCol Kathy Lowrey
- First Vice President
 - Major Phil McGonagill
- Second Vice President
 - Major Wayne Thomas
- Secretary
 - Lt Emily Lazear
- Treasurer
 - LTC Laura Monteith

Mission (under revision)

The Ohio National Guard Association exists to ensure maximum support of our elected officials in Federal, State and Local Governments in meeting the needs of a Strong Ohio National Guard

Purpose (under revision)

The Ohio National Guard Association promotes, protects and defends the vital interests of the Ohio National Guard and its membership in Federal State and Local Government

Values (under revision)

The Ohio National Guard Association is an organization of volunteers dedicated to protecting and defending the basic values that all Americans cherish, as embodied in the United States Constitution and demonstrated by our continued commitment to the Minutemen tradition of selfless dedication to Community, State and Nation

Vision (under revision)

1 of 2

The Ohio National Guard Association vision for the future is an Army and Air National Guard which enjoys the full support of Federal, State Community leaders and citizens of Ohio.

Fully supported in Congress to meet forces structure readiness and training requirements to include force modernizations and quality of life for out members as a full partner in National Defense

Vision (under revision)

2 of 2

Fully supported by the Ohio Legislature to sustain and develop an unprecedented forces, with quality facilities and individual benefits that allow the Ohio National Guard to remain ready to respond during natural disaster and in maintaining civil order within our state.

Fully supported by Local Governments and all Ohioans who recognize our value added through selfless service, dedication and quality of life programs which contribute significantly to the social fabric of our communities.

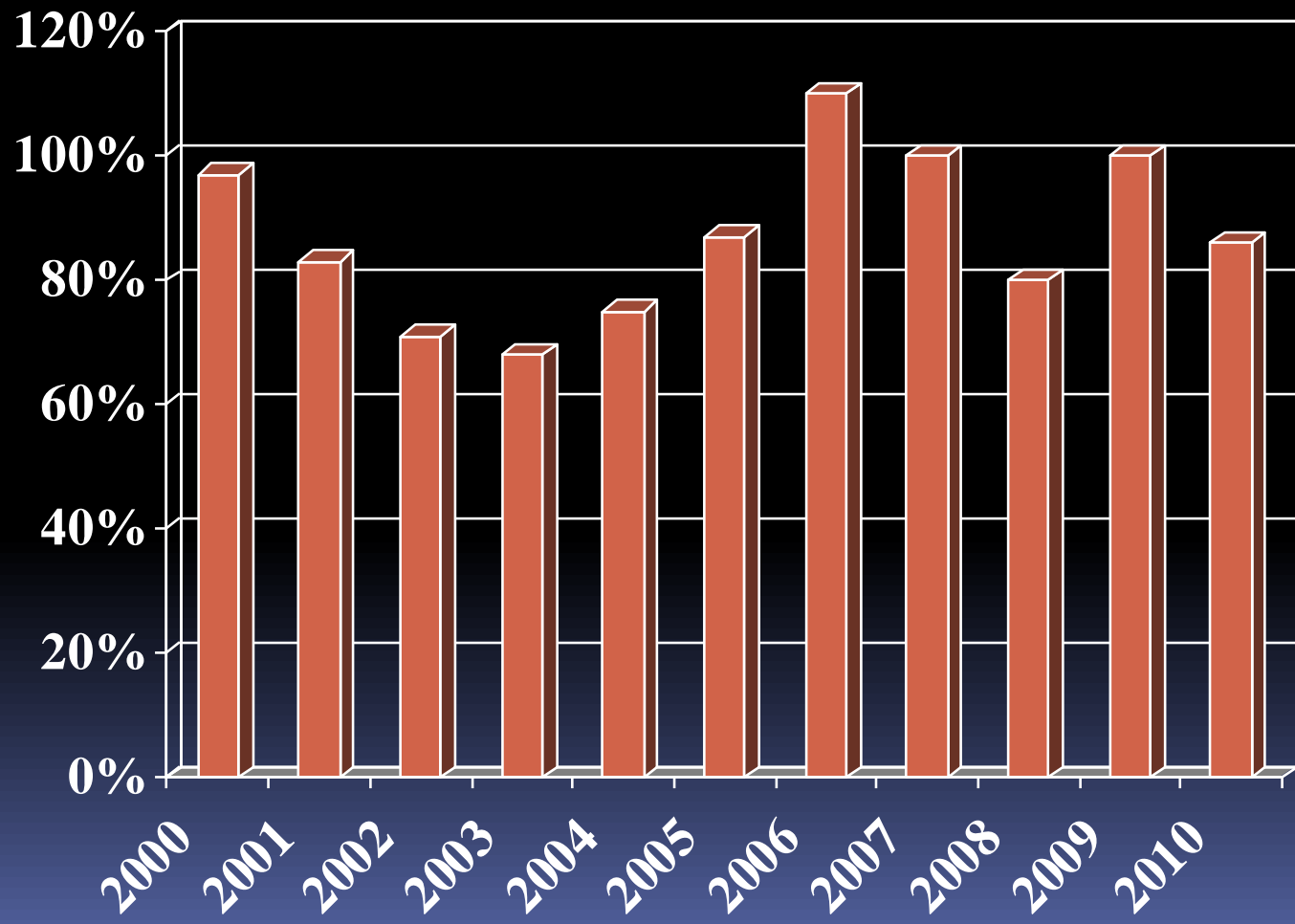
2011-2012 Goals

- 100% membership of all Officers in the Army and Air Guard
- Legislative action based on membership priorities
- Reinvigorate committee purposes , involvement and outcomes
- Engage more CGO
- Plan for the future
- Ensure members are informed and understand the mission
- Financial strength
- Strengthen relationship with the Enlisted Association
- Promote esprit de corps in the Ohio National Guard
- Recognize contributions and dedication

Ohio Membership - %

Years 2000-2010

2011 is 49%!



ONGA Accomplishments: 2011 Legislative involvement

- Positive state legislative outcomes from involvement of ONGA and ONGEA

- HB 153 100% College tuition reimbursement

- HB 121 Protecting child custody rights of deploying Service members

- HB 224 Absentee overseas Voter legislation enhancements

- Recent national legislative efforts

- Requesting Senator Portman to co-sponsor S.1025 National Guard Empowerment and State –National Defense Integration Act of 2011

- Thanking Senator Sherrod Brown for co-sponsoring S. 1025

- Ohio typically ranks in the top five nationally in use of the NGAUS "Write to Congress"

Legislation

- ONGA Legislative affairs committee is being restructured to design legislative priorities and a procedure to evaluate and implement advocacy methods with the enlisted association.
Need field-grade Army co-chair.
- As Service Members we are not allowed to lobby Congress or the General Assembly
 - We do inform and Educate
 - NGAUS lobbies for modern equipment, training, missions and personnel benefits

ONGA Accomplishments: Other

- In 2011, our insurance program contributed \$55,000 to our budget due to good financial management and claim experience
- Reimbursement of life insurance premiums while deployed
- \$100,000 death benefit for families
- Option to purchase federal and active service time toward time in state retirement
- Employment Protection for service members while deployed
- Benefit fund for injured veterans
- Out-of-State military pay exempted from state income tax
- Military retirement pay now exempt from Ohio State income tax
- Enlistment and retention bonuses.

What is NGAUS

- Began in 1878, when a group of volunteers officers, veterans of the Civil War(both North and South) gathered to discuss “matters of practical reform which would make the Militia a more effective instrument”
- A private organization that is permitted to lobby congress on behalf of its 45,000 members.
- Professional Organization comprised of Officers currently serving in the National Guard and retirees of the National Guard



Purpose

- To promote national security and to improve and maintain a strong Army and Air National Guard of the United States as the nation's first line of defense as part of the Total Force

Membership

- The backbone of NGAUS
- A path that National Guard Officers can elevate their local concerns to a national and influential audience in Washington D.C.
- NGAUS members provide guidance necessary to ensure the National Guard receives the best and the latest equipment; maintains readiness; receives proper missions as part of the Total Force; and fights for benefit programs that provide you the support you have **EARNED**

FY 2012 NGAUS Legislative Priorities examples

- National Guard Empowerment – Permanent seat on Joint Chief of Staff
- Veteran Status for all retired members
- Allow employers to pay TRS with pre-tax dollars
- Worldwide Space A travel for members and dependents
- Fully equip and modernize ARNG
- Recapitalize the ANG
- Modernize National Guard Facilities

Historical Contributions

- 1916 - National Defense Act, guaranteeing the states Militia states and the Army's reserve force, Mandated the use of the term "National Guard". Drill Pay authorized for the first time
- 1948 - Provided Guardsmen retirement benefits and death benefits
 - Stopped an attempt to combine the Army Reserve and the National Guard

Historical Contributions

- 1950 – Armory Construction with 75% Federal and 25% State funding
- 1960's – Ensured re-employment rights and job protections for guardsmen and reserve component service members
 - Ensure National Guard end strength is maintained at its current level
 - Stop an initiative to cut Guard and Reserve pay by 25%

Historical Contributions

- 1970's and 1980's – Guard benefits increased to improved recruiting and retentions
 - Air Guard received new C-130 planes
- 1983 – Defense Appropriations Act, provided dedicated funding for the procurement of equipment in support of Army Guard Units
- 1985 – Temporary G.I. Bill for guardsmen working on a baccalaureate degree
 - Made permanent in 1987

Historical Contributions

- 1990's and 2000's – Increased benefits for Guardsmen to include, VA benefits, Special Pay, G.I. Bill Benefits and Commissary Privileges
- 1992 VA Home loans
- 2006 – Tricare benefits at an affordable rate

Member Benefits

- Advocating for mission essential issues and quality of life for service members
- Stay informed about key national issues
- Additional Life Insurance Benefits may be purchased at a cost
- Networking with Other Officers in the nation
- Discounts such as:
 - Hotels in the Washington DC area
 - Travel
 - FTD offers a 15% Discount
 - NGAUS MasterCard with world points

Communications

- Publishes a quarterly magazine, National Guard Magazine
- Tells the Guard Story along with the states public affairs
- Recognizes people who have contributed to enhancing the Guard Experience through the Awards Program
 - Civilian and Military personnel are eligible

MEMBERSHIP VIDEO



Education Foundation

- Mission is to educate the general public, government, military, and National Guard members about the long and proud heritage of the National Guard from its inception in 1636.
- Runs the National Guard Museum in Washington DC
- Offers scholarships to children of those who died in service to their country
- Relies on Charity to operate

What has the National Association done?

- BRAC – new mission saved installations
- Continued funding for annual military pay raises
- Raised creditable retirement points from 90 to 130 per year
- Early retirement provisions - 90 days off age 60 for 90 aggregate days deployed
- Expanded Montgomery GI Bill benefits
- Extended VA health care from 2 years to 5 years post-deployment
- TRICARE for all reservists at only ONE rate (28%) and not three rates
- Maintained end strengths of Army and Air Guard against DoD push for reductions
- Bonus and Special Pay
- Operational Status
- National Guard Empowerment Act, 4-Star National Guard Chief sit on the Joints Chiefs of Staff.

Why Join ONGA and NGAUS?

- Not because someone told you to join
- Not because you feel pressured to join
- Not because you think you will get black listed
- Not because you think you will upset your rating officer
- Why Join then.....

What this means

Your membership ensures we have a voice in the federal and the state governments. 100% membership says a lot about our organization and members of Congress will listen. Your Membership in ONGA and NGAUS helps benefit the Guard as a whole, the individual Soldier/Airmen, Service Members from other Services and ensures our rich history is going to be told.

What are our opportunities?

“We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations.”

Charles R. Swindoll

*Thank you for supporting your
Association!*