

The STANDARD



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The SSLI program provides a member death benefit with
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www.NGAMS.org or (601) 354-7555 to learn more.

Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Shawn Keeton

Member death benefits provided by AFBA are underwritten by 5Star Life Insurance Company (a Lincoln, NE company) with an administrative office at 909 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. This member benefit is offered only to its National Guard Association members in the state of Mississippi

Policy forms: LT050197(REV); GNGPOLICY-MS-R413; GNG-060103
NGAMS Standard MagR0418

The STANDARD

Welcome back to the National Guard Association of Mississippi Standard, the premier source for connecting the members of the Mississippi National Guard to the resources that allow them to be the bridge between the military and the civilian sectors. No branch of the armed forces is able to understand the importance of our local communities while maintaining an eye abroad to the enemies that could so easily be at our doorstep. In short, in times of disaster at home as well as conflicts on foreign shores, our men and women of the Mississippi National Guard stand ready to answer the call.

This year the National Guard Association of Mississippi has expanded our services through more online resources at www.ngams.org. Let the NGAMS Standard be your guide to our online services and additional resource for information on both our programs as well as the companies that provide you the ability to better serve our state and nation. We are very excited to provide these services to you and look forward to continuing to set the Standard.

Sincerely,

Your Association





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For the most up to date information please follow us on these social media sites:
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NGAMS IS OFFERING NEW LIFE MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS.

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As an active life member, you will always count as a delegate, even after retirement. Normally it takes 50 retired members of the association to count as equal to one active delegate. Having more delegates strengthens the ability of your NGAMS to protect you, your fellow Service members and your respective families. Have your voice heard and your vote count one for one even after you retire.

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<http://www.ngaus.org/ngaus-membership-makes-guard-stronger/member-benefits>

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- ★ Call us at 601-354-7555
- ★ Visit us at 120 North State Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201
- ★ Mail us a completed life membership form (may be downloaded from our website) with credit card information or a check with your full name, rank, address, phone number, and email address to:

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Jackson, Mississippi 39205

The Armed Forces Benefit Association (AFBA) is a not-for-profit association established in 1947 to promote the general welfare and economic interests of military families during war and peace. Over time, we have expanded membership eligibility to also serve federal government employees and contractors, as well as first responders – law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel. Today, we serve more than 600,000 members protected by over \$39B of survivor benefits. More than \$1.9B of survivor benefits have been paid to the families of AFBA members since our founding. Survivor benefits are funded by life insurance underwritten by AFBA affiliate, 5Star Life Insurance Company, a Nebraska company. AFBA - Always Ready, Always There for the National Guard.

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS ★ ★

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Airbus Helicopters is a division of Airbus, a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. Airbus' mission is to provide the most efficient civil and military helicopter solutions to its customers who serve, protect, save lives and safely carry passengers in highly demanding environments.

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1st Heritage CREDIT

Over the last twenty years First Heritage Credit has proudly served the financial needs of its clients throughout the state of Mississippi, as well as the surrounding states of Alabama, Louisiana, South Carolina and Tennessee. We are proud to be Patriot Level Patriot Partners with the Mississippi National Guard, and enjoy serving our communities through our 35 Mississippi branches.

We are proud to support the Mississippi National Guard, and enjoy giving back to those who freely give so much for us.

Visit www.1stheritagecredit.com

Through Service to the Armed Forces, the American Red Cross provides programs to the military and their families that aim at all walks of military life. One important service the American Red Cross offers to military members and their families is providing verification and emergency communication if there is an emergency within the service member's or spouse's immediate family.

AM GENERAL ★

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BAE SYSTEMS, INC. ★

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2000 15th Street North, Suite 1100
Arlington, Virginia 22201

BAE Systems, Inc. provides support and service solutions for current and future defense, intelligence, and civilian systems; designs, develops and manufactures a wide range of electronic systems and subsystems for both military and commercial applications; produces specialized security and protection products; and designs, develops, produces, and provides service support of armored combat vehicles, artillery systems, and munitions.

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Shane James
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224 Pine Branch Circle
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Blue Ridge Networks is a visionary cyber security leader that has pioneered proven network infrastructure, remote access, and endpoint cybersecurity solutions since the dawn of the Internet.

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CENTURYLINK

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Wilmington, North Carolina 28411

CenturyLink Government Hybrid IT solutions are based on Carrier-Class Connectivity, with unparalleled reliability across our Tier 1 global network that provides direct access to co-location services worldwide. Our energy efficient data centers support agile, hybrid cloud solutions that are scalable to meet basic data needs up through big data solutions; All of which are protected by our industry leading managed Cybersecurity services and served by our commitment to customer satisfaction and collaboration to deliver professional services, managed services and best-in-class solutions.

As one of the three largest telecommunications providers in the U.S., CenturyLink is committed to meeting the communications missions of the United States Department of Defense. With over 57 data centers, several with FISMA High and DoD Federal Enclaves, CenturyLink is able to support DoD hosting and colocation requirements as well as provide solutions on key contract vehicles including Networx Universal/Enterprise, GSA Schedule 70 and Connections II.

CAPITAL ORTHOPAEDIC ★

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290 E Layfair Drive, Suite A
Flowood, Mississippi 39232

Since its establishment in 1990, the philosophy of Capital Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine Center is to serve the community as a comprehensive Orthopaedic care clinic. Made up of 9 physicians, each Doctor is capable of treating a wide range of problems involving the musculoskeletal system. Within the clinic, the Doctors also have areas of special interest and training which means that certain disorders that may need more specialized care. Capital Orthopaedic will always strive to serve the needs of each patient in a caring and concerned manner. We will grow as our patient's requirements grow and will continue to be the preeminent General Orthopaedic clinic in Jackson and central Mississippi.

COLLEGE SAVINGS MISSISSIPPI

Office of State Treasurer Lynn Fitch
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P. O. Box 120
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Mississippi offers two 529 college savings plans. A 529 plan is an education savings plan operated by a state or educational institution designed to help families prepare and save for college costs. There are two types of 529 plans, prepaid and traditional savings plans. In 1996 the Mississippi legislature created MPACT (Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition), the state's 529 prepaid plan. MPACT is guaranteed by the State to cover the cost of college and mandatory fees at Mississippi's public colleges. In 2001 the Mississippi legislature created MACS (Mississippi Affordable College Savings), the state's 529 savings plan. MACS is

an easy and flexible way to save for K-12 tuition and college expenses.

DENTAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

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Cedar Park, Texas 78613

Founded in 2003, Dental Health Management Solutions, Inc. (DHMS) is an Austin, Texas based Woman-owned business, with over 15 years' experience in providing comprehensive medical and dental services to the U.S. Military, Prisons, and Correctional facilities nationwide. We specialize in mobile and portable medical, dental, and audiology services for Soldier readiness. DHMS has been an industry leader in military readiness since 2005 serving our soldiers. We understand the military and have the same internal mission; always ready, always there to serve both the community and soldiers.

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Greg Sumerlin
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ESGR, a Department of Defense program, was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment. ESGR is supported by a network of more than 3,750 volunteers in 54 committees located across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam-CNMI (Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Volunteers, hailing from small business and industry, government, education, and prior military service bring a vast wealth of experience to assist in serving employers, Service members, and their families. Together with Headquarters ESGR

staff and a small cadre of support staff for each State Committee, volunteers work to promote and enhance employer support for military service in the Guard and Reserve. ESGR has served our country for more than 45 years, fostering a culture in which all employers support and value the employment and military service of members of the National Guard.

ENERSYS

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EnerSys, the world's largest manufacturer of industrial batteries, offers complete VRLA, Li-Ion, Lithium Primary Reserve and Nickel Cadmium stored energy solutions for the aerospace and defense industry. EnerSys batteries for military tactical ground vehicles, aircraft, ships, submarines, and weapons systems are known for their superior quality and innovative technology. For more information on EnerSys batteries, visit hawkeraplus.com.

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30931 Fairview Avenue
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FAAC is the provider of reconfigurable Operator Driving Simulators (ODS) and Virtual Clearance Training Suites (VCTS) for the Army National Guard. Simulated vehicles include FMTV, HEMTT, HET, PLS, M915, M939, M1114 Up-Armored HMMWV, RG-31, Panther, Cougar, Buffalo and Stryker. Fixed site and mobile systems. FAAC also fielded the KC-135 Boom Operator Simulator System for the Air National Guard. FAAC has over 45 years providing simulation-based training solutions to the U. S. Military.

FAMILIES FIRST FOR MISSISSIPPI ★ ★

Zach New
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1425 Lakeland Drive Suite B & C
Jackson, Mississippi 39216

Families First for Mississippi is designed to stimulate employment, support family financial stability, promote literacy, and increase graduation rates while continuing to support positive youth development, promoting positive father involvement as well as supporting Department of Human Services County Offices through parenting education and parenting skills development. The "whole family" program will provide services for children, adolescents, teens, adults and the elderly. The expanded program will utilize partnerships

with state and community agencies to both fill in service gaps and ensure that quality services are not being unnecessarily replicated.

GALLS

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The Global Training Institute is a veteran-owned, small business providing a broad and diverse spectrum of advanced, specialized training. We provide world-class curricula to post-graduate professionals across four major categories. Healthcare Professionals, Law Enforcement, First Responders and Military Personnel from across the nation train at GTI. The facility is nationally accredited as National Training Center by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT), Site #6956. The facility is also nationally accredited by Johnson & Johnson Surgical Division, American Nurses Credentialing Center (AACN) and the Society for Simulations in Healthcare (SSIH).

GTI has trained over 3,500 professionals with high-capacity evidenced-based results following training in our laboratories. National Certification Training courses boast 90% First-time pass rates for Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN), Flight Paramedic Certification (FP-C), Certified Flight Registered Nurse (CFRN), Certified Emergency Registered Nurse (CEN), and Critical Care Flight Paramedic (CCP-C) national board certifications. GTI has obtained Internal Board of Specialty Certification Accreditation (ISBC). All courses are nationally accredited and approved for CME and CEU.

Active Duty and DoD personnel have participated in advanced simulation and trauma training including the Armed Forces Advanced Trauma Training Course (AFATT), a 10-day simulation and operational exercise that provides



THE NEXT GENERATION

Mississippi's Millennials break all stereotypes

in service and sacrifice to our state and nation...

What exactly is a “Millennial”? Neil Howe and William Strauss, authors of the 1991 book *Generations: The History of America’s Future, 1584 to 2069*, define Millennial as an individual born between 1982 and 2004. The Pew Research Center further narrows the birth year of a Millennial as being someone that was born between 1981 and 1996. However, regardless of the exact dates, the Millennial generation encompasses all our new recruits, a clear majority of our company grade officers and many of our younger field grade officers.

Consider how technology and information flow has changed during the short period of this generation. On June 1, 1980, Ted Turner launched CNN, the first 24-hour cable news station, and the genesis of many more around the clock cable news outlets. On August 6, 1991, the World Wide Web became publicly available. According to Clive Thompson of *New York Magazine Online*, Swarthmore student Justin Hall created the first blog in January 1994. The first social media site, Six Degrees, was created in 1997, *Complete History of Social Media: Then And Now*, Drew Hendricks, May 8, 2013. On June 29, 2007, the first iPhone was released.

As a result, even the oldest Millennials have grown up with the immediate access to basically anything they need to know. Further, they can instantly share their opinions and thoughts with not just individuals in their immediate area but instead with people on the other side of the world. Whereas members of the earlier generations depended on getting their information at a much slower pace and from very limited sources.

Let’s look at the events in the United States and around the world that have shaped their perspectives. When the 9/11 terrorist attack happened, the oldest Millennials were 20 years old and the youngest were not born. Shortly thereafter the United States entered wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and has been in some level of conflict since that time. As a result, most Millennials in the United States Armed Forces have been deployed to a combat zone, many multiple times.

While this reality certainly impacts members of the active component it is even more impactful for Millennials joining as members of the Mississippi National Guard. In the past, a recruit had to balance education, employment and military commitments. However, a recruit now adds the likelihood of deployment that interrupts their employment or education, often both and often multiple times. While the media and society in general can portray Millennials as entitled and somewhat self-centered, a look closer at the Millennial generation in the military shows just the opposite.

In one generation, the entire landscape of what it means to serve in the Mississippi National Guard has changed. The Millennials in our ranks are the most dedicated, selfless and versatile members of our society. No longer is the work day the “9 to 5” or drill “one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer”. Communication is constant and the work day and drill times fluid. As a result, it is more important than ever for the Millennial generation to maintain vigilance over their careers and the issues that impact them. It is the mission of the National Guard Association of Mississippi to provide them the platform to keep up with their quickly changing world.

Every feature and benefit provided by the NGAMS is available on the website at www.ngams.org. Included is a portal to our social media account and a preview section for the latest news. Please like our Facebook

“When the 9/11 terrorist attack happened, the oldest Millennials were 20 years old and the youngest were not born.”

page @ NationalGuardAssociationOfMississippi and follow us on Twitter TNGAMS to receive the latest information on issues that impact you and your family. Listings for our full-time staff, board of directors and committees are listed under the About NGAMS tab along with our Bylaws and board of director minutes.

If you are looking for your first job or wanting to change your career please explore the Career Center under the News & Resources tab. NGAMS also provides you an opportunity to compete for the NGAMS Scholarship using our online application. The scholarship is awarded each year at the NGAMS Conference in late spring and is worth \$24,000.

The NGAMS Conference as well as the NGAUS Conference in early fall provides officers and their families the opportunity to gather and discuss the issues important to them. During both events Service members are afforded opportunities for small group professional

Continued on page 42.

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS 2018

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As we have referenced many times, insurance is not a pleasant topic as it forces us to face our own or a loved one’s mortality. However, it is a topic that must be discussed to ensure the financial stability of our families. Sadly, one hundred thirty-five of our families dealt with this eventuality this fiscal year. Our insurance program provided \$1,381,750 in assistance in support of claims of one hundred fourteen Service members and eighteen dependents. Unfortunately, three of our families did not have coverage through the Association.

Commanders are responsible for ensuring the readiness of their Soldiers and Airmen- this is the number one priority. Part of this responsibility should be addressing financial management planning, which includes insurance. If our National Guard families are aware of the benefits and minimal cost, they would likely carry at least the minimum coverage the NGAMS Insurance program offers. To that end, leaders are encouraged to help each member understand their whole family can be insured for as little as \$6.80 per month.

Currently, the combined Air and Army National Guard insurance participation is sixty-one percent. The Air National Guard participation is thirty-six percent while the Army National Guard participation is sixty-eight percent. The NGAMS staff is always ready to provide units their current level reports to assist commanders in reviewing their participation. Again, the goal is to make sure Service members are aware of the tremendous benefit offered by the Association and their responsibility to provide for their dependents when tragedy strikes.

Please contact the NGAMS office at 601-354-7555 for any questions regarding enrollment or other matters. Also, leaders are encouraged to call and set up an insurance presentation at their respective units. Working together, we can make a difference.

Colonel Paul McDonald
Chair, Committee on Insurance

1 No Cost \$1,000 Death Benefit for Active Guard Members

This benefit is free to you. All Mississippi active guard members are covered 24/7 whether drilling or not. There’s no enrollment necessary - you are automatically eligible for this benefit should something happen to you. Death benefit is paid to named beneficiary, spouse, or next of kin.

2 Basic Coverage

The Basic program provides financial protection in the event of death. It also provides coverage for your spouse and/or children, all at an affordable monthly cost.

Member Coverage

Basic coverage gives you 4 options. After 12 consecutive months, you are eligible for increased insurance which becomes effective on the next June 1 following completion of the 12 month period. **The additional coverage is at no-cost to you.**

Member Coverage		
Amount	Monthly cost	After 12 months
\$10,000	\$3.80	\$12,500
\$16,000	\$6.00	\$21,000
\$25,000	\$8.95	\$32,500
\$35,000	\$12.25	\$45,000

Dependent Coverage

If you and your spouse are both members of the MS National Guard you must have your own individual coverage. Either you or your spouse can apply for coverage on children but not both.

Dependent Coverage		
Spouse	Each child	Monthly cost
\$10,000	\$2,500	\$3.00
\$15,000	\$5,000	\$4.00
\$30,000	\$10,000	\$8.00
\$50,000	\$15,000	\$13.00

Separation: If you have been insured for 12 consecutive months, you can retain your basic coverage until age 60. You may keep the same amount in force except for the extra increased insurance. You can pay the monthly contribution on a direct bill basis.

Retirement: At retirement, if you have 20 years of service and have been insured for 12 consecutive months, coverage continues in force until age 60 at the same premium. Between 60 - 70 death benefit reduces to \$10,000, spouse benefit to \$10,000, and dependent children to \$2,500. At age 70, death benefit reduces to \$5,000, spouse benefit to \$5,000, and dependent children remains at \$2,500.

Spouse retention: A surviving spouse age 59 or less of an insured member who dies before age 60 can retain the coverage he/she carried as a dependent of the deceased Guard member and may include related coverage on the already insured dependent children at a slightly higher cost.

Both the Basic and Enhanced coverage has No combat or terrorism exclusions. No geographical area exclusions.

3

Enhanced Coverage

When you have the maximum coverage in the Basic program, you can purchase additional coverage. The Enhanced program provides affordable term life insurance with a level death benefit and only 3 age bands for contributions.

Affordable life insurance

You can purchase \$50,000 of protection for as little as \$4 a month if you're under 50 years of age and don't use tobacco products. Contributions increase at each age band as shown below.

No medical exam for Guard members under age 50 applying for up to \$250,000 of coverage and ages 50-59 up to \$100,000. For spouses, no medical exam under age 40 up to \$250,000 and under age 50 up to \$150,000. Just complete the enrollment form and answer a few health questions.

Coverage from \$50,000 to \$400,000

Based on your individual situation, you decide how much coverage is right for you and your family.

Emergency death benefit payment

Emergency death benefit payment of up to \$15,000 within one business day of notification to help your loved ones with immediate costs.

Full coverage after retirement or separation

As long as contributions are paid, coverage continues to age 70*. There are no occupation restrictions, so regardless of what you do after the military, you're covered. Regardless of any health issues that may develop in the future, you're still covered. Upon retirement or separation, policy contributions will be paid directly to AFBA rather than through allotment.

Spouse coverage

You can easily purchase coverage for your spouse on the same application.

Monthly Contributions (Male/Female) Non-Tobacco**

Age	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$200,000	\$250,000	\$300,000	\$350,000	\$400,000
18-49	\$4.00	\$8.00	\$12.00	\$16.00	\$20.00	\$24.00	\$28.00	\$32.00
50-59	\$18.00	\$36.00	\$54.00	\$72.00	\$90.00	\$108.00	\$126.00	\$144.00
60-69	\$44.00	\$88.00	\$132.00	\$176.00	\$220.00	\$264.00	\$308.00	\$352.00

**Tobacco user contributions are two (2) times non-tobacco user contributions. Tobacco user is one who has used any tobacco product in the past 12 months.

Medical Requirements for Current or Former Military Member

	18-39	40-49	50-59
\$50,000	●	●	●
\$51,000 - \$100,000	●	●	●
\$101,000 - \$150,000	●	●	●
\$151,000 - \$200,000	●	●	●
\$201,000 - \$250,000	●	●	●
\$251,000 - \$300,000	●	●	●
\$301,000 - \$400,000	●	●	●

Medical Requirements for Non-Military Spouse

	18-39	40-49	50-59
\$50,000	●	●	●
\$51,000 - \$100,000	●	●	●
\$101,000 - \$150,000	●	●	●
\$151,000 - \$200,000	●	●	●
\$201,000 - \$250,000	●	●	●
\$251,000 - \$300,000	●	●	●
\$301,000 - \$400,000	●	●	●

● Statement of Health

● Paramed Exam, Blood Profile and Urinalysis

● Paramed Exam, Blood Profile and Urinalysis and Resting EKG

You can provide the protection and peace of mind your loved ones need at affordable rates with AFBA. All active Mississippi National Guard members are eligible to apply. In addition to peace of mind, an AFBA membership gives you access to a wealth of benefits and products designed with your needs in mind.

Visit www.afba.com for complete details on other member benefits.

* After 70th birthday, Enhanced coverage terminates on coverage anniversary date.

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IP's eight dining options which include Thirty-Two (IP's 4-Diamond Restaurant), Tien (IP's 4-Diamond Asian Fusion Restaurant), Costa Cucina (IP's 3-Diamond Italian Restaurant), Highlights Sports Lounge, High Tide Cafe, Back Bay Buffet, Chill Ultra Lounge, Infusion Coffee Bar, and Quench Pool Bar & Grill serve up Coastal favorites including the freshest and most delicious variety of local seafood, steaks and cocktails. Gift shops (Essentials and Trends), Senses Spa & Salon, Video Arcade, IP's Fitness Center, and our beautiful 24-hour casino also add to the complete resort experience.

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The Mississippi Wing of the Commemorative Air Force is an all-volunteer organization based in Madison, MS at Bruce Campbell

Field. We are a local representation of a worldwide organization known as the Commemorative Air Force. We are charged with the mission to acquire, restore and preserve in flying condition a complete collection of combat aircraft which were flown by all military services of the United States, and selected aircraft of other nations, for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations of Americans.

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Major General (Retired) Harry Dalton started a group in 1973 of retired officers meeting for breakfast in Jackson. In 1980, Brigadier General



(Retired) Bud Moore became the chairman of the group and provided the name, "At Ease Gang" for the statewide association of retired

STACKED BUT LOADED, AT EASE BUT READY

The retired members of the Mississippi Air and Army National Guard continue to set the standard for service after their days in uniform are complete.



Army and Air National Guard officers. Charlie Morris designed the crest for organization. At the top and bottom of the crest, portions of magnolia leaves are visible, representing the State of Mississippi's state flower. A scroll near the top of the crest reads, "RETIRED OFFICERS, MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD." The center of the crest has an eagle, symbolic of the United States imposed over two "DD's representing the service the State provided from 1923 to 1968 to the 31st Infantry "Dixie" Division including service during World War II and Korea. Some of the Regiments that comprised the "Dixie" Division date back to 1798. At the base of the crest, three rifles are stack-arms with a scroll with the motto that reads, "STACKED BUT LOADED, AT EASE BUT READY".

Today the At Ease members number near 1,000 strong. The next closest State has only a little over 300 members. Our numbers

WE S A E T A



allow our Association to increase our delegates by one for every 50 retirees. For years this increased number has allowed Mississippi a great amount of influence at the National Guard Association of the United States Conference.

There are seven official chapters that meet monthly in the state at the following locations: Brookhaven, Grenada, Gulf Coast (Biloxi), Hattiesburg, Meridian, Northeast Mississippi (Tupelo) and Jackson. The AT Ease Gang also meets for breakfast once a year at the Annual National Guard Conference and each year as part of Retiree Day at Camp Shelby.

The At Ease Gang is proud of their communities, state, and country. They are active as individual chapters supporting such worthwhile causes as college scholarships and birthday wishes at the Palmer Children's Homes. They also collectively support our military community as a whole, both those

actively serving and retired.

Please visit www.ngams.org under the Retirees tab and find a chapter near you. Information on each chapter can be found on their respective drop downs. Additional information may also be gained by contacting your retiree representatives COL James "Jim" Jackson (Army Representative) and Maj Gen Erik Hearon (Air Representative). As you complete your service to our state and country we hope you desire to continue serving by joining with a chapter of the At Ease Gang.



CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS 2018

The Mississippi National Guard Outreach Services Program is dedicated to provide essential statewide services and dedicated resources to improve the quality of life for our Service Members and their Families during all phases of military service. The designated resources of Outreach Services enhance the Readiness, Resiliency, Retention, and Recruitment of Service Members and their Families while providing necessary assistance in times of need to strengthen the partnership among Commands, Service Members, Families and Communities.

Outreach Services implements the following programs to ensure readiness throughout the Mississippi National Guard: Family Readiness, Family Assistance, Child and Youth Services, Strong Bonds, Sexual Harassment/ Assault Response Program, Resiliency/ Risk Reduction/Suicide Prevention, Yellow Ribbon Reintegration, Employment Outreach, Education Services, Casualty Assistance, Military Funeral Honors, Transition Assistance and Survivor Outreach Services.

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Mississippi's Toughest Kids (MTK) Foundation is building Camp Kamassa, Mississippi's first year-round fully handicap accessible

camp facility for children and adults with serious illnesses, physical and mental challenges, and other special needs. The camp facility will be located in Copiah County and will serve the entire State. We have partnered with the DOD through the Innovative Readiness Training program (IRT). The IRT will provide labor to construct the facility giving units valuable training opportunities and giving MTK valuable in-kind labor. For more information, visit our website: mtkfound.com and Facebook page: Mississippi's Toughest Kids Foundation.

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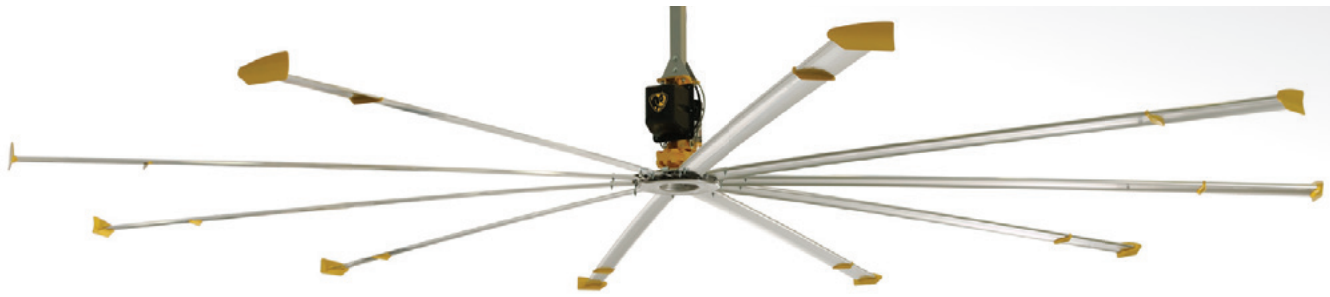
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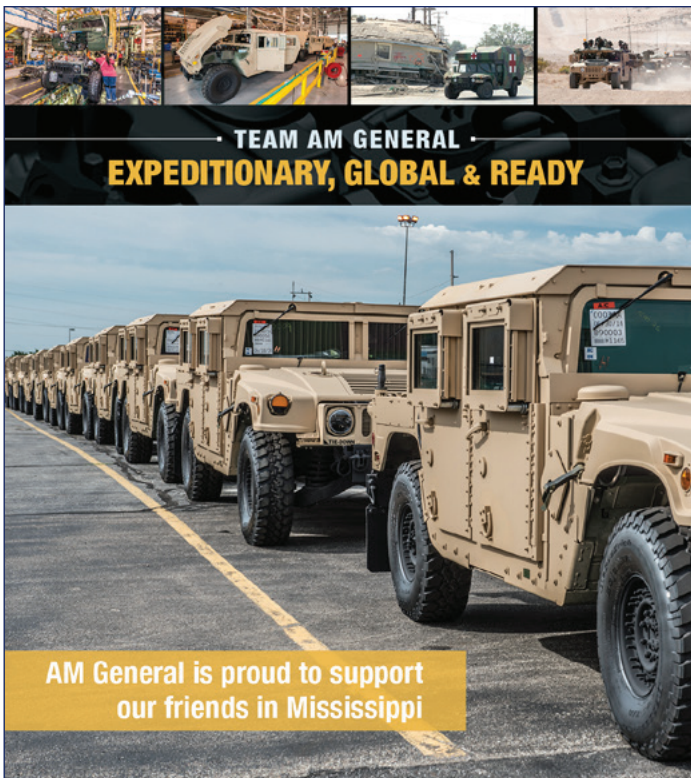
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Outerlink Global Solutions is focused on providing organizations with solutions to identify and mitigate risks. IRIS is a turnkey solution for maintaining operational control and oversight from a single corporate operator to fleet operations. Combining the four key elements of monitoring, alerting, tracking and communication, IRIS exceeds any system commercially available today.

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If you work at night, we have

something to make your job easier so that you make it home safely to your family, and our family supports the Mississippi Guard Family because we know that the National Guard is critical to our security. Thank you for what you do and for letting us be a part of it. #teamphantom loves #NGAMS!

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703-243-2503 (fax)
michael.s.miller@raytheon.com
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Cadet Sarah Grace Senn

A 4.0 student at Mississippi State University, Cadet Sarah Grace Senn seeks an undergraduate degree in Speech Pathology. She enlisted in the Mississippi National Guard as a private in the 223rd Engineer Battalion prior to entering the Army ROTC program. A former UCA All-American Cheerleader and current member of the Chi Omega Sorority, Sarah Grace is also active in the Make A Wish Foundation and the Palmer Home for Children.

"The National Guard is specifically recognized as a dual role operator meeting both state and federal needs. The National Guard contributes to society in a way that no other armed forces Service member can."



Ms. Emily Kruse

Graduating with a 4.3 grade point average and perfect 36 on the ACT, Emily Kruse will enter as a freshman this fall at the University of Virginia. A National Merit Semifinalist she is a Prefect for St. Andrew's Episcopal School's Student Council as well as a member of the choir, jazz ensemble and varsity volleyball team. Emily also volunteers for the Mississippi Children's Museum Youth Ambassador Council working with at-risk students and families.

"The positive and indispensable sacrifices our national guard Service members have made in the past 17 years, both overseas and domestic, have informed our nation of the worth of our Citizen Soldiers."

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The NGAMS Scholarship, proposed by former NGAMS President and Mississippi National Guardsman Colonel Tom Crosby, is a competitive scholarship that provides \$6,000 per year to exceptionally qualified officers in the Mississippi National Guard and their dependents. Each year the NGAMS Board of Directors approves both undergraduate and graduate scholarships. These scholarships help students in both undergraduate and graduate programs obtain their initial degrees. Details may be found at www.ngams.org.

Captain Veronica Peppers

Captain Veronica Peppers graduated as a "A" student in Public Relations in 1996 and now pursues her Masters in Business Administration at Jackson State University. Since returning from deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan she has balanced motherhood, full-time employment and military service. An active member of her church, child's school and family readiness group Captain Peppers now holds the honor of earning our first NGAMS Two Year Scholarship.

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The National Guard Association of Mississippi is pleased to announce Captain John “Phillip” Garrett has earned the G.V. “Sonny” Montgomery Foundation Leadership Award.

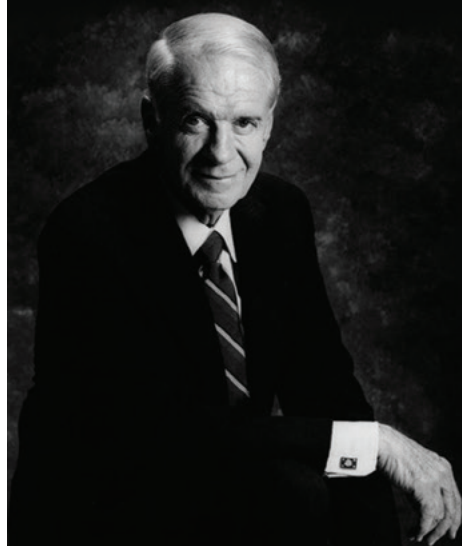
Captain Garrett currently serves as Operations Officer in the 186th Civil Engineer Squadron. He is also a full-time employee at Key Field as the Base Environmental Management Officer prior to his recent advancement to the role of Deputy Base Civil Engineer in February 2017.

Captain Garrett is the embodiment of the qualities and character that the G.V. “Sonny” Montgomery Leadership Foundation Leadership Award seeks to recognize. No matter the assignment or position, Captain Garrett has withstood the tests that separate the good from the great. Read his full biography, to include his incredible list of accomplishments and awards, on our homepage www.ngams.org.

The G.V. “Sonny” Montgomery Foundation’s mission is to honor “Sonny”, to perpetuate his important legacy, to encourage leadership, and support educational activities relating to citizenship, military service, and veterans’ affairs.

It was established more than a decade ago through the foresight of its benefactor, then Congressman G.V. “Sonny” Montgomery. His intention was to provide a vehicle to which the bulk of his estate would be left and be used, after his death, to support and encourage his greatest interests during his life.

The Foundation strives to carry his legacy forward as it recognizes civilian and military leaders who have excelled and made significant contributions to excellence in his or her field, encourages leadership development, education, excellence in scholarship and support of various military and veteran projects and needs.



G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery

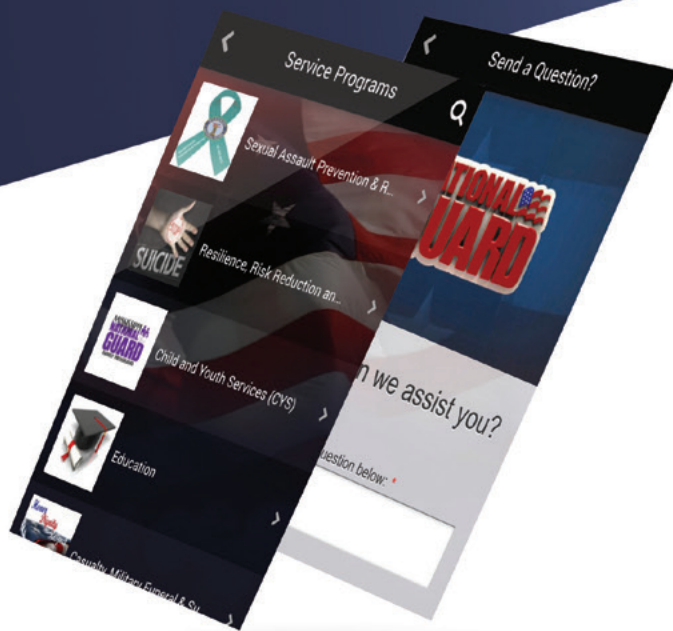
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(continued from page 16)

comradery, direct contact with business and industry and exposure to senior military leadership as well as state and national leaders. If you missed the recent national conference then you missed hearing from the current President of the United States. At the state conference this year you will have the opportunity to hear from Governor Phil Bryant, Congressman Steve Palazzo, NGAUS President Brigadier General (retired) Roy Robinson, our Adjutant General, Major General Durr Boyles and many more key figures in our state and nation. You will also have the chance to speak directly to our senior leadership in a panel discussion that includes Congressman and Brigadier General Trent Kelly.

The NGAMS Legislative Committee meets each year in the late spring to evaluate the current state laws impacting the men, women and families of the Mississippi National Guard. This year we are proud to announce that for the fourth straight year we have seen passage of all bills proposed. The Mississippi Military Department was one of very few agencies to receive an increase funding for the next fiscal year and five million in bond money for new armories. As are our other services the full legislative report and updates are listed under the Advocacy tab at www.ngams.org. Further, the NGAMS Resolutions Committee meets each year to coordinate resolutions to present at the NGAUS Conference for an expansive list of priorities and requirements for our Service members. Again, all this information is available online.

We could not put on any of our programs without the support of our Patriot Partnership Program. However,

these corporations don't just magically appear off the street ready to write a check. It takes an incredible amount of effort to form the relationships necessary. It is a time consuming and extremely detailed process that can only happen with day to day contact from our Association. Because of this partnership, members of the Mississippi National Guard are exposed to the latest in technology and innovations that allow us to conduct our missions and return home to our families. As with our other services, a complete listing of our Patriot Partners and the exhibitors can be found on our website and in this magazine. Take time during the conferences and any other chance you get to visit with them and tell them how much we appreciate their support.

Finally, life insurance is not a pleasant topic - it forces us to face our own or a loved one's mortality. One hundred thirty-five of our National Guard families faced that mortality this fiscal year. Our insurance program was able to provide \$1,381,750 in assistance in support of claims of one hundred eleven Guard members and eighteen dependents. Unfortunately, three of our Guard families did not have coverage through our Association.



Our commanders are responsible for ensuring the readiness of their soldiers and airmen - this is our number one priority. That responsibility is falling more and more on the Millennial generation as they rise in rank. Part of this responsibility should be addressing financial management planning, which includes life insurance. Fortunately, nearly 70 percent of the Army National Guard participates in the program but only a little over 36 percent of our Air Guard members. Our goal is to make sure our Service members and families are aware of this tremendous benefit offered by the Association and their responsibility to provide for their loved ones when tragedy strikes. Instant submission of an application is available online so Service members can have the peace of mind today that they have taken care of their families.

As we stated at the beginning of this article, the world is changing and so is the Service member. It is our responsibility to change with it. However, we can't do it without your support, every single one of you, Millennials, Generation X, Baby Boomers and whatever generational name comes next.

Ensure you are an up to date member of the National Guard Association of Mississippi and the National Guard Association of the United States. The best way, and the most cost efficient, is to become an Active Life Member of both associations. Go to the Membership tab of the website, read about the incredible savings and join as an Active Life Member now. It is the most basic way to support your career and that of your fellow Service members, their families and communities.

Thank you for taking time to read this article. It is our intent you have a better understanding of how, and why, the military is changing, how your Association is adapting to it and your vital role in both your career and those who follow you. Please read the rest of the information in the NGAMS Standard Magazine and take time to familiarize yourself with our programs, website and social media platforms. We look forward to a bright future for this Association. We have a very special organization. However, it all depends on having you a part of it. Please spread the word.



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- ★ Scrolling link to company website on NGAMS home page

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SOURCES - ¹[HTTPS://WWW.EPA.GOV/INSECT-REPELLENTS/FIND-INSECT-REPELLENT-RIGHT-YOU](https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/find-insect-repellent-right-you)

²DURATION OF REPEL INSECT REPELLENT SPORTSMAN MAX FORMULA WITH 40% DEET

³[WWW.ENVIRONMENTALHEALTH.CA/SPRING03/HAZARDS.HTML](http://www.environmentalhealth.ca/spring03/HAZARDS.HTML)

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DEET

PROTECTION	DURATION	ODOR	FEEL	SIDE EFFECTS	TOXICITY
MOSQUITOES, TICKS, FLEAS & BITING FLIES	UP TO 6 HOURS WITH 40% DEET ²	STRONG CHEMICAL SMELL	GREASY & STICKY FEELING THAT LASTS FOR HOURS	POTENTIAL NERVOUS SYSTEM DAMAGE	UP TO 17% ABSORBED INTO BLOODSTREAM ³

LEGISLATION 2017

UPDATE ON MISSISSIPPI

The NGAMS Legislative Committee has continued to listen to the issues important to our Service members and their families in an effort to protect their ability to serve our citizens while simultaneously care for their families and function as leaders in their communities. Immediately after the 2017 Mississippi Legislative Session and 2017 NGAMS Annual Conference, the outgoing and newly appointed members of the Legislative Committee met to review the past year and map out a plan for the 2018 session. Through the efforts of the Legislative Committee, the members of the NGAMS, the Director of Legislative Affairs and Economic Development for the Adjutant General and our leadership in the Mississippi Legislature we are very happy that the following proposals have passed and been signed into law. We thank all those involved for their tireless efforts and their concerns for the well-being of our men and women in uniform and are happy to report the following successes.

Amended Section 33-1-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, to provide that military servicemen or veterans shall

have reemployment protections when performing duties or receiving training with armed forces of other states, (including active state duty, state-training duty or any other military duty authorized under Title 10 or Title 32 of the United States Code).

Amended Section 35-1-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, to clarify that the executive director and deputy director of the state veterans affairs board shall be a currently serving member or honorably discharged or released veteran of any active or reserve component branch of the united states armed forces; and for related purposes.

Previously currently serving members of the Mississippi National Guard were not eligible to serve as either the executive director or deputy director of the Mississippi Veterans Affairs Board.

The Mississippi Military Department was provided an increase in funding to include funding for the Youth Challenge Program and Armed Forces



ONE BLACK HAWK.
MANY MISSIONS.

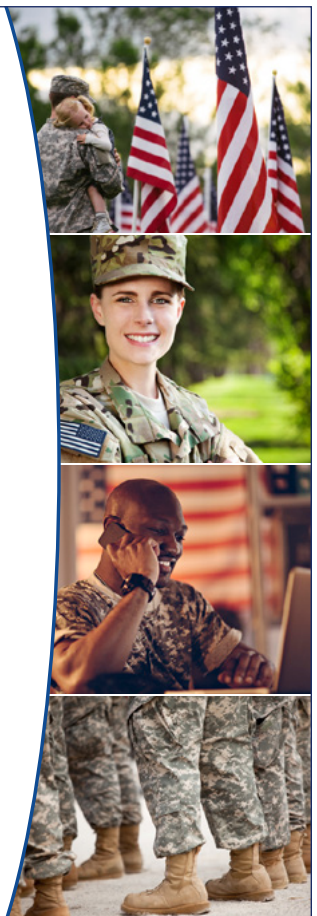
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Museum at Camp Shelby. The Mississippi Military is one of very few state agencies that did not take a cut in their funding and one of even fewer to receive an increase.

Finally, **the Mississippi Military Department** was able to gain \$5,000,000 in bond money for planning, construction, repair, renovation, replacement, furnishing and equipping readiness centers. This matching funds will be combined with the federal funding provided by the efforts of our federal delegation.

To educate our elected officials in our service and needs, the Mississippi National Guard Legislative Committee had a well attended luncheon during the 2018 Legislative Session to include 77 legislators,

Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves, Commissioner of Agriculture (and now U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith, Treasurer Lynn Fitch, Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney, Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann and State Auditor Stacey Pickering.

In late fall 2017, Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves toured the proposed armory location and current facility in Desoto County. Several members of the legislature and state officials also toured Camp Shelby and visited with soon to be deployed soldiers for a demonstration of our units' capabilities.

The NGAMS Legislative Committee will continue to educate our elected officials on the mission and importance of the Mississippi National Guard and support legislation that benefits our members.

Photo Credits

Front Cover

Mississippi Army National Guard 2nd Lt. Michael Grennan, an infantry officer assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 155th Infantry Regiment, performs a radio check while participating in a road march at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center, Miss., March 1, 2018. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by SPC. Jovi Prevot)

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A Blackhawk prepares to land during the Multi-echelon Integrated Brigade Training exercise, June 11, 2016, at Fort Hood, Texas. (Mississippi National Guard photo by PFC. Justin Humphreys, 102d Public Affairs Detachment)

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A Soldier with the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team, Mississippi Army National Guard, watches for opposition forces as his unit conducts urban assault training May 30, 2017 at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California. (Mississippi National Guard photo by SSG. Shane Hamann, 102d Public Affairs Detachment.)

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Mississippi Air National Guard members with the 255th Air Control Squadron control aerial combat operations in Gulfport, Miss., as part of Exercise Southern Strike 16, Oct. 27, 2015. The exercise, which is hosted by the Gulfport Combat Readiness Training Center, emphasizes air-to-air, air-to-ground and special operations forces training opportunities. (U.S. Air Force photo by SSG. Kenneth W. Norman)

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