

# The Retirees'



# DOG TAG



I. M. RETIRED  
000-00-0000  
US MILITARY

VOLUME 4, FEBRUARY 1, 2008

THE UNOFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA NATIONAL GUARD AND RETIREES ADVISORY BOARD FOR MILITARY RETIREES.

## From the DAG

Dear National Guard Retiree,

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. 2007 was an extremely busy year for the North Dakota National Guard. Looking ahead to 2008, it is clear that the high operational tempo and transformational challenges we faced in 2007 will be with us in 2008 and beyond.

As part of the continuing transformation of the Army STARC headquarters to a true Joint Force Headquarters, the N.D. National Guard will launch a joint publication this month the 'ND Guardian'. This publication will be produced using the combined talents of our Soldiers and Airmen and will highlight the strengths, accomplishments and diversity of our organization. Look for the 'ND Guardian' in your mailbox in the near future.

In other transformation news, the Air National Guard continues its transformation from fighter aircraft to Predators and C-21s. The Wing is also progressing nicely in standing up their security mission at Minot Air Force base. Additionally, Patrick Martin has been promoted to Brigadier General. He will continue to serve as Chief of Joint Staff and Assistant Adjutant General for Air.

On the Army side, the 141st Combat Support Brigade (ME) will be renamed the 141st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB) on Feb 1. The unit has begun drilling in Fargo and continues steady progress toward becoming an operational headquarters. With the return of the 34th Engineer Brigade this spring, the final pieces of the puzzle will be in place for the 141st MEB to officially activate and assume control of subordinate units.

In addition to the 34th Engineer Brigade we have a number of Army units coming and going in support of the War on Terror. We'll welcome home 1-188th

Air Defense Artillery (Raid Detachment), the 132nd Quartermaster Detachment, the 817th Engineer Company and the 164th Engineer Battalion during the first half of 2008. We'll see off the 191st Military Police Company in mid-January as they head off to Iraq. We have also announced that the N.D. National Guard will lead 1,400 Soldiers in the Balkans (Bosnia and Kosovo) mission in late 2009. This will be a multi-state, multi-component, multi-country mission that should prove to be a challenging and exciting mission for our National Guard.

Transforming while fighting a war is a tall order, but the N.D. National Guard has shown it is up to the challenges and continues to build on the great legacy of our retirees.

ALAN S. DOHRMANN  
BG, NDARNG  
Deputy Adjutant General

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# Message from the Board

Greetings All,

At our quarterly meeting at Camp Grafton in conjunction with the Retirees Weekend in September we questioned how we, as retirees, are organized in the state since the advent of the Retiree's Advisory Board and what is our relationships with the existing Retiree Caucuses under the NGAND and NDNGEA.

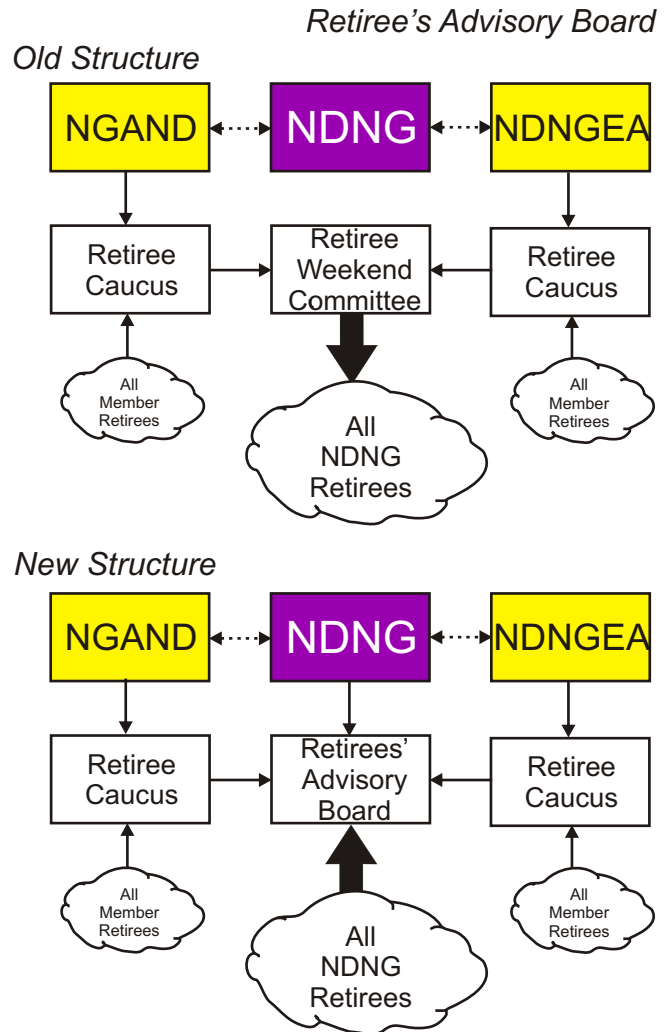
Going back to the beginning of the Retiree's Advisory Board, the initial goals were to improve relationships and communications between the National Guard and its Retirees and improve National Guard support to its Retirees. There was some thought expressed that over time this board, comprised of regional and functional liaisons could be the umbrella organization for all retirees whether officer, enlisted, army, or air. The decision was to be made by all of us and in no way forced on us by the Guard leadership at the time.

As the Board matured it became clear that being organized formally and sanctioned by the Guard had benefits. Resources were made available to fund initiatives that would achieve those initial goals, this newsletter, as an example.

Within that the first year of existence Retirees' Caucuses from NGAND and NDNGEA were struggling to sustain the yearly Retiree's Weekend at Camp Grafton. That year they had asked for the Guard's help in doing the mail out to save money and used the new Retiree's Advisory Board's database. Over the next few quarterly meetings the board decided to ask the Officer and Enlisted Associations if they would allow the Retiree's Advisory Board to assume sponsorship of the weekend with each association taking a supporting role. Each association agreed and at the next meeting the weekend organizers (Ray Scharnowske, Christie Barkke, and Terry Thilmony) were invited to workout a transition process. There existed then and even now some question as to the relationships between the Board, the associations, and the retirees group (association).

The following two charts depict how we believe the organizational lines and relationships were and what we believe they are now.

The Advisory Board now has a standing sub-committee for the Retiree's Weekend. This event, open to all NDNG Retirees, will be the yearly flagship event for the Board.



## The General-in-training

There was this General-in-training, and his superiors were asking him questions  
"What happened on June 6, 1944?"  
"We stormed the beach at Normandy, which later became known as D-Day, sir!"  
"What was the turning point of world war 2?"  
"Battle of the bulge, sir!"  
"What's is the importance of May 12?"  
The Man thought and thought "I don't know, sir!"  
The superior then said "Well, I'll tell your wife that you forgot her birthday"



# ARMY GUARD UPDATE



## NEW VETERANS HOME IN LISBON

As we age, so do our facilities. The North Dakota Soldiers Home, as it was originally called back in 1891, currently exists on 92 beautiful acres in southern Lisbon, ND, along side the meandering Sheyenne River. Numerous trees provide the decor for this home on the gently rolling hillsides where peace and tranquility are afforded without so much as the mentioning of a single word.

The first barracks building was built in 1893 and a hospital was built in 1899. The "Commandant's House", which was probably built in the WPA days, the dirty '30s, is currently used by the present administrator and his family. Very few changes were made until the '40s when the barracks and hospital were removed and the current main structure was built to provide housing and care for those veterans in need.

A four story structure was added onto the main building in 1980 and the name was officially changed to the North Dakota Veterans Home in 1983. In 1990 another addition was added to the east end to provide space for skilled nursing. Although the home has an authorization for 150 beds only 122 are in use at this time because of various restricting factors.

Currently the home is maintained in the best condition possible but as a result of a life safety inspection during late 2006 the main structure failed current fire safety requirements and could not be brought up to standards without major renovation. The 2007 session of the state legislature, aware of the importance of the home, worked with the federal government to provide funds to build a new state of the art veterans home.

Although current authorizations are short several million dollars in providing the \$27 million needed for a new facility, it has been determined that the necessary funding can be attained by loans, grants and special programs. Hopefully construction will begin by fall 2008 with the official opening occurring late 2009. Yes, our facilities are keeping up with our needs.

CW4 (Ret) Ralph Metcalf  
Liaison to Army National Guard



# AIR GUARD UPDATE



## Change = Opportunity

2007 has been a year of change for the Happy Hooligans of the North Dakota Air National Guard. As many unit members adjust to their new roles within the organization new opportunities are created. The Air Guard conversion to new missions is expected to last at least another year indicating there could be many more opportunities to come.

The predator mission is growing faster than anticipated. At this time the North Dakota Air Guard is the only guard unit in the nation that has expanded their operation to 2 predator control stations. This has almost doubled their manning requirements creating enormous opportunity for those who want to convert to this challenging new career field.

This year the Air Guard in North Dakota has also established the largest Security Police Squadron in the total Air National Guard. Located in Minot, this squadron presents lots of opportunity for both Army and Air guard personnel. Right now they have approximately 70 traditional and 30 fulltime non-deployable AGR positions available. If Minot is the place you want to be, getting in on the ground floor can only be a plus for our airmen and soldiers.

The C-21 (Lear Jet) business is also alive and well and expanding daily to additional operational missions that create a need for more pilots. If you, a son, a daughter or a grandchild is interested in flying, this is a great opportunity to start at the top with the Happy Hooligans. At this time the Fargo unit is flying two missions a day that are considered operational missions as well as additional local training sorties. These operational missions are important to all retirees because it is these missions that are available for Space A travel. Presently the Hooligans have a dedicated phone number that everyone can call to hear the recorded flight schedule and the number of Space A seats available on each flight. The Space A number is 701-451-2123. Write this number down and check it out. The availability changes daily so I would advise checking it frequently if you are interested in these opportunities for retired travel. For further information on Space A travel, to include rules and regulations, see [http://afcrossroads.com/activities/travel\\_space.cfm](http://afcrossroads.com/activities/travel_space.cfm).

The "can do" attitude of the Happy Hooligans continues to create growth through change

Air Guard Update - Cont'd

Affording unlimited opportunities for young and old alike. While accomplishing their everyday responsibilities and continuing the overseas deployment of our guardsmen and women the Happy Hooligans find ways to creatively grow into the future. It's very evident that here in North Dakota Change = Opportunity!

Tlar  
Retired Happy Hooligan

## Committee Reports

### REGION 1

Greetings from Region 1 where oil prices are up, grain prices are up, demand for workers is up, demand for snowbirds is up and attendance at our monthly breakfast get together is down. The weather has been beautiful so the snow birds left a little early and the retirees who decided to work for the summer are still at work. The oil field is in full swing as are all the businesses that support the latest boom so it is no surprise that we don't need the big round table for the time being.

We did have the opportunity to have breakfast and visit with the new ESGR chair for this area and are happy to report that it is in good hands. We plan to meet with him occasionally to see if the retirees can be of any assistance. So far things are well in hand.

The local Guard unit is planning their annual military ball in Feb. so watch your mail for an invitation. It is a fun event to attend and watch our young warriors at play. Believe it or not, we were that age at one time too. Attending the ball is a good way to celebrate successfully entering the year 2008. We should be recovered from New Years Eve by then.

The welcome mat is still out to anyone in the area that would like to visit over breakfast. We get together at 7am on the second Tuesday at Dakota Farms. See you there and have a HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

Ken

### REGION 2

Yes I am still the coordinator for District 2. Our annual meeting in Devils Lake was a great success we had more people show this year. We need to continue doing this and meet new people. We are still having our monthly meetings at Marco's. It is the second Tuesday of each month. I don't know where this year has gone but it is gone and I am still busy. Retired life is suppose to be sitting at the lake fishing or visiting. I hope this finds everybody in good health and enjoying your retired life.

I just got back from our quarterly meeting and our troops are doing very well and by the time this Dog Tag gets to you some of our troops will be back. If you know these troops, thank them when you see them on the street or in a store. I know that when I tell some people that my son is over seas they thank me for his patronage and a safe return. So lets keep these troops in our prayers and for those troops that are getting ready to go.

In closing I hope you have a very good summer - take a youngster fishing.  
Joe

### REGION 3 -

By the time you read this news the year 2007 and the holidays will have ended. All of us from the region hope you have had a great 2007.

At our November breakfast meeting CSM Orville Wang was home on R&R from Iraq . He was kind enough to spend an hour and a half with us to bring us up to date on what was going on in Iraq, and did a great job answering all of our questions, which there were lots of. We thank him for taking the time away from his family to spent the time with us.

By now all the sun birds are warm in the south, doing their thing. The northern birds are home looking forward to spring. We sunbirds are wishing them a nice winter so they can do their thing.

Everyone from the region is doing o.k. More people have retired, and our attendance has improved the last few months which is great. We enjoy seeing all the retirees and welcoming the new people. Of course we have also lost some members in 2007.

If you are in the area on the third Monday of the month we meet at the White House Cafe at 7:30 am. So stop in. We would love to have you.

Lets not forget all of our men and women who are

*Continued on next page.*

## Committee Reports Continued

### Region 3 cont'd.

serving our great country, we wish them a safe and quick return home to their loved ones. We thank them for all they do for us.

All of use from region three wish all of you a great 2008. May it not go as fast as 2007. May you all have good health and may all of your dreams come true.

Dave C.

### REGION 4 - cont'd.

Happy New Year! to all Retirees of Region 4 On Monday, December 17th Grand Forks had a gathering of 22 members in attendance. This was a record because throughout the year we had our highs and lows. The time was well spent with endless conversations about everyone and everything.

In the Region all the military units hosted events throughout the year which included the work of the ' Volunteer Retiree' and welcomed us to the activities. It does not matter the service branch or age everything works out for the community's good.

### REACHING-OUT-TIME

If you know of other Retiree Groups meeting on a regular basis in other parts of the Region (like...Mayville, Grafton, or Oslo), then let it be known by calling (701)746-8296 or e-mailing holwerdaj@gra.midco.net

**NURSING HOME VISITS** Anyone interested, willing to attend, or willing to drive. We want to make group visits (of 5 or more) to our veterans in need. Please call (701)746-8296 to set-up some trips this year. I will contact the families of those who want visitors to come and see them and make the arrangements.

Jill Holwerda

### REGION 5

It's been a year of opportunities for retirees to participate in or to make an appearance at numerous events. The July 2007 issue of The Dog Tag reviewed events from the first part of the year. The following illustrates how the remaining months' schedules were also filled with many occasions to entertain retirees.

\*In August, retired Hooligans made a fine showing at the 4th Annual Classic Car Show. Jim Dotzenrod won first place with his Dodge Charger R/T. Rocky Brovold also entered the contest with his 1928 Buick wagon.

\*Retired Hooligans, too, shared in the prizes at the 9th Annual Hooligan Memorial Golf Tournament. These talented gentlemen were Craig Cain, Steve Malakowsky, and Dwight Murphy.

\*October 10th was the most recent semiannual WSO Reunion and there was a splendid response in the attendance. Marv Larson chugs along for a two hour drive each way to bump heads with the ol' gang.

\*This November, the annual NDANG Retirees Breakfast drew the largest turnout to date, topping the 150+ mark. Many shades of the "good old days" were rekindled. Colonel Bob Becklund shared a Power Point presentation of the Wing's present mission and the optimistic future.

\*Another unique event in November which peaked an interest was the "Picture Party", well organized by the 119th Wing Public Affairs Office and the Multi-Media Section. Literally, hundreds of historical photos were perused by several retirees who challenged their memories to identify the pictures. This noteworthy affair was also documented by a local TV station and aired on that evening's telecast.

\*Retired Hooligans were regularly counted at the Auger Inn "socials" and some were represented at the departure from Fargo of the Honor Flight in November. Still, others accepted the invitation to the UND sponsored Book Signing (wine and cheese) at the Fargo Air Museum, also in November. Additionally, retirees who participated in the challenging Habitat for Humanity Project are Keith Corliss, Mike Haugen, Roger Larsen, and Dave Larson.

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Tom was in his early 50's, retired and started a second career. However, he just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day, 5, 10, 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker, real sharp, so the Boss was in a quandary about how to deal with it. Finally, one day he called him into the office for a talk. "Tom, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a bang-up job, but you're being late so often is quite bothersome." "Yes, I know Boss, and I am working on it." "Well good, you are a team player. That's what I like to hear. It's odd though, you're coming in late. I know you're retired from the Air Force. What did they say if you came in late there?" "They said, "Good morning, General."

## Committee Reports Continued

### Region 5-cont'd.

The Hooligans in the Detroit Lakes and the adjoining vicinity set a record for attendance at their August 18th breakfast, with more than 60 in attendance. This group meets at 8:00 a. m. on the 3rd Saturday of the even numbered months (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) at the Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn.

The detachment of retired Hooligans in the Mesa, Arizona and surrounding area meet the first Thursday of the month, November through April. They hook up at 9:00 a.m. at Sossaman's On the Green Restaurant. Don Foster is the point of contact and may be reached at 480 380-2533.

The Happy Hooligans, including the retired Hooligan community, continue to enjoy the support of the local news media, as a number of the events covered in the above paragraphs have hit the news. This visibility, along with the displays and memorabilia by our friends at the Fargo Air Museum, the Hooligans Forever Wall at Fargo's Northside Applebees', certainly make it proud to be recognized as a Happy Hooligan.

Adding to our local awareness, the FM Extra, a weekly news magazine (Fargo-Moorhead vicinity) will occasionally feature columns tied to the NDANG and NDARNG, and will be penned by Tom Pantera, its managing editor. FM Extra's publisher, John Kolness, has two brothers, Donovan and Tom Kolness who are retired Hooligans.

All retired Hooligans, full time (air technician), AGR and traditional guardsmen, are welcome at the numerous events that the retirees have scheduled or that pop up, or to an event which an invitation has been extended. And, be a pal, take the opportunity to invite, remind or encourage a fellow Hooligan of these occasions.

The Fargo-Moorhead area retirees have a new breakfast home and time. It's the Northtown Grill, which is a part of the Stamart Truck Plaza. The plaza is located at I-29 & 12th Ave N in Fargo. The meeting time is now 8:00 a.m.

Jack

#### *Not Forgetful*

Three ladies were discussing the travails of getting older. One said, "Sometimes I catch myself with a jar of mayonnaise in my hand, while standing in front of the refrigerator, and I can't remember whether I need to put it away, or start making a sandwich." The second lady chimed in with, "Yes, sometimes I find myself on the landing of the stairs and can't remember whether I was on my way up or on my way down." The third one responded, " Well, ladies, I'm glad I don't have that problem. Knock on wood," as she rapped her knuckles on the table, and then said, "That must be the door, I'll get it!"

### Region 6

We continue our normal meeting time of 8:30 a.m. on the last Tuesday of the month at the Broken Spoke Cafe in Valley City. This month it will be January 29. Spouses are welcome and we'd like to make a special invitation to the recent retirees in the area. This includes all retirees in the Lisbon, Oakes, Edgeley, Wishek and Jamestown area.

We are looking at times, places and contacts in those areas with the idea of having get-togethers around the region. I would really appreciate e-mail addresses or telephone numbers of individuals who would like to arrange a local coffee or whatever. My e-mail address is gmgern@nodaknet.net.

We are hoping to have someone from the local unit at our next gathering to keep us up to date on happenings locally as well as around the state. Colonel (Dr.) John Goven died a couple of weeks ago. He will be missed. Keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Gerry Gerntholz

### Region 7

The second Tuesday of each month at 0700 is the time and the BSC Student Union is the location of the Bismarck/Mandan retirees gathering. We are open to suggestions for speakers to address the retirees on items of interest to all. If you have ideas please forward to me.

By the time you read this the state will be less than a year away from the next Legislative session. Should you have any suggestions or recommendations on items that would affect service members or retirees forward this through the proper channels.

Obviously this region is home to the Veterans Cemetery South of Mandan. The cemetery has been in existence since July 1992. As of 7 December 2007, there have been 3,450 interments. Of these 886 are cremations. Numerous volunteer retirees meet weekly at the Veterans Cemetery during the summer months to mow the grass. Our Chief of Operations for this project is Phil Ehli and we thank him and the volunteers for this project.

*Continued on next page.*

# Committee Reports Continued

## Region 7 cont'd.

When there is an interment from the Bismarck/Mandan area the VFW, American Legion and AmVets of Bismarck or VFW and American Legion of Mandan provide the Honor Guard for the veteran of their respective location. We thank all for their time and dedication.

The NDARNG Medical Detachment at R J Bohn Armory provided flu shots not only for active guard members but for retirees as well this past fall at no cost. This was a great service and is appreciated. On Veterans Day a local Bismarck restaurant The Golden Corral provided a complimentary meal to all veterans. This was the first year the restaurant was in operation in this area. The Golden Corral provides the same complimentary meal on a nationwide basis on Veterans Day.

Most retirees are on a data base for email notification. This is a very quick and easy way for information to be forwarded to many people in a very short period of time. Be sure to keep Don Baglien (Baggy) informed of any changes in your email address. A special thanks to Baggy for all his work on this.

Ernie

## REGION 8

The news from Region 8 is; there is no really new happenings that warrant a headline or lead story. That makes the lead line; things are nice and stable in our region.

We continue with a list of about 50 persons on our contact list, which is slowly growing. We meet on the last Tuesday of every other [even numbered] month. Our attendance averages about 12 people.

The time is spent on bringing each other up to date on our individual activities, and the news about fellow retirees who are not in attendance, who have experienced fortunate or unfortunate events. We always seem to find ourselves talking about our experiences with medical and drug coverage by Medicare, Tricare and supplemental coverages. This gives us tips of what to do and gives assurance to those who are about to use those coverages. [Not all stories are positive, but for the most part they are].

## Region 8

Attendees are always interested in the updates from what's currently happening in the Guard and Reserve. Our primary source is information brought back from quarterly Advisory Board meetings.

Finally the war stories abound, with a little more flare as each year goes by.

Enthusiasm for these meetings remains strong. This suggests this form of organization of retirees is working, and remains a strong tool to bind the "old guys" to the "current guys". This tool can be very useful to both the old and the current. It is important to use this "tool" so it doesn't lie around and get rusty and lose its effectiveness.

We hope you had a merry holiday season, and wish you a very happy and healthy new year.

Gerald D. Galloway  
Col. [Ret].

*Please join a regional meeting and reconnect with your Guard Retirement Family!*

## Regional Meetings

As of 1 January 2007

Region	Meeting Date	Time	Location
1 - Williston	2nd Tuesday of every month	0700-0830	Dakota Farms
2 - Minot	2nd Tuesday of every month	1130-1230	Marco's Restaurant
3 - Devils Lake	3rd Monday of every month	0730-0900	White House Café
4 - Grand Forks	3rd Monday of every month	0800-0900	Holiday Inn
5 - Fargo	1st Wednesday of every month	0800-0930	Northtown Grill (1-29 & 12TH Ave)
6 - Valley City	Last Tuesday of every month	0830-0930	Broken Spoke
7 - Bismarck	2nd Tuesday of every month	0700-0830	BSC Student Union
8 - Dickinson	4th Tuesday of even months	0800-0900	Days Inn at Dakota Lodge
Detroit Lakes	3rd Saturday of even months.	0800-0930	Holiday Inn (Detroit Lakes)

## Committee Reports Continued

### Family Support

#### Family Readiness Advisor

**Marlys (Bernhardt) Morgenstern** Joins our Retiree Advisory Board as the Family Readiness Advisor. She retired as a Sergeant Major from the ND National Guard and has been working with NDNG Family Programs office for the past year. Marlys will give us a fresh perspective on family readiness and is developing programs that will offer our Retiree's a role supporting our National Guard families.



Marlys received her Bachelor's degree in business management in 2001 and graduated from the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy in 2003. Marlys and her family reside on a ranch north of New Salem, ND.

Marlys may be reached at 701-333-2271 or at [marlys.morgenstern@us.army.mil](mailto:marlys.morgenstern@us.army.mil).

#### Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is a Department of Defense organization. We provide free education, consultation, and if necessary, mediation for employers of Guard and Reserve members and the military members themselves. Our goal is to serve America's employers who serve the nation.

The National Office of ESGR has identified and scheduled training courses for our lead volunteers. There will be a three day course for State Chairs and Executive Directors at San Antonio, TX in March; a two day course for Employer Outreach Directors at San Antonio, TX in March; a two day course for Military Services Directors at St. Louis, MO in August; and a two day course for our 10 regional chairs either at Chicago in May or St. Louis in August. This is the first time that training of this magnitude is being provided by the National Office. We thank our volunteers for giving their time to attend this training.

Recent events that North Dakota ESGR has been involved in include a display booth at the Bismarck-

Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve cont'd.

Mandan Chamber of Commerce Holiday Mixer at the Civic Center in December, briefings to the 957 Engr Co and JFHQ in Bismarck and several My Boss is a Patriot Award presentations across the state. Upcoming events include mobilization briefings to the 191 MP Co, a Fargo Committee ESGR regional meeting; a Governor's Task Force meeting in Minot, an ESGR brief to Co A, 231s Engr Bn in Fargo, ISFAC (Interservice Family Assistance Committee) meeting in Grand Forks, and the NGAUS Conference in Fargo.

ND-ESGR probably will not have a National Bosslift in 2008 due to unavailability of airlift. Because the desired aircraft is C-130 or KC-135 provided by the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard, we are at the mercy of other states. The answer we are getting to our request is the funding is down and missions are up. As a result we are not optimistic of a National Bosslift.

Local instate bosslifts are very meaningful and we are urging commanders to consider an employer/media day during their annual training at Camp Grafton or Camp Ripley. We have been very successful in securing helicopter support from the North Dakota Army Guard Aviation Section.

The 461st Engr Co (USAR) of Grand Forks and Fargo will be honored with a Welcome Home Citizen Award Ceremony on Sunday, March 9th, 2008 at 1:pm. The event will take place at the Memorial Hall, NDSU Campus, Administration Avenue at Centennial Boulevard. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

Vern



A Blast From The Past



## New Retirees

The following Guardsmen and Women have retired since March 2007!

MSG JAMES P NELSON	MAY 07
SFC JANE M WALTH	MAY 07
SGT RAY R CARR	MAY 07
SSG BILLY M FRIESTAD	MAY 07
SFC ROWLAND J EHLERT	MAY 07
SFC DARREN CHAD WETZEL	MAY 07
SGT ROBERT D SYVERSON	JUN 07
CW2 GARY R TOMANEK	AUG 07
SMSgt HOLLY A DURKOP	AUG 07
SSG MICHAEL J AUSTIN	AUG 07
MSG RODNEY A SCHINDLER	AUG 07
SMSGT BRIAN D SCHLAFMANN	DEC 07
MSGT BRYAN D ABERNATHY	DEC 07
MSGT DAVID M VANCLEAVE	DEC 07

Thank you for your service and welcome to the ranks of the Retired Military!

## 2008 Retiree Upcoming Events!

CALLING ALL RANKS

**NORTH DAKOTA  
NATIONAL GUARD RETIREES'  
ANNUAL REUNION**  
CAMP GILBERT C. GRAFTON  
DEVILS LAKE, ND  
**5-6-7 September 2008**  
**Mark Your Calendar**

**ND National Guard Associations  
State Combined Conference**  
Best Western Doublewood Inn  
Fargo, ND  
**February 22-23, 2008**  
**See Registration Form  
Included in this Mailing**



## A Request from Family Support

Often times we in the Family Assistance Centers get requests for different types of help from our families especially those with a Soldier deployed.

I am trying to get together a roster, by city, of those of you who would like to help out families in your area. Sometimes these requests for help are a one time shot, sometimes they would be for the duration of the mobilization (i.e. shoveling snow or carpooling to weekly scout meetings, etc.).

If you are interested in helping out - please complete the attached form and return to me. This roster won't be published; it will just be with the Family Assistance Centers. When a request for help comes in we will contact you to ensure you're still willing and provide details of the request. Thank you for your consideration in helping Soldiers and their families.

Kristi J. Fetsch  
(W) 701-333-3535

**Family Assistance Center Coordinator**  
**MPSC Contractor**  
**P.O. Box 5511**  
**Bismarck, ND 58506-5511**



### Volunteer Information Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

I would be able to help a military family with:

- Snow removal
- Yard work/Lawn Mowing
- Small Auto repair/advise/oil change
- Handyman/small home repair
- Babysitting
- Run errands
- Provide a ride
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

# Your New Retiree Advisory Board



**Region 1**  
Ken Hiltner



**Region 2**  
Joe Heiser



**Region 3**  
Dave Cichos



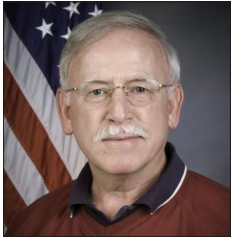
**Region 4**  
Jill Holwerda



**Region 5**  
Jack Tietgens



**Region 6**  
Gereld Gerntholz



**Region 7**  
Ernie Reinert



**Region 8**  
Gerald Galloway



**Army Liaison**  
Ralph Metcalf



**Air Liaison**  
Tom Larson



**ESGR**  
Vern Fetch



**Veterans Orgs**  
Jim Verwey



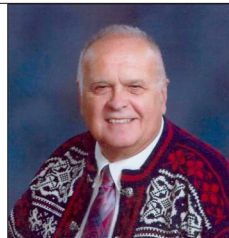
**EANGUS**  
Donald Olafson



**Family Support**  
Marlys Morgenstern

This position has just been added and in such is not filled yet.

**NGAUS**



**Communcations**  
Don Baglien



**Sr. Enlisted Liaison**  
CMSgt Brad Childs



**Board Chariman**  
BG Al Dohrmann

## Classified Ads

### Not Getting The New North Dakota Guardian

The Jet Letter and Straight Arrow have now combined into a joint publication that will be mailed to NDNG retirees. If you were getting one or the other or both your mailing address should have rolled over for The new publication. If you are not getting The North Dakota Guardian send your name and address to:

Penny.ripperger@ndfarg.ang.af.mil  
or by mail: 119th WG/PA, Attn: Capt Penny Ripperger, 1400 28th Ave N, Fargo, ND 58102

### Notification of Retiree Happenings

Don Baglien serves as the communications officer for the Retirees Advisory Board and provides relevant information to all those who wish to receive it via email. He will not and does not clutter your email with jokes, junk, or flavor of the day patriotic fanfare. He only sends out stuff that relates to Retirees or activities occurring in the National Guard that Retirees should know about. To get on his email list send a note to Don at [dbaglien1@msn.com](mailto:dbaglien1@msn.com).



# Classified Ads

## The North Dakota National Guard Foundation - Emergency Relief Fund

The Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) is a non-profit charitable organization whose purpose is to provide financial support in sudden and unforeseen emergency situations for North Dakota National Guard Soldiers and Airmen.

The ERF provides Commanders with an important asset to accomplish their basic command responsibilities of morale and welfare of unit members.

If you would like to consider making a donation to the ERF they can be made to:

North Dakota National Guard Foundation  
Attn: Emergency Relief Fund  
P.O. Box 5511  
Bismarck, ND 58506-5511

All donations qualify for 501(c)(3) status for tax exemption. 100% of donations go directly to Emergency Relief Fund.

## Help us maintain the data base

The Retirees' Advisory Board maintains a database of all North Dakota National Guard Retirees, a list of over 2100 names. To assist us in maintaining its accuracy, if you have a change of address please contact Verena Schauer at (701) 333-2012 or email her at [verena.schauer@us.army.mil](mailto:verena.schauer@us.army.mil). We are also trying to add current email addresses to the database. If you want to have your email address added to the database please let Verena know that as well.

A C-130 was lumbering along when a cocky F-16 flashed by.

The jet jockey decided to show off.

The fighter jock told the C-130 pilot, "watch this!" and promptly went into a barrel roll followed by a steep climb. He then finished with a sonic boom as he broke the sound barrier. The F-16 pilot asked the C-130 pilot what he thought of that?

The C-130 pilot said, "That was impressive, but watch this!"

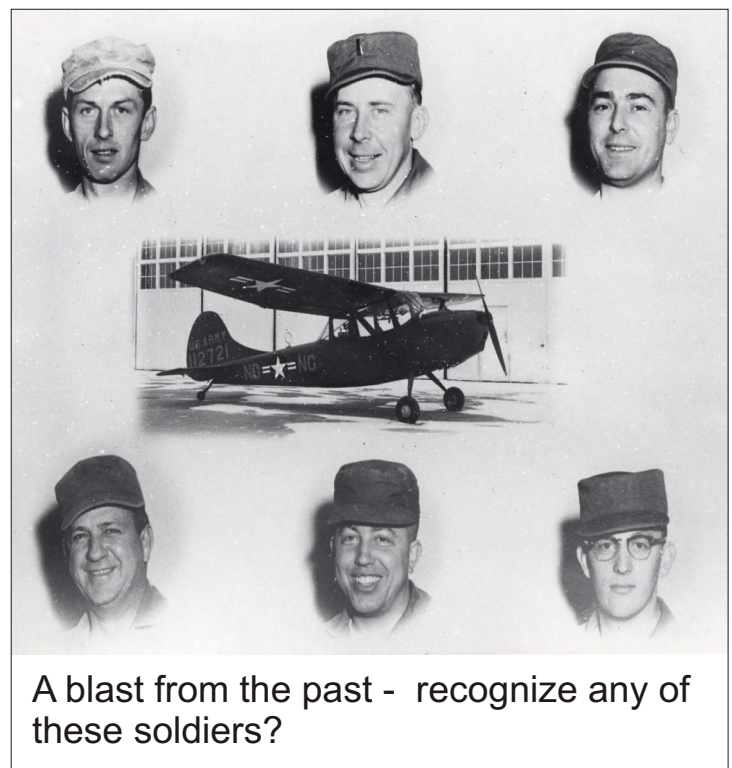
The C-130 droned along for about 5 minutes and then the C-130 pilot came back on and said "What did you think of that?"

Puzzled, the F-16 pilot asked, "What the hell did you do?"

The C-130 pilot chuckled. "I stood up, stretched my legs, walked to the back, went to the bathroom, then got a cup of coffee and a cinnamon bun."

When you are young and foolish - speed and flash may be a good thing !!!

When you get older and smarter - comfort and dull is not such a bad thing!!



# Year Group Photos from Retiree Weekend

1970-1980



1980-1985



1985-1990



1990-1995



1995-2000



2000-2006



# Spouse Group Photos from Retiree Weekend

Spouse Group 1



Spouse Group 2



Spouse Group 4



Spouse Group 5



## *A Special Thank You*

*A few years ago the Retirees' Weekend at Camp Grafton almost disappeared and it would have been a real shame if it had. Had it not been for Ray and Carol it may have. With some assistance from Chris Barke and Jerry Thilmony, their belief in that the weekend was special, and some hard work, the Retiree's Weekend has continued and even grown over the past three years. As you turn over the reins to the Retirees' Board, we say thank you, and hope to see you and Carol in a more relaxed mode at the weekend for years to come.*

*BG Al Dohrmann, Board Chair*



# Retiree Weekend (Camp Grafton) Scrapbook



Retirees  
-  
Friends  
Family  
-  
Great  
Americans

# 2007 Annual NDANG Retirees' Breakfast



Next Annual NDANG Breakfast is November 5, 2008 - See you all there.

# Retired Hooligans' Picture Party

Air Guard Retirees were asked to come in for a day and help identify who's who in old photos. They called it "The Picture Party". The day was a success.





16 July 2007 Through 31 January 2008

**TSGT DENNIS L MCRARLEN**  
1 August 2007

**TSGT JOHN F. RASSANANTE**  
11 August 2007

**SMSGT GERALD C. ROCK**  
20 September 2007

**MSG WILLIAM JORGENSON**  
6 October 2007

**TSGT CALMER P. HANSON**  
10 October 2007

**TSGT JAMES L. CORSER**  
14 October 2007

**MAJ DAN MOLINARO**  
5 December 2007

**COL (Dr.) JOHN GOVEN**  
15 December 2007

**MSG JEFFREY WEEKES SR.**  
Jan. 14, 2008

*We apologize for those we may have missed  
or are not included at the time of printing.*

**North Dakota Service Members  
Who Have Died in Support of  
OIF and OEF**

Cpl Christopher Kleinwachter, 29 Nov 2006  
Cpl Nathan Goodiron, 23 Nov 2006  
Cpl Paul A. Beyer, 23 June 2006  
Spc. Jeremiah S. Santos, June 15, 2006  
Cpl. Curtis Mehrer, June 6, 2006  
Sgt. Travis Van Zoest, June 6, 2006  
Spc. Michael Hermanson, May 23, 2006  
Spc. Dennis Ferderer Jr., Nov. 2, 2005  
Spc. Cody Wentz, Nov. 4, 2004,  
Pvt. 1st Class Anthony Monroe, Oct. 10, 2004  
Staff Sgt. Lance Koenig, Sept. 22, 2004  
Spc. James Holmes, May 8, 2004,  
Spc. Philip Brown, May 8, 2004  
Staff Sgt. Ken Hendrickson, Jan. 24, 2004  
Sgt. Keith Smette, Jan. 24, 2004  
Spc. Thomas Sweet II, Nov. 27, 2003  
Pfc. Sheldon Hawk Eagle, Nov. 15, 2003,  
Spc. Jon Fettig, July 22, 2003