



# THE SIGNAL

SIDE-BY-SIDE WE STAND WITH PRIDE

January 2006

Volume 33 Issue 5

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Hello Everyone,

Depending on what part of the U.S. you live in, your weather may be as unusual as mine. Normally in January it's bitter cold, snowy, and dreary. Not this year. It's been in the 50's the biggest part of December and it rolled right into January. There's some scripture to back up my thoughts, but we won't go there!

I hope everyone had a blessed Holiday Season, and if you traveled, I hope you arrived home safe. As for me and my family, if you read the December issue, you saw that my new granddaughter, Morgan has arrived. We were able to have her home on Christmas Eve.

My youngest son Matthew, age 22, made a huge decision to join the Army. He has already left for basic training—this makes my family a complete military family. I realize it is even harder being a military mom as it is a military wife.

School has started, so I will be busy as a bee. Thank goodness for online courses!

I received a note from Marilyn Freking. She's on her way to Donna, TX until March. We have included her temporary address in this issue if anyone needs to get in touch with her.

If you have someone you would like to nominate for one of our awards, please send your recommendation letter to our Awards Chair Mildred Geary at PO Box 368; New Augusta, MS 39462 or email her at [megeary2@aol.com](mailto:megeary2@aol.com)

I spoke to Sara Hendricks, and she has kept me up to date on new life members. As sad as it may be, for nearly every new life member we have received, we have lost one existing life member. It saddens my heart to lose a good faithful member. This is why we need to continue bringing in those new members to take our place.

Memberships are continuing to come in. Treasurer Sandy Hiltner keeps us posted. Remember, this is election year, and you need those annual member dues in order to know how many delegates you have for voting purposes.

Area Directors, I'm hoping to see some area news from each of you to put in *The Signal*. This is what your members want to read about. Your caucus agenda needs to be sent out to all of your members in time so that may plan to attend. Remember communication is the key to success!

You do not want to miss this year's workshop. This year you will meet EANGUS' new Legislative Director, Frank Yoakum who is a retiree from the Hill. There will be guest speakers from the Hill to give us an update on what is going on and what we as members can do to help. The Auxiliary will be giving a presentation again this year on the "big picture" on Capitol Hill—why we need members and how they strengthen our voice on the Hill. Please pass this information along to your state memberships.

I have included some photos from last year's workshop in this issue to give you an idea of what it is like to attend this event.

God Bless,  
Sheila Bandy  
Side by Side

**F**amily Affairs Corner

By  
**Lucretia Barbee**  
Family Affairs Chair

**Happy New Year Auxiliary—**

**Here is some information you may find interesting!**

**Dental Readiness** - Whether you are the Soldier, spouse, or family member, the Army National Guard Surgeon's Office cares about your dental readiness and oral health. Dental readiness is a top priority for force health protection and the responsibility and duty of every Soldier. To help everyone, a free subscription to an online oral health and dental fitness newsletter is now available to you and your family. Each issue contains enjoyable, short features including: dental readiness information, current oral health articles, and interesting trivia. Visit [www.ngfamilyofone.org](http://www.ngfamilyofone.org) to sign up for the free newsletter (**password SC5454**).

**2006 Pay Raise.** Service members received a 3.1 percent across the board pay raise. Basic Allowance for Housing increased by an average of 5.9 percent (varies by circumstances). For more information, including a 2006 Reserve and Guard Drill Pay online calculator, visit "2006 Pay Charts" at [www.ngfamilyofone.org](http://www.ngfamilyofone.org)

**FREE SAT/ACT Software for Military Families.** A group of NFL, NFL Europe, AFL and CFL football players is donating several million dollars worth of SAT and ACT test prep programs valued at \$199 each to families in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard for the school year 2005-2006. Through this sponsorship, active duty, National Guard, Reserve, and retired military personnel can obtain eKnowledge's \$199 SAT/ACT Standard Power Prep program(s) and the \$199 fee is waived. Families who request the program(s) pay only shipping & handling costs associated with the request. Servicemembers may request as many programs as they need for the students in their lives. To access the secure web site, visit [www.ngfamilyofone.org](http://www.ngfamilyofone.org).

God Bless our Service Members and their Families, and may 2006 be a great year!!!!

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**2006 EANGUS/EANGUS AUXILIARY  
CONFERENCE SITE VISIT**

The Site Visit for the 2006 Conference is slated for

**23-25 JUNE 2006**

**MARRIOTT HOTEL  
SALT LAKE CITY, UT**

**1-800-228-9290**

**(Room rate is \$70 per night).**

An EANGUS Auxiliary Executive Board meeting is also being planned at a time (TBA) during the Site Visit.

At the time of this publication, we have twenty-two (22) unreserved rooms in the Auxiliary block for the National Conference; 20-23 August 2006.

Contact me if you would like to have one of these rooms reserved in your name.

**EANGUS Auxiliary  
Conference Coordinator**

**LEGISLATIVE****ANSWER THE CALL!****PROPOSED NATIONAL GUARD FORCE  
REDUCTIONS****EANGUS  
LEGISLATIVE  
CALL 06-01****SUBJECT**

**Proposed National Guard Force Reductions**

**BACKGROUND**

Secretary of the Army, Francis J. Harvey announced at a recent press conference at the Pentagon that the Army will cut six National Guard combat brigades of up to 24,000 infantry and other combat troops to shift manpower into homeland defense missions. The National Guard's combat brigades will go from 34 to 28. National Guard support brigades will go from 72 to 78 to maintain the current total of 106 National Guard brigades.

The six National Guard combat brigades – 3,500 to 4,000 troops' infantry and armor units will be replaced by brigades made up of engineers, military police, civil affairs soldiers, and other support troops. Secretary Harvey indicated that the response of the National Guard to the Hurricane Katrina disaster was a factor in deciding to change the mix of combat brigades to support brigades.

Recent media reports indicate that the Department of Defense will submit a FY 2007 budget request to Congress that would propose to cut between 25,000 and 30,000 Guard troops. The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States strongly opposes this action.

We urge you to contact your Senators and ask them to sign onto the "Dear Colleague" letter being circulated by Senator Bond and Senator Leahy regarding this proposal.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Call, fax or email your Senator to voice your opinion today! Ask your Senator to sign onto the "Dear Colleague" letter being circulated by the Co-Chairs of the Senate National Guard Caucus Senators Christopher S. "Kit" Bond and Senator Patrick Leahy to Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld in opposition to the proposed cuts to the Army and Air National Guard.

(Sample Letter; page 4).

**Sample Letter**

The Honorable  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

I am writing to you to ask for your support in opposition to Department of Defense FY 2007 budget proposal calling for cuts in the size of the National Guard. Recent media reports indicate that current budget proposals plan to cut the end-strength of the Army National Guard by almost 17,000 personnel and the Air National Guard by an unspecified number in the FY 2007 defense budget.

Please sign on to the "Dear Colleague" letter being circulated by Senators Christopher S. Bond and Patrick Leahy to Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld in opposition to these proposed cuts.

The "Dear Colleague" letter being by Senators Bond and Leahy says it best, "The Pentagon's proposed cuts would undermine the Guard's ability to fulfill its diverse missions, shrinking the pool of available personnel. Additionally, the cuts are not cost-effective, as a properly trained, equipped, and supported National Guard provides an unrivaled level of capability when compared to the cost of maintaining a similarly equipped active duty force."

Please contact James Pitchford or Mike DuBois of Senator Bond's staff at (202)224-5721 or Daniel Ginsberg of Senator Leahy's staff at (202)224-4242 to sign onto the "Dear Colleague" letter.

Please respond to me with your perspectives on this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me or my representative at the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (703) 519-3846 or via email at [eangus@eangus.org](mailto:eangus@eangus.org).

Sincerely,

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2006 LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP  
05-08 MARCH  
HAMPTON INN  
ALEXANDRIA, VA

**The photos on the following pages were taken during the 2005 Legislative Workshop.**



Ed Brown, EANGUS President



President Ed Brown (l) presents Senator Mary Landrieu, LA with the G V "Sonny" Montgomery Noble Eagle award.



EANGUS Executive Board



Attendees from Louisiana with Senator Landrieu at Legislative Workshop Reception.



EANGUS Executive Director Mike Cline (right) and wife Dian observes Legislative Workshop Reception.



LTG Roger Schultz (left) was recognized for his true dedication to the Guard and his retirement. LTG H Steven Blum and CSM John L. Leonard, Jr. and many others were in attendance at the Legislative Reception.



Mike Cline, EANGUS Executive Director



Sheila Bandy, EANGUS Auxiliary President



Peggy Leadbetter, EANGUS Auxiliary Legislative Chair



CSM (Retired) A. Frank Lever



CMSgt. Richard Smith



l/r: Hope Troy; Jenny Lainhart; Pam Whisenhunt.



l/r: Hope Troy, Jenny Lainhart; David Culwell; Roger Hagan.



l/r: Roger Hagan; Jenny Lainhart; Hope Troy.

## AREA (DIRECTORS') PAGE – NEWS, CARES/CONCERNS

### Area I NY, RI, MA, NH, CT, ME, VT

Area II – KY, DC, DE, Title 10, MD, NC, OH,  
VA, PA, W VA

Cares and Concerns to:

EANGUS Executive Director, **Mike Cline** is recovering from a recent knee surgery. He is doing well.

The Enlisted Association National Guard West Virginia will host the Area II Mid-Winter Conference on **17-19 February 2006; Holiday Inn Charleston House; Charleston, West Virginia.**

### Area III – AL, FL, GA, PR, SC, TN, VI

Cares/ concerns to:

**Thom McKennie**— recuperating from a surgical procedure that he had a few days prior to Christmas.

**Pat Reed** announces that her test results are all clear—she sends “thanks” to everyone for the prayers.

**CSM James Dennis (Judy, auxiliary member)**; his mother passed away in January, 2006.

#### (Date Change)

The Area III Caucus will be hosted by the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of Georgia (EANGGA) and Auxiliary (AEANGGA) **19-21 May 2006; Comfort Suites; Athens, GA.**

**Dianne Williams**

### Area IV– AR, KS, LA, MS, MO, OK, TX

Cares/concerns to:

**Virginia Ericson's** (AZ) husband Conrad passed away on 29 December 2005. Address: 1852 W. 3rd Place, Mesa, AZ 85201; telephone number: 480-898-3095.

**Pearleen Pearce** has been ill with the flu.

**Marlys List:** mother died on September 20, 2005.

**Mary Hayes;** back injury.

**Delores Ford** had a recent surgery; spouse **Bob** has a serious condition that may require surgery.

Congrats—

**Cherry & Ron Moseley** are the proud new grandparents of their second grandson, **Cameron David**; born December 13, 2005.

We have had a great year in membership, given the way our 2005 year ended. The final member count is 171.

I would like to thank our entire auxiliary for making this possible.

Time to start again—please support **Connie Myers** and her Board, as she will be succeeding me as President in April.

The State Conference will be in Jackson—April 27<sup>th</sup>—30<sup>th</sup>. Regency Hotel & Conference Center. Please come join us. I would like to thank Utah for stepping up to the plate and taking over for National. Let us know what we can do to help. My husband and I have been welcoming our troops back home. May God bless us all.

**Gloria Cooley**

Hello from Arkansas,

I hope the New Year has started by being good to all of you. Time has a way of going too fast.

At our Area IV Mid-Winter (17-19 February in Round Rock, TX), a “Tacky T-Shirt” contest is scheduled for Saturday night. If you need information, contact Deb Ward, David Culwell, or me.

I urge all of our area auxiliary state presidents to let us know when your state conferences are scheduled. I know you are all busy with membership, answering the “CALL’s” and day to day business, but take a minute and furnish this information. Standing side by side, we achieve much.

**Hope Troy**

From **Richard Blanchard**— Just wanted everyone to know that I will return to work with limited duty after spending a little over 60 days recovering. Thanks to all of you for all of your concerns, prayers and well wishes.

### Area V – IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, NE, ND, SD, WI

Cares and concerns to:

The family of **Betty Spang**, one of South Dakota's Charter members. She passed away on Monday, January 16th.

**Marlys List's** mother passed away on September 20, 2005.

Congrats—

**Marlys and Don** celebrated their 50th Anniversary on September 25, 2005.

South Dakota's State Conference is set for **April 27, 28 & 29 in Sioux Falls, SD.**

If anyone needs to contact me before 01 March, my cell number is 563-650-1910; mailing address; Bit-O-Heaven RV Park; 1051 W. US Hwy. 83; Lot#271; Donna, TX. 78537

**Marilyn Freking**

Marilyn has a new granddaughter (born in 2005 May); her name is **Riley Ryn Ryn.**

Nebraska is participating in a Legislative Breakfast in conjunction with the Enlisted Association and the Officers Association on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February. We are also having our State Conference on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April.

The Auxiliary attended a joint Christmas Party for a few of the Family Readiness Groups in Lincoln, NE. It was a successful event. We had a few give-aways and handed out lots of information and applications. Hopefully we will see some support and membership from our efforts.

**Pamela R. Whisenhunt**

Congrats—**Pat Vogan** has a new grandson; born November, 2005.

### Area VII – AK, CA, GM, HI, OR, WA

**Dorothy Inglese, Doris O'Connell, and Marsha Stark** were all a part of the successful Caucus in Reno.

Congrats—EANGUS Director **Red Port** and **Pam** on their wedding in Vegas two weeks ago. **Pam Port** is the new Alaska Auxiliary President.



Shirley Ritter (right) is presented plaque by Gloria Cooley.

### **2005 EANGUS Auxiliary Distinguished Service Award Recipient**

Shirley Ritter, a long time member of the Mississippi NCO Association Auxiliary received the 2005 EANGUS Auxiliary Distinguished Service Award at the National Conference in Orlando.

She was unable to attend the conference and the award was presented to her at the Mississippi Auxiliary NCO October Board meeting by President Gloria Cooley.

Shirley is one of the Original 66 ladies that met in 1969 at the Clarion Hotel in Jackson Mississippi that started the NCO Association Auxiliary.

She is an icon and a guiding light that many should follow—this is an honor that is well deserved.

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## **\*CORRECTIONS.....**

**Pick up your red, white, and blue 2005 EANGUS Auxiliary Conference book.**

Check your contact information for accuracy.

#### **Is it correct?**

Good; do nothing.

#### **Is it incorrect?**

Send the correct information to me

- via e-mail at [vividean@aol.com](mailto:vividean@aol.com)
- phone me at 601.735.9236 and leave a message if I'm out; or
- write me at PO Box 101, Clara, MS 39324-0101.

This is a small thing we can all do to help President Bandy update your information for the 2006 Conference book. Thanks for your assistance!!

Vivian Taylor  
Secretary

**\*Include any other corrections/changes that you find as well.**

## From VP Carol Benda—

Hello fellow Auxiliary members:

Here is my top seven for now:

1. I hope all chartered states have their dues paid. The 31st has come and gone.
2. Many states will be having conferences soon. Please remember to get your new slate of officers to your National officers as soon as you can.
3. Area Directors, check with your states to see if you can visit any conferences, also give us an update on what your area has been doing.
4. Get those scholarship forms out to give all students time to work on them.
5. Remember your Valentine--it's coming up.
6. Keep our soldiers in your prayers.
7. States, start looking for recipients for our awards.

## Email Address Change For Treasurer

Effective **01 February 2006** the email address for Treasurer Sandy Hiltner will be [shiltner@nemont.net](mailto:shiltner@nemont.net)

### From Bryce Hendricks

This is a belated but sincere thank you to the EANGUS Auxiliary for the honor that you all afforded me during the Conference in Orlando, FL.

I just wanted you to know that the efforts that have been given not only to the National but also to Iowa and New Mexico and the other state auxiliaries that have happened to cross my path in the past have all been with respect for the work that you all have done for the Enlisted Association of the National Guard.

If the opportunity to assist any auxiliary in any way still comes my way, it would be my pleasure to do whatever is needed at that time and place.

The Auxiliary's graciousness in considering me for the award was a total surprise and (certainly not necessary) but it is also certainly acknowledged with my utmost thanks.

Respectfully and sincerely  
Bryce Hendricks

## EANGUS ANNUAL PUBLICATIONS CONTEST ENTRY FORM

### MEMBERSHIP YEAR OF 1 JANUARY THROUGH 31 DECEMBER 2005

\_\_\_\_\_ **CATEGORY ONE (Commercial Entry):** This category is for those publications that are completely laid-out, typeset, printed, and distributed by a Commercial Organization. We realize that the content is from the Membership; however, everything else is paid for by the State Association to a Commercial establishment or Association hired person.

\_\_\_\_\_ **CATEGORY TWO (Semi-Commercial Entry):** This category is for those publications that are laid-out and typed, ready for print by the State Association, and then brought to a Commercial Printer for printing. Distribution can be either Commercially or Association accomplished.

\_\_\_\_\_ **CATEGORY THREE (Non-Commercial Entry):** This category is for those publications that are laid-out, typed, printed, and distributed completely by the State Association through volunteer help. If the printing is done by a Member, who does it free of charge, then it would be considered a Non-Commercial entry.

\_\_\_\_\_ **CATEGORY FOUR (Combined Associations Entry):** This category is for those Associations that are a Combined Officer and Enlisted Association. These publications can be as stated in one (1) of the above listed categories; however, if they are from a Combined Association, they must be entered in this category.

\_\_\_\_\_ **CATEGORY FIVE (EANGUS Area Publications Entry):** This category is for those publications that are prepared and distributed within a respective EANGUS Area, regardless of the above listed categories.

\_\_\_\_\_ **CATEGORY SIX (State Auxiliary Newsletters Entry):** This Category is for those States Auxiliary Chapters that produce a publication to their Membership, regardless of the above listed categories.

\_\_\_\_\_ **CATEGORY SEVEN (EANGUS Area Auxiliary Newsletters Entry):** This Category is for those EANGUS Area Auxiliaries that produce a publication to their Membership, regardless of the above listed categories.

**Official Publication Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Frequency:** MONTHLY \_\_\_\_\_ BI-MONTHLY \_\_\_\_\_ QUARTERLY \_\_\_\_\_ SEMI-ANNUAL \_\_\_\_\_

**Numbers of issues published during the membership year listed above** \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\* (Enclose one copy of each issue with this entry form.)\*\*\*\*\*

**Official Association Name & Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Editor/Publisher's Name & Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail the entry form and copies of each issue printed for each membership year (1 JAN - 31 DEC).

**NOT LATER THAN MARCH 30** to:

Debbi Newton, 33 Park Street, Thomaston, CT 06787-1729

## MY PHILOSOPHY OF HOUSECLEANING!

*I don't do windows because ...  
I love birds and don't want one to run  
into a clean window and get hurt.*

*I don't wax floors because ...  
I am terrified a guest will slip and get hurt  
then I'll feel terrible  
(plus they may sue me.)*

*I don't mind the dust bunnies because ...  
They are very good company,  
I have named most of them,  
and they agree with everything I say.*

*I don't disturb cobwebs because ...  
I want every creature  
to have a home of their own.*

*I don't Spring Clean because ...  
I love all the seasons  
and don't want the others to get jealous.*

*I don't pull weeds  
in the garden because ...  
I don't want to get in God's way,  
HE is an excellent designer!*

*I don't put things away because ...  
My husband will never be able  
to find them again.*

*I don't do gourmet meals when I entertain  
because ...  
I don't want my guests  
to stress out over what to make  
when they invite me over for dinner.*

*I don't iron because ...  
I choose to believe them  
when they say "Permanent Press".*

*I don't stress much on anything because ...  
"A Type" personalities  
die young  
and I want to stick around  
and become a wrinkled up crusty ol' woman!!!!*

Publication Title: **THE SIGNAL**

State of frequency: Published monthly (except August).

Authorized organization's name and address: **Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Auxiliary**  
1063 Wilderness Way Shepherdsville, KY  
Published monthly by EANGUS Auxiliary  
Editors/Publishers: **President Sheila Bandy KY;**  
**Dianne C Williams GA.**

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### THE SIGNAL NEWS

Everyone is welcome to send in news/information from around the states each month to be published in **THE SIGNAL**. We would love to hear from you.

You may also give the news/information to your Area Directors when you are in contact with them.

The **deadline** to include news items for publication in this newsletter is the **15<sup>th</sup>** of each month.

Email: [thesignalnews@earthlink.net](mailto:thesignalnews@earthlink.net) or mail by USPS to: **Dianne C Williams 2203 Pinewood Drive Brunswick GA 31520-2743** with a **courtesy copy:** to **President Bandy.**

Articles/information received after the **15<sup>th</sup>** of the month or that may require more space than is available in one issue will be edited/published in the next issue.