

MG Ansel M. Stroud Jr., President, NGAUS

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## THE NGAUS AWARDS PROGRAM: WE NEED YOUR HELP

Each year when the NGAUS presents its award for valor at the NGAUS General Conference, a few people are slightly surprised that we have one. It is called the Valley Forge Cross.

The Valley Forge Cross presented each year at the NGAUS General Conference illustrates the challenge we face with our awards program. It is a challenge not limited to this one award for heroism. However, the number of Valley Forge Crosses given each year and the breadth of activity represented by them illustrate our problem.

A few years ago, we found that merely by having the staff scan NATIONAL GUARD Magazine prior to the meeting of the Awards Committee, we could add several worthy recipients to our list of nominees from the states. Although we send an All States Letter to the field each year soliciting nominations, those responsible for forwarding them sometimes forget a worthy nominee nearly in front of their noses.

The same thing might be said, to only a slightly lesser degree, of other categories of awards we present at the annual General Conference. These range from the Harry S Truman Award (at the top of the list) down through the Charles M. Dick Medal of Merit (CDMM), the Distinguished Service Medal (DSM), the Patrick Henry Citation, the Meritorious Service Award (MSA) to the Garde Nationale Trophy. We could use more nominees for all these awards, not because we necessarily want to entertain a cast of thousands for our President's Recognition Awards Luncheon (PRAL) at the Conference, but because we don't want to forget or ignore anyone who genuinely deserves to be honored by the NGAUS.

We have added several new categories of awards to our arsenal of honors this year that our new Long Range Planning Committee identified. They fill in some of the gaps we have

noticed in recent years, as well as plowing some new ground in areas where we needed to move.

**Charles M. Dick Medal of Merit.** This award is named after Major General Charles M. Dick, commanding general of the Ohio National Guard in the early years of this century and the sponsor of the two pieces of historic legislation that bear his name from 1903 and 1908. The CDMM will recognize the contributions to the National Guard of elected representatives at the local, state or national level. Any member of a city council, county board, state legislature or Congress is eligible for nomination.

**Patrick Henry Citation.** This award is designed to fill in one of the gaps we have identified in our awards program: that our DSM can only be given to an individual serving in government or the military or someone who formerly was in the military. The Patrick Henry Citation provides recognition to an individual who, in a position of great responsibility, distinguishes himself or herself with outstanding and exceptional service to the armed forces of the United States, the National Guard or the NGAUS.

**Garde Nationale Trophy.** This award will recognize significant achievements of members of the National Guard in their civilian endeavors. It will recognize humanitarian achievements in medicine, science, art, industry, etc.

The NGAUS, based on action by the Executive Council, also launched this past year the Outstanding Graduate Award, recognizing the top 10 percent of graduates of each OCS program in the National Guard.

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Here are the awards the NGAUS has given over the past few years and the considerations that go into the criteria for those awards. Individual awards are first; unit awards follow that.

**Harry S Truman Award.** Recent re-

ipients include former President Ronald Reagan, Representative G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery (D-Mississippi), Senator J. Strom Thurmond (R-South Carolina), Senator John T. Stennis (D-Mississippi), former Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird, Secretary of the Army John O. Marsh Jr. and Secretary of the Air Force Edward C. Aldridge.

The recipient of this award is selected annually by the leadership of the NGAUS with the approval of the Executive Council (as is the case for all awards). The Truman Award is intended to recognize distinguished Americans whose contributions to the defense and security of the United States have been of great significance at the national level.

**Distinguished Service Medal.** The DSM provides recognition to any individual who distinguishes himself/herself with outstanding or exceptional service in the U.S. government, the armed forces or the NGAUS. Generally, the DSM is given only to senior officers and to leading members of Congress.

**Meritorious Service Award.** The MSA recognizes any outstanding achievement accomplished on behalf of the National Guard or the NGAUS. Such superior performance must clearly identify the individual as having played a key role in the accomplishment for which it is given. Sustained performance is also important.

The following awards are judged by the National Guard Bureau and presented by the NGAUS:

**Spatz Trophy and the Distinguished Mission Support Trophy.** These are for the top Air Guard flying unit and nonflying unit respectively.

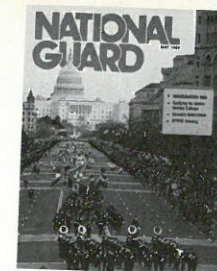
**Walter Kerwin Award.** This award goes to the top Army National Guard battalion-sized unit. Presentation is jointly by the NGAUS and the Association of the U.S. Army, is at the AUSA Convention in Washington, D.C., each October. It is named for GEN Walter Kerwin.

(Continued on page 11)

# NATIONAL GUARD

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### COVER:

The 43d Army National Guard Band, Nebraska Army National Guard, shown in front, marches down Pennsylvania Avenue during the bicentennial Presidential Inaugural Parade. Design, Johnson Design Group. Photograph by the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee.

## FEATURES

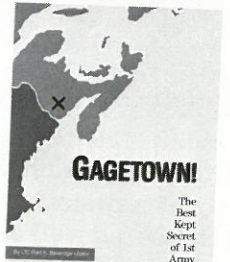
### Applying for Senior Service College 14

Over the years, more demanding educational requirements have provided the Army National Guard with highly competent and motivated NCOs and officers. But to become a federally recognized general officer, a Guardsman must earn a senior service college diploma. Here is how to apply.



### GAGETOWN—Canada's Best Kept Secret 20

Combat Training Center, Canadian Forces Base—GAGETOWN, New Brunswick, Canada, hosts one large U.S. training exercise each summer and incidental National Guard training when not being utilized by Canadian forces. It offers a variety of terrain and training environments.



### OPFOR Training at Fort Irwin 24

The National Training Center (NTC) at Fort Irwin, California, was designed to train battalion/task force level units on a sophisticated simulated battlefield. Soldiers of A Company, 2/109th Infantry, 28th Infantry Division, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, saw the reverse side of this training. They augmented the opposing forces.



### Arkansas Engineers Support OPFOR 30

Members of Company A, 875th Engineer Battalion, Arkansas Army National Guard, also spent their annual training supporting the OPFOR forces at the NTC. The Arkansas Guardsmen used their heavy construction equipment to dig tank-fighting positions and foxholes for the OPFOR.



### Guard Participates in Inauguration 1989 32

National Guard units from Alaska, Maryland, Nebraska and the District of Columbia participated in this year's bicentennial Presidential Inaugural Parade. The Armed Forces Inaugural Committee coordinated the extensive military support for the three days of inaugural ceremonies.



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