

EANGUT State Conference 1230hrs 18 September 2005

Conference Convened: Pres. Spencer Nielson Conducting

Motion to deviate from published conference agenda to allow Roger Hagen to go 1st: Scott Campbell , 2nd:Howard Loveridge

Legislative training, what to do @ state level, approaching state legislature: Roger Hagen, MT

-Why Important? Told about N.G. Soldiers at Kent State in 60's. The soldiers acted on Governor's orders (and had just come out of another hostile environment enforcing law at a labor strike) and though no one knew who actually started the aggression at Kent State the end result of several students dead caused several Soldiers to lose everything they had because they, not the state, were liable at the time. They had performed their duties without TORT protection & lost their homes, jobs, & livelihoods due to the lack of that protection.

-We need to be proactive in our involvement.

-There are only two associations that directly effect state legislative issues. -EANGUT, & NGAUT

-You have the ownership of legislative process in your lap. Utah's EANGUT needs to have a legislative action plan.

-EANGUT helps the TAG facilitate policy & get budgets passed.

-Involvement of our association in State issues will increase membership significantly more than National issues will.

-there needs to be a triangle of the TAG-EANGUT-Officer Association.

-Use our ability to impact the State's population by talking about what we're doing to everyone we know.

-A state coalition with other military organization similar to the Military Coalition (35 orgs & 3 million members) should be considered, through this we would gain needed support & synergy.

-The next UT legislative session begins in JAN & runs 45 days

-study the State Govt. web site it is very user friendly & informative, it is one of the best in the country & will be available tool for us.

-Get to know our elected officials personally through regular contact and they will have their staffs often guide us in the writing of new legislation.

-we are in a rare time when public & elected opinion is on our side & we need to act now.

-Be prepared to add legislative issues to TAG's plan.

-Educate people as to what the National Guard is about.

-Talk to TAG now about legislation. (the effort needs to start now & we need to find out what he needs help with too)

-Educate lawmakers, get to know our detractors as well as our supporters

-Roger then showed examples of what MT was working on (ie. Definition of qualified military members for state tax status'.)

-reminded us to grab hold of it,[legislation] work it & have fun with it.

-How o get involved. Utah's web site is very user friendly, Use it. The legislative committee needs to meet every month. Agenda should be posted on our web site before the meeting takes place. Also go to watch the legislative sessions (in civilian clothes, not in uniform)

-become familiar with National Governor's association (see who's a National Guard Alumnus)

www.NGA.org/guardsurvey (last update 11 JUL 2005)

www.USA4militaryfamilies.org shows benefits given to mil members in different states
-take leave to legislative work, don't ever invite an ethics complaint. Be careful how you build your relationship with the legislature. Study their bios & see which ones have military affiliations.
-study books on lobbyists
-membership can give you legislative connections through neighbors, friends & relatives

President's Report: Spencer Nielsen
-recognized board members present, Darrell Willson: Membership, Ron Warner: Ways & Means, Scott Campbell: JR Enlisted
-recognized contributions of Exec committee members, Scott Evans, Kyle B., Craig Bird
-recognized Vice President, Army: Brad Howell
-Committee members not present, Sam White: Scholarship, Cheryl Fowler: Treasurer
Dianne Reed: Secretary, Dave Spjut: VP Air
CSM Smith recognized
-Membership has increased from just over 400 last year at this time to over 1446 members
National EANGUS accomplishments were mentioned: Tricare benefits 80% for 36 months, an improvement but still a work in progress, 180 day eligibility; large bonus increases & eligibility change from 14 to 16 years Time in service; Service members civil relief act now covers home & vehicle leases; commissary privileges extended to NG personnel; Pay raises implemented; manning increases authorized; yearly IDT points increased from 75 to 90; expressed that our membership dues were being well spent.
-EANGUT raised nearly \$2,000 in fundraisers; Insurance brought in approx \$5,000 in last quarter (though it took a little pressure from state Senior Enlisted leadership to get the funds transferred to us)
-reported who went to national conference
-we all need to decide & get on boat for same bill for reduced age retirement benefits
-we need to push for unlimited Tricare benefits for all personnel and/or a significantly reduced cost; also push for credit rating protection for deployed personnel
-look at EANGUS & EANGUT sites
-Discussed our shortcomings: Many soldiers & Airmen need to know what & why we do what we do, this needs to be done through more senior leader involvement & understanding-this will increase membership and new members' involvement; several committees are chaired but have no committees; we need to crack our state legislature- we need to coordinate our efforts to get things passed; our public and legislative support are bound to fade, we need to act now; we need to communicate to our members better; EANGUT express has been published only once in last 18 months & is to be done semi-annually- to do this we need articles from EANGUT & UTNG leadership; despite deficiencies EANGUT is in great shape.

Conference Report: Pres. Nielsen, will continue in conjunction w/SR enlisted conference. May be in southern UT next year.

Constitution & Bylaws Report: Pres Nielsen (Bill Ross not present), No Changes.

Finance Committee report: Scott Evans, costs reported, EANGUT has approx \$15000 in cash assets.

Insurance Committee Report: Brad Howell, The battle for a split of the state personnel insurance program from m-day checks has gone on for 10 years. LTC Clark & Copeland agreed to split 50/50 with us. Shuey group is being used & is going out to Units & SRPs. First check we received was roughly \$5,000, thanks given to CSM Smith for his help in obtaining it. The committee is still a work in progress and structure needs to be decided upon.

Membership Committee Report: Darrell Willson, Membership nearly tripled in last year; membership numbers per MACOM were read off; roughly 500 are USAA memberships; Nat'l office is sending out renewal applications; a couple of batches have received letters from EANGUT; suggested adding a USAA committee.

Publications Committee Report: Scott Faddis just added as Chairman,

Scholarship Committee Report: \$1000 scholarship, 2 per year, 31 January is the deadline, no apps put in during the last 2 years.

Ways & Means Committee report: Ron Warner, Fundraisers included a trap shoot, Drawings, magnet sales; He & committee are currently working to get corporate sponsors; Gart Bros. w/Karen Evans have been big contributors w/ golf clubs, basketball standards etc. ; drawing was a huge success.

Junior Enlisted Committee report: Scott Campbell, Included report on National conference & 1 per 1000 personnel being funded by NGB to attend National Conf. for professional development. This provided an opportunity for more Soldiers & Airmen to meet NGB & EANGUS leadership, including LTG Vaughn & CSM Gipe. Utah Soldiers led the way at the conference in providing the opportunity for all Soldiers & airmen to be heard at a junior enlisted luncheon that was attended by LTG Vaughn, CSM Gipe, Past Pres Terry Dell, NGB Legislative Liaison office CSM & Command Chief, and Past EANGUS VP Roger Hagen as well as other distinguished guests, all of whom sought us out and volunteered to cancel other engagements to spend time with us and hear our thoughts, suggestions & issues.

In the past year we have: Increased JR Enlisted involvement, begun to develop our future leaders, discussed & implemented ways to assist Ways & means committee, have JR ENL Personnel jumping to step up to the pump & help out where needed.

All EANGUT members need to stop acting like baby birds waiting for their next meal & be like eagles that are dropped from their parents' back & learn quickly to fly on their own and dig their talons into what they need. We need to remember that we are warriors and need to act as such all the time. We have rights and families to fight for and because of this we need to be actively engaged.

Resolutions committee report: Brad Howell, presented Legislative workshop handout & reported on his contacts with Utah's Senators, Congressmen & their staffs during his visit to DC. Areas that were covered during the workshop were earlier retirement pay, Tricare, elimination of BAH

II in favor of BAH I (none of the legislators he spoke with even knew that there was a difference)

Discussion on his visit was invited and he shared candid experiences concerning his individual visits with our legislators.

Unfinished & Old Business: recognized contributions of Howard Loveridge.
Recruiting & RTI have the highest MACOM membership percentages

Motion was made by Scott Campbell to accept minutes from last conference as posted on the web site, motion was 2nd & passed

New Business:

Member Spencer- Biloxi Mississippi cannot host Nat'l conference in 2006, TAG supports idea of doing 2006 Nat'l conf in SLC. It is down to 2 cities, Little Rock & SLC, Thursday is the deadline & when answer will come from Analysis from Helms Brisco & decision by the EANGUS President & Executive Board.

Potential attendees 2000 people, millions & millions of dollars in revenue for the state of UT, NGB will automatically supply money for state orders from 12-25 AUG.

It was suggested that a proposal be made to the state legislature to waive the 1 year state residency requirement for tuition to state schools for UTNG members, a study on financial impact will need to be done.

Elections:

For President, Motion made to use Title 9 of bylaws (war clause) to remove David Sjput, after discussion was withdrawn, Motion then made to change bylaws to eliminate natural progression & go to straight elections regardless of prior position held by nominated person, discussion held & this motion was withdrawn based on suggestions and motion made by member Joseph Spencer.(by-laws cannot be changed without going through proper procedures laid out in the by-laws) Election for president was held as follows.

1st Vice, David Sjput Nominated as President: (discussion: though deployed he was nominated to preserve the bylaw requirement of natural succession: thus did not get elected, motion failed)

Due to previous motion 2nd Vice Brad Howell Nominated as President, voting was unanimous in his support.

For Vice President,

Howard Loveridge was nominated as VP Air & was elected to the position, Said he was "Happy to serve."

Scott Evans & John Mark were both nominated for VP Army, motion was made for nominations to cease, vote by verbal acclamation conducted, Scott Evans won & was elected to that position

Scott Campbell & Walter Morse were nominated as Army executive committee members at large & elected to those positions.

Joe Guimon Was nominated as Air executive committee member at large & elected to that position.

Discussion held: MACOM CSMs need to help get representatives from areas in state.

Newly Elected Officers were sworn in by immediate past president Spencer Nielsen.

EANGUT President Brad Howell (newly elected), “We need to prepare for the mission of hosting a National Conference. $\frac{1}{4}$ of current membership must be actively engaged if we’re chosen. We can make this happen!”

Next meeting established: 5 OCT 2005, 1700 hrs @ SLC Air Guard base, BLDG 210.

“I pledge my 100% effort to make this a success!”

Motion to adjourn made, 2nd, passed @ 1438 hrs.