



**A Message From
The President
MG Joseph P. O'Leary (Ret)**



On 1 Dec 07 the 101st Sig Bn hosted it third annual holiday ball at the Polish Community Center in Yonkers. The Military Ball committee did their part, and more, as the hall was elegantly decorated, the colors posted, the traditional toasts assigned, and a program designed that allowed ample time for visiting and conversations among the attendees.

A souvenir journal was also published and presented to all guests. Over two hundred soldiers and their families were there including the Battalion officers, noncommissioned officers, and a good number of junior enlisted personnel. A number of retired soldiers also attended and enjoyed the evening, including MG Bob Rose, Chap Jacob Goldstein, who gave the invocation, and MAJ Kim Farrier former battalion operations officer.

A good time was had by all. The Bn Commander, LTC Kilmartin, in his comments from the journal, pointed out that the evening is a wonderful opportunity to embrace the holiday spirit by celebrating past accomplishments and renewing old friendships.

LTC Kilmartin also asked us to remember the eleven soldiers from the 101st Signal Battalion who are deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Their names and e-mail addresses were listed in the journal. Also named were two soldiers who recently returned from deployment and seven other who are awaiting deployment. Through it all, LTC Kilmartin mentions that the Battalion met the strength goals set by the state and now leads the state in recruiting. Retention figures are also high and the friendship and camaraderie displayed at the military ball, is a good indication that the 101st Signal Battalion is a good place to be.

The National Guard magazine issue of Nov 2007 carried an article entitled "Our Hour in the Oval Office", written by MG Martin Umbarger, Chairman of the Board, NGAUS. He tells of a call from the White House to NGAUS headquarters in Washington

The message was simple - President Bush wanted to meet with the NGAUS senior leadership on 18 Oct 07. General Umbarger explains, "Upon arriving in the oval office, we quickly discovered the meeting had a simple agenda. The President held out his hand and said words I will never forget." "I just want to look you in the eye and personally thank you for what the Guard has done for our Country".

**SCHEDULE
OF
MEETINGS**

**Monday
7 Jan 08
1930 Hrs
Orangeburg
Armory**

**Saturday
14 Apr 2008
1830 Hrs
Camp Smith
Annual
Elections**

**Monday
7 Jul 2008
1930 Hrs
Yonkers
Armory**

**Thursday
16 Oct 2008
1930 Hrs
Polish C.C.
Yonkers, NY**

**ANNUAL DUES
ARE
\$12.00 E6 & Up
\$2.00 E-1 to E-5
Due in April
Each Year
Check Your
Mailing Label
In Apr 08 for
Expiration Date**



President Message Cont'd

His appreciation was intended for every soldier and airman in our force - All 460,00 of us. He made it clear from the start that he wanted to hear our concerns. The meeting lasted about an hour and a number of issues were discussed. Equipment shortages at home dominated the conversation. The Army has programmed 36 Billion for army guard equipment over the next 5 years and Defense Secretary Gates and Army Secretary Geren assured the President and NGAUS leadership that the money would be "Fenced" to make sure it won't be Re-allocated for other uses.

When the President of the U.S. wanted to thank the Guard who did he call?... NGAUS, the organization that represents us at the national level just as the military association of New York (MANY) represents us to our state leadership. The strength of both these organizations is in numbers ---us. Membership is voluntary. Professional people belong to professional organizations.

Upcoming Events

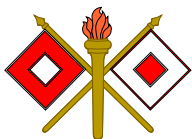
The National Guard association (NGAUS) conference will be held in Baltimore, MD on 18-22 Sep 08

The Military Association of New York (MANY) conference will be held at the Sagamore, Lake George, NY on 18 to 20 April 08.



Its sad to announce the death of SSG Hiram Rubin on 9 Dec 07.. SSG Rubin served as an AGR training NCO for the old Co A 101 Signal Bn. in Brooklyn, NY. SSG Rubin was killed in an auto accident last Sunday morning while enroute home from worke. He will be missed by many, especially his family and those who worked with him.

LIBERTY CHAPTER



To Promote the Espirit de Corps and Fraternity of the Signal Corps



MEMBER'S NEWS ITEMS

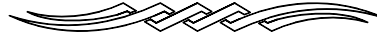
1SG Betty Juarez (HHC 101 Sig Bn) arriving from Afghanistan on 1 Dec 07 at the Washington-Baltimore International Airport after completing over a 12 month tour. Welcome back Betty and good luck in your next assignment.

CW4 (Retired) Bob (Rags) Taggart is recovering from a recent stroke. He is back in the VA nursing home in Montrose, NY.

He was unable to speak and he was unable to move the right side of his body. But the tough old coot that he is, he recovered remarkably.

After a few days in the hospital he got 90% of his functions back. He's talking well again. He is very alert and knows what's going on around him. He's feeding and washing himself again. If he takes his time he can get up and get himself into a wheel chair. Every now and then he has a little difficulty speaking and when he get tired he gets a little confused, but for the most part you'd never know anything was wrong.

Although he can now move both legs he does not have the strength to walk so he went back to the nursing home for some rehab. His sprits are good and we think he'll be going back home in a few weeks. We all wish you get well soon Bob.



Hello from the IZ in Iraq from LTC Jose Torres Liberty Chap member

All is well, making progress with Ministerial (Ministry of Interior) capacity building. Working closely with my Iraqi counterpart, Director of Special Communications to IOM C2 and Emergency Comms for Iraq. We use two systems, IC2N, Iraq Cmd & Control Network, a satellite centric system for all Police forces and AFRN, Advanced First Responder Network, a Terrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA) (formerly known as Trans European Trunked Radio) is a specialist Professional Mobile Radio and two-way transceiver, designed for use by government agencies, and specifically emergency services, the police forces, fire departments, ambulance, RATP, SNCF-Strasburg transport services and the military.

**NEED YOUR HELP IN PROVIDING INFORMATION TO THE NEWSLETTER
SEND STORIES, PHOTOS WITH CAPTIONS etc. TO E-MAIL LISTED ON THE LEFT**

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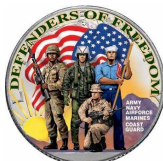
If you are not receiving
e-mail notices, please
update your e-mail address.

The Liberty Chapter newsletter will be published 4 times a year prior to each scheduled meeting. Contributions, comments and suggestions should be e-mailed to: psuchanyc@yahoo.com or to nysignal@nysignal.org All Address corrections should also be forwarded to the above address.

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Mailing Label



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