



Utah



Message from the State Chairman

We held our ESGR Utah year-end conference Sept. 25-26. It was a time to reflect, reevaluate, and recommit to serving others.

The time was well spent reviewing and planning for an even more successful year to come.

At the conclusion of Fiscal Year 2009 I would like you to know what your efforts have produced:

The state committee consists of 66 volunteer members (several have joined us this past year) and three paid professional staff. We have reported over 3,000 volunteer service hours for



Bart Davis

the year that included briefing 6,454 Servicemembers on their rights and responsibilities and recognizing 563 businesses for their support. Our ombudsmen were instrumental in quickly resolving more than 25 conflicts between Servicemembers and employers.

The Utah ESGR committee and the men and women who support us represent a unique partnership of citizens that symbolize the best of our society.

We appreciate all who have taken a few hours of their time in support of our mission. Thank you for your significant contributions that have made a

positive impact on our Servicemembers, their families and employers.

I look forward to an even more successful year as we stay ever appreciative and supportive of those who sacrifice for us.

Nominate Your Employer for the 2009 Employer Support Freedom Award

ESGR has opened nominations for the 2010 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. National Guard and Reserve members and their families may nominate employers who have gone above and beyond in their support of military employees.

Nominate at www.FreedomAward.mil from **Nov. 2, 2009 to Jan. 18, 2010.**

The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their outstanding support of their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.

The 2010 recipients will be announced in the spring and honored in Washington, D.C., at the 15th annual Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award ceremony Sept. 23, 2010.

ESGR is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972. Its mission is to gain and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law and resolving conflicts through mediation.

Utah Governor Gary Herbert Declares ESGR Week in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY — At a ceremony at the State Capitol, Utah Governor Gary Herbert signed a declaration Nov. 5 proclaiming the week of Nov. 8-14 as Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week in Utah.

Accepting the declaration was ESGR Utah field chair Bart Davis, Maj. Gen. Brian Tarbet, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, and representatives from the various branches of military Guard and Reserve in Utah.

“Every day, men and women put their lives on the line to honorably defend the United States,” said Herbert. “In recognition of this commitment, I have designated this week as Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week as a reminder that it is imperative that we show support each and every day for these brave men and women.”



Photo by Ileen Kennedy

Utah Gov. Gary Herbert, center, signs the ESGR Week declaration Nov. 5 as ESGR Utah chairman Bart Davis, left, and others look on.

Chairman Davis agreed that our Guard and Reserve personnel should be singled out for what they do.

“We understand that the sacrifices of these men and women are in many ways shared by their families and by their employers,” he said. “We are proud of our Citizen-Warriors and of the support they receive from their employers.”

“The Utah National Guard cannot successfully accomplish its mission without the great support we get from our civilian employers,” said Tarbet. “ESGR Utah plays a key role in ensuring that both our Soldiers and their employers benefit from our Soldiers’ service and deserve a lot of credit for that success.”

“Whenever a Citizen-Soldier or Airman mobilizes for either a theater of war or in support of a state emergency, we know that we can count on ESGR,” added Tarbet.



ESGR Utah Holds Its Annual Committee Training in Park City



Photo by LTC Hank McIntire

Dennis Johnson briefs the committee on Military Outreach, a critical component of the overall ESGR mission.

Members of the ESGR Utah Field Committee met Sept. 25-26 at Park City’s Yarrow Hotel for their annual training and planning meetings.

Committee members received instruction and participated in discussions on how to better fulfill their individual responsibilities.

Activities at the conference included a barbecue for committee members and their guests, as well as an awards event to recognize significant achievement.



Photo by LTC Hank McIntire

Ralph Larsen makes a point during a group discussion at the annual ESGR Utah training conference in Park City Sept. 24-25.

Out and About

DRAPER — Lieutenant Richard Christianson of the Utah Highway Patrol, left, receives the Patriot Award Sept. 16 from ESGR Utah chairman Bart Davis (below).

Christianson was nominated by SSG Doug Griffis, 489th Brigade Support Battalion, Utah National Guard.

“The UHP is supportive of the military,” said Griffis. “They have always been there and have been very supportive of families while the spouse is away.”



LOGAN — ESGR Utah’s Morty Jenkins, left, presents Jordan Baxter of the Utah State University Space Dynamics Lab with a Patriot Award Nov. 13 (below). Staff Sgt. Benjamin Evans, right, of the 151st Communications Flight, Utah Air National Guard, nominated Baxter for being “very supportive of and encouraging of me to complete the Guard mission. My boss exemplifies what it means to support the National Guard, not just by words alone, but by his actions,” said Evans.



SALT LAKE CITY — Captain Corey Mellor, 65th Fires Brigade, Utah National Guard, presents the Patriot Award to Doug Rosecrans of IBI Group Aug. 31 (right).

“Mr. Rosecrans has always supported me in my service to the Army since I started here,” Mellor said. “His father served in World War II, and he can relate to the sacrifice that is needed and expected of Soldiers.”



SALT LAKE CITY — ESGR Utah presented two employers, Affiliated Computer Services and CH2M Hill, with the Department of Defense’s Above and Beyond Award Nov. 11 for giving pay differentials, health insurance, and care packages to their deployed employees of the Guard and Reserve.



Laretta Sechrest (top), senior vice president of Affiliated Computer Services, and James Schwing (center), CH2M Hill vice president, and Lt. Cmdr. Doug Whimpey, United States Navy Reserve, received the awards from ESGR Utah’s Byron Lemmon and Bart Davis.



Ogden Businessman Nominated for Navy ‘Boss Lift’

By Stephanie Chambers, Ogden Standard-Examiner

OGDEN — For years, Guy Martin has helped manufacture helicopter and other aerospace parts as a site director of the Ogden Parker Hannifin manufacturing plant, but he hadn’t seen many of their parts in action. Early this summer, that changed when Martin was able to fly on a SH-60 Seahawk helicopter to visit the *USS Princeton*, a Navy ship operating off the coast of San Diego, as part of an employer reward and education program run by the Department of Defense.

Martin was nominated by two of his employees, U.S. Naval Reserve Capt. Reid Chambers and Chief Monte Martinez, to participate in a “Boss Lift,” a program



administered by ESGR to give community leaders and businesspeople an idea of what life for Guardsmen and Reservists is like and to honor and encourage employers who support their Guardsmen and Reservists.

“We were flown 70 nautical miles offshore to join up with the *Princeton*. We landed while the ship was underway, were greeted by the crew and spent the whole day going through the ship’s operations,” said Martin.

Seeing the parts such as guidance systems for missiles on the ship and flight controls and landing gear on the Seahawk helicopter was an interesting experience.

“Getting on that aircraft was very special,” said Martin. “We shared what daily life is like, and they shared with us the main function of the ship.”

Chambers, a U.S. Naval Reserve captain, said it was quite an honor for Martin to be chosen.

“They do it twice a year and take four bosses that have to be nominated. The competition is quite intense,” he said.



“When I was deployed back to Kosovo in 2001, Parker Hannifin sent me care packages and had my job still open for me when I returned six months later. So when I saw that article, I immediately thought of trying to pay back my employer for how well they have treated me.”

Martin’s experience on the ship showed him the dedication it takes to be a Reservist or a Guardsman.

“That was a very interesting thing to see,” said Martin. “They’re pretty much at the beck and call of whatever is needed. They respond and they do it, even though they would have much rather been at home. They carried out their duties and saved a life. What they do is very significant.”

Vernal Educator Receives Patriot Award from Guard Employee

VERNAL — Jean Mold, vice president of economic development for Uintah Basin Applied Technology College, receives the Patriot Award from ESGR Utah’s Richard DeWolf, left, and her employee, SGT Dan Orr, of the Utah Guard’s 489th Brigade Support Battalion. Orr nominated Mold for her support during his deployments.



Statement of Support

Invite your employer to initiate the Statement of Support process themselves by going to the ESGR Web site, www.esgr.org, and clicking on the **Employers, Show Your Support** link in the right-center column of the home page.

To see a list of Utah employers who have already signed an SOS, select **Statement of Support** under **Programs** at the bottom of the ESGR home page, scroll down to the map and click on Utah.

Patriot Award

Utah Guard members and Reservists submitted more than 250 Patriot Award nominations in Fiscal Year 2009. We encourage Servicemembers to nominate their supportive employers by going to www.esgr.org and click on **Patriot Award** at the bottom of the main page.



Public Affairs

Some tips to help you publicize your ESGR event:

- Encourage your local newspaper, radio, or television station to sign a Statement of Support. Once they know what an SOS is, they will be more likely to respond when you invite them to cover other SOS signings.
- When you send in photos of an ESGR event, please include names and titles of each person in the photo, the name of the photographer, and a description of the event.
- Provide advance notice to ESGR Utah Public Affairs so that we notify the local press of your event.

Richfield Fire Chief Honored with ESGR Patriot Award

By David Anderson, Richfield Reaper



RICHFIELD — ESGR Utah's Earl Slack, left, congratulates Bryan Burrows for earning a Patriot Award at a ceremony in Cedar City Oct. 27. Burrows was honored as Richfield's fire chief for supporting Guard members who are also members of Richfield's volunteer fire department.

Key ESGR Utah Staff

- Bart Davis, State Chairman, (801) 432-4937
- Kim Watts, Executive Director, (801) 432-4492
- Bill Rappleye, Employer Outreach, (801) 550-9578
- Dennis Johnson, Military Outreach, (801) 652-8897

Event Calendar

- December 8 - Military Advisory Council Meeting
- December 9 - Executive Committee Meeting
- January 30 - Yellow Ribbon Resource Conference

Contact Us

We welcome your feedback on the ESGR Utah newsletter. Please call LTC Hank McIntire at (801) 432-4407, or send him an E-mail at hank.mcintire@us.army.mil.

