

## NEWS

## Metals firm provides scholarships to soldiers, families



Photo by Sgt. Eric A. Rutherford, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski presents Calbag Metals President, Warren Rosenfeld with a plaque during a ceremony commemorating Armed Forces Day at the Capitol Mall in Salem, Ore., May 13. Employees of the Portland based company donated a portion of their profits to form the Calbag Metals Company Endowment Scholarship, a self-sustaining fund which awarded six scholarships to Oregon Guard members and their families.

**Commentary by  
Col. Roberta Janssen,  
Oregon State Defense Force**

**SALEM, Ore.** -- Calbag Metals of Portland made the largest single donation to an Oregon National Guard endowment fund that provides soldiers and their families education scholarships. The metals firm headed by Warren Rosenfeld recently made a \$70,000 to the fund.

The purpose of Calbag Metals Company Endowment Scholarship fund is to raise money for college scholarships for active Oregon National Guard members, their families, and life members of the Oregon National Guard Association. Additionally it serves to raise funds to educate the public on the mission of the Oregon National Guard as allowed by law and approved by bylaws, articles of incorporation and/or directed by the Board of Directors.

This became a separate fund in 2006 with the establishment of a tax deductible 501(c)3.

The Oregon National Guard Association has been providing scholarships since 1995 and began with several \$500 scholarships.

In 2008 and 2009, the scholarship fund provided 12 scholarships (six each year) of \$1500 each. Calbag Metals Company contributions have enabled the increase in the number and amount of our scholarships. Calbag's endowment will allow the Oregon National Guard Association to continue providing scholarships in the future.

To date Calbag has donated \$180,171 toward the Scholarship Endowment, with \$88,043 in 2009. Because of their generosity, the Oregon National Guard has named the scholarship the Calbag Metals Company Endowment Scholarship effective Feb. 14, 2009.

## New GI Bill Transfer rule



Story courtesy ODVA

**WASHINGTON** -- members nearing the end of their careers will find it easier than first thought to transfer new Post 9/11 GI Bill education benefits to their spouse or children, under Department of Defense regulations.

Servicemembers who elect to transfer GI Bill benefits will be allowed to modify or revoke that decision at any time, thus keeping control of a benefit with an average start value estimated at \$75,000 to \$90,000.

Bob Clark, assistant director of accession policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, said the transferability feature of the new GI Bill should comfort many long-serving careerists – including enlisted members facing high-year tenure rules or officers facing mandatory retirement – who worried about being denied transferability because they might not meet a requirement in law to serve four additional years.

Clark said the four-year requirement will be relaxed, and for some waived entirely, for individuals near to retirement. The regulation on transferability isn't final yet because it hasn't been signed.

"We're awaiting a general counsel opinion on the [need for] publishing them in the Federal Register," Clark said.

The Department of Veterans Affairs administers all veterans' education benefits. Defense officials are only responsible for transferability policy because of the potential impact on recruiting and retention. The VA began accepting Post 9/11 GI Bill applications on May 1.

The transferability details are extensive and can be reviewed in detail online at: [www.military.com/features/0,15240,190065,00.html](http://www.military.com/features/0,15240,190065,00.html)

**ELIGIBILITY** – Only members on active duty or in the Selected Reserve on or after Aug. 1, 2009, can transfer new GI Bill benefits, and only spouse or to children or to any combination thereof. Immediate family status will be confirmed through the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS). Unused benefits, up to the full 36 months, can be transferred.

## Iraq unit welcomed home with 'Aviator Ale'

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Rees, said in addition to theater aviation operations, the unit took part in moving about 10 tons of cargo over the course of their deployment, as well as assisting with real-world medical evacuation missions with the Oregon MEDEVAC company, Charlie 7-158 Aviation.

"Morale and motivation was high," he said. "I was very impressed by the unit's soldiers and their work ethic."

The unit conducted flight missions, transported equipment and personnel, and supported other units' missions during their combined year-long deployment.



Rogue Brewery bottled a limited run of "Aviator Ale" to commemorate the return of Oregon Army National Guard's 2-641 Aviation, from a deployment to Iraq. The unit was honored during a demobilization ceremony held July 13 in Salem, Ore. The unit conducted flight missions, transported equipment and personnel, and supported other units' missions over the course of one year. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, Oregon Military Dept. Public Affairs)

## SSLIP donates to ORNG Association



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson

On July 8, 2009 Brig. Gen. Charles L. Yriarte presented Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, The Adjutant General, Oregon a check for \$15,191.71 for the Oregon National Guard Association from Oregon National Guard Benefits Inc. This is the Officer Association's portion of \$30,383.43 that was received from the ING/ReliaStar Insurance Company as a rate credit for outstanding participation of Guard Members and the efforts of Art Liss, the benefits coordinator, through the State Sponsored Life Insurance Program. The other half will go to the Enlisted Association.

Oregon National Guard Benefits Inc. is a non-profit organization created for the specific purpose of providing benefits to members of the Oregon National Guard; members of the Oregon National Guard Officers' Association, the Enlisted Association, Retirees and in some cases family members. This year, over \$46,000 in life insurance benefits were paid to beneficiaries of 13 members of the Oregon National Guard. The State Sponsored Life Insurance Program provides all members of the Oregon National Guard with a \$1,000 Life Insurance Policy at no cost. Oregon National Guard Benefits Inc. works closely with the National Guard's professional associations to search for new benefits for members of the Oregon Guard.

## CST exercises with civil authorities



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin Hartman, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs

Sgt. Stephen Freeland and Staff Sgt. Robert McCree with the 102 Civil Support Team, Oregon Army National Guard, scan for hazardous material in the old Hynex building in West Eugene during a joint exercise with the Eugene Fire and Police Departments 22 July, 2009. The exercise scenario was designed to enhance agency abilities to react to hazardous materiel incidents.