

Rhode Island National Guard Retirement Updater



A Quarterly publication of the
Rhode Island National Guard Retirees Association

Builders of the only memorial to the National Guard in R.I.

Vol. XXXII, No. 1, *March 2026* issue

On the Web. Ringretirees.org



The Adjutant General Addresses our Holiday celebration



At our holiday meeting and celebration, we had The Adjutant General give us an update on the present and future of the Rhode Island National Guard. LTG Reginald Centraccio introduced MG Andrew Chevalier, TAG RI.

MG Chevalier commented on numbers of the current strength of the RING. There are 3,100 members in the RI Army and Air National Guard. The Army side is at full strength at 100%, The Air side is at 95%. Good numbers indeed. He discussed the current and future deployments for the

Army and Air Guard. The General announced the ribbon cutting for the new ANG HQ, runway renovations at Quonset Point, \$50 million for the Army Aviation readiness center and \$8 million for the joint effort municipal police department and range control.

Using RING troops to support ICE is a concern for the TAG. The TAG invited retirees to the new ANG HQ ribbon-cutting event.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at the new ANG HQ (Quonset). ID cards are required.



Following the TAG RI Legal Services Spoke about legal services available to veterans.

RI Legal Services RI Legal Services, 56 Pine Street, Suite 40 Providence, RI 02903; 401-274-2652. Speakers: Adela Hogan Caron, BSW. Social Worker/Navigator: extension 13 Steven Bagian, ESQ, Supervising Attorney, 401-633-9137 www.rils.org

- Free legal services for veterans.
- Income support.
- Discharge or dismissal upgrades.
- Expungement/Sealing.
- Protective orders.
- Consumer law.
- Employment law.
- Access to health care.
- Tax law.



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The RING Retirement Updater is published quarterly to precede the quarterly meetings of the RING Retirees Association

- President.....Stephen Souza
- Vice President.....Patricia Ryan
- Secretary.....Carole Angolano
- Treasurer.....Herve Pelland
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- Newsletter Editor.....Steve Beauregard
- Membership.....Carole Angolano
- Website..... Lori Casucci
- By-Laws and Legal.....Bill O'Mara
- RI Legislation.....John Gallo
- Veterans Affairs.....Dan Evangelista
- Memorial Maintenance...Bob Urquhart



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

"Bringing it Home"

Your quarterly newsletter is published for all retirees to give you a picture of what's going on within our retiree's community! We try to bring you news you would not normally receive through other communications venues.

We would like to enhance what we do and open up an opportunity to bring you news from areas we normally do not have access, news from within our units, or people we know in our units, both air and army guard. This would be, for example, who's retiring, who got promoted etc. This information would come directly from you to our news editor, Steve Beauregard at (steven.beauregard@verizon.net) for review and publishing.

We would like to help you spread the news about our military community and retirees alike. *Bringing it home?*

This program would bridge the gap between the folks who once held many of your positions to our current cadre, keeping us, all engaged and well informed with each other. After all, we all wore the same uniform.

So, let's get started, which we would encourage to add photos, documentary, or perhaps a personal interview. We'll help, after all we are the RING Retirees Association and have many talents. Thanks for your help...

CONTACTS for RINGRA Information and Services:

- Steve Souza.....President.....508-642-6660
- Steve Beauregard.....Newsletter Editor401-578-3843
- Carole Angolano..... Member Data and ID Cards.....401-603-6011
- Lori Casucci.....Website.....401-262-1490
- William O'MaraBy-Laws and Legal.....401-438-7867
- John P. Gallo..... Rhode Island Legislation.....401-728-3845

IN MEMORIAM 2026

- John Avery Jr. ARNG
- Lillian Bradley ARNG
- Thomas Gostomski ARNG
- Tobias Martin ANG
- Mark Mcgrath ARNG
- David Moravac ARNG
- Patrick O'Connors ARNG
- Holly A. Pfeiffer ANG
- Robin Wilde-Vale ANG

Visit Our Website for Legislation Updates at ringretirees.org

ID Website <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>

Support for Operation Stand Down.
 Homeless, rent, and mortgage assistance available.
 Elder protection.
 Bankruptcy support and housing assistance.
 Create trusts.
 Support for MEDICAID and long-term care.
 Consumer support unit.
 SNAP and health care support.
 Burial arrangement support.
 Free credit rating: annualcreditreport.com.
 Negative affect if you close accounts with credit

availability.

Giftng funds and assets – 5-year government look back.

Corporations are buying nursing homes and are no longer not-for-profit.

The waiting list for the Bristol Veterans’ Home is 14 months.

VA hospital for services and resources.

Vets Center and Vets Inc. for assistance

Cost for long-term care/skilled nursing is approximately \$5000 per month.

Each state is different for costs and income levels.

Additional contacts for RI Legal Services:

Omayra Alvelo, Legal Assistance, extension 133

Darren Squillace, ESQ, Staff Attorney, extension 106



Desert Storm 35th Anniversary Observed in Warwick

The 35th Anniversary of Desert Storm was recently celebrated by RING veterans at a reunion held in Warwick on 17 January. Over 100 attendees enjoyed an evening of camaraderie and sharing of stories from their time in the desert in 1991. Veterans traveled from over a dozen states to attend. MSG (Ret) John Cianci, commander of the RI Italian American War Veterans, was the impetus behind this historical event. Without his tireless planning, along with COL (Ret) Lonnie Barham, COL (Ret) Patty Ryan, CW4 (Ret) Cathy Laporte and MSG (Ret) Bill Gearon, the reunion would not have been so successful.

The guest speaker, the representative of the Kuwaiti Ambassador, was Political Counselor Haider Abulhasen. In his remarks to the audience, Haider was extremely complimentary of the support received from the USA and Allied Forces. He was thrilled to be able to attend the event and get to know some of the veterans, as he was very young at the time of the conflict. Also in attendance were: BG Tom Hannon, RI ANG, representing the RI TAG; Kasim Yarn, Director of RI Veteran Affairs, representing the Governor; BG (Ret) Richard Valente, who served as the 43d MP Bde Commander during Desert Storm; and two retired senior NCO's from VII Corps, This was the higher headquarters of the 118th MP Bn overseas.

In total, there were over 250 Airmen and Soldiers deployed to Desert Storm from the State of RI. The 143 AW, the 118th MP Bn, the 115th MP Co and the 119th MP Co all contributed to "boots on the ground" in Kuwait, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. The National Desert Storm War Memorial is scheduled to be dedicated on 24 October of this year. There will be a large contingent of Rhode Islander's attending the event in Washington, DC.



Holiday



Celebration!



UPCOMING VETERANS' EVENTS

Every 1st Friday, of every month, Veteran's Eat FREE, at Badger's Pub Location: 530 Broadway, Pawtucket, RI
Time: 12PM-8PM.

Every 1st Friday, of every month, Medicine Horse, Silva Spirit Farm, 1600 Eagleville Road, Tiverton RI, "Fall in Friday" for active duty, veterans and first responders. No appointment, drop in from 10:00 to 12:00. Refreshments include homemade cookies. More information, (401) 640 7506. <https://www.facebook.com/SilvaSpiritFarm>

Every 2nd Wednesday of month) toast n' tap, 5:00-7:00, toast n' tap, 45 Quaker Lane, W. Warwick RI. The Italian American War Veterans of the US will provide a FREE Dinner for all veterans and one guest. Macaroni and Meatballs, Caesar Salad, Garlic Bread, Zeppole, cannoli, and more.

Every 3rd Monday each Month, 11:30 to 1:00 FREE Luncheon, at Perella's Ristorante, 311 Metacom Ave, Warren R.I. Guinness Sheppard's Pie or Macaroni and Meatballs, dessert, and coffee. More information, call (401) 677-9838 or email itamri4vets@gmail.com

How many Five Star Officers were in our military?

George C. Marshall – WWI Advised congress to maintain the draft. Vote was 203 to 202, to keep draft, which helped strength of armed services.

Dwight D. Eisenhower – West Point graduate. Become President of the United States. Was Commander of the Army during WW2.

Omar Nelson Bradley – WWI West Point Graduate (first in his class), 1915. Known as the "General's General". Promoted to 5 stars after the war on Sept. 20, 1950.

Douglas MacArthur - West Point Graduate (1903) Served in three (3) wars. Father was a General! Truman fires MacArthur for wanting to start a war with the Chinese during the Korean War. Noted for, "I shall return" to the Philippines

Henry "Hap" Arnold – Learned to fly from the Wright Bros. West Point graduate (1907) 1938 Chief of the Army Air Corps. In WWI, the Army Air Corps had more casualties than the Navy and Marines, together.

Ernest Joseph King – Naval Academy (1897), 1941 commanded the Atlantic Fleet. Teacher at the Naval Academy and noted for his naval tactics.

William Daniel Leahy – Naval Academy (1897), Called back into service by President Truman because of his tenacity and strong leadership principals.

Chester W. Nimitz – West Point graduate, ranked 7 in his class of 140. Commanded Pearl Harbor after the attack, bringing it back to life after the destruction. Expert in diesel engines. Offered job paying \$25,000, stood in the navy at \$3,400 a yr.

William F. Halsey – "The Bull" born in 1882. Promoted to 5 stars after the war, on Dec. 11, 1945.

RING RETIREES ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

The purpose and objective of the RING Retirees Association is to provide benefit information to military retirees, to maintain the camaraderie of the military, and to offer services to fellow members as the need arises.

NEW MEMBER (dues free your first year if you sign up for a total of 3 years for \$10)

RENEWAL \$5 - 1 yr. \$10—2 yrs. \$15—3 yrs. \$20—4 yrs. \$25—5 yrs.

Name _____ Rank (optional) _____

Address _____ D.O.B. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + Four _____

E-mail address (required) _____ Telephone _____

No. of Years in the RI National Guard _____ No. of years in other branch (Army, USAF, etc.) _____

Total Years Service _____ Retirement Date _____

Unit Assigned to at Retirement _____

Second Address for December & March issues OR June & September issues (Check One):

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + Four _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (Check One)

Active Member

Any individual who has served at least six (6) years in the Rhode island national Guard and has completed twenty (20) years or more total military service and retired with an honorable discharge is eligible for membership with voting rights. The privilege of voting is extended to members who are currently paid annual members or honorary life members.

Associate Member

Anyone who is former military with an honorable discharge, or a current member of the military, or the spouse of a former or current member is eligible to become an associate member. The privilege of voting is not extended to these individuals. They may participate on committees and activities of the organization, provided their dues are paid through the current membership year (1 October through 30 September).

Exception: Associate military retired members who provided exceptional support to the organization for three or more years may be granted full membership with voting rights by the members during a quarterly meeting.

Please make checks payable to:

RING Retirees Association

Mail to:

RING Retirees Association/Membership

c/o CW5 (Ret.) Carole Angolano

46 Ballou St

Cumberland, RI 02864-2031

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Amount Received \$ _____	Date ___/___/___
Check Number _____	Check Date ___/___/___
Member ID Number _____	
Received By _____	
Database Processed _____	Card Sent _____

R.I.N.G. Retirees Association

705 New London Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920-3003

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
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PROVIDENCE, RI
PERMIT No. 479

MEETING CALENDAR

Meetings are at the Schofield Armory, 705 New London Avenue, Cranston, RI

Quarterly Meetings SAT, 0900 hours

14 March 2026 At Quonset Air Base

13 June 2026

12 September 2026

Executive Board Meeting WED, 1800 hours

8 April 2026

13 May 2026

8 July 2026

12 August 2026

THIS COULD BE YOUR LAST ISSUE!

If the last two numbers on your mailing label are 25 (or lower), then this WILL be your last issue. It means your membership has expired. Renew with the form on page 7 and mail it with your check by November 2025.

In the example below, the first set of numbers (937) is the membership number; the letter (P) is the type of membership (P = Active and A = Associate); and the last two numbers (25) indicate the year your dues are up for renewal.

If you have not joined or you are due for renewal, please fill in the form on page 7 and mail it with your check. Your membership card will be mailed to you. If you have already joined, thanks for your support and pass the application form on to someone else who has not yet joined. **If you move, PLEASE LET US KNOW.** Because this newsletter is mailed Fourth Class, the Post Office will not forward it to your new address.

(937 P25)

CPT (RET) JAMES T. KIRK

1 SPOCK DRIVE

ENTERPRISE, RI 12345-6789