



Welcome Brig. Gen Augustus L. (Leon) Collins, Mississippi's New Adjutant General

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**Gov. Phil Bryant appoints
Brig. Gen. Augustus L. Collins as
The Adjutant General of Mississippi,
January 11, 2012.**

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Adjutant General**

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"I am looking forward to working for and with the great Soldiers and Airmen of the Mississippi National Guard," Collins said. He has assumed his new leadership role being sworn in on January 12, 2012. His wife, Debra was standing by his side during the ceremony.

Collins has selected Brig. Gen Mitchell L. Brown to serve as his assistant adjutant general for the Army National Guard. "I have selected Gen. Brown as the assistant adjutant general - Army from among a pool of candidates. His selection was based upon his superior qualification and distinguished record of achievement in many positions throughout his career in the Mississippi National Guard", said Collins.

Maj. Gen. Catherine S. Lutz was selected as his assistant adjutant general for the Air National Guard. Collins quoted, "She is Mississippi's first female command leader and such an exceptionally qualified leader".

Brig. Gen. Collins is proud to have them working with him together during this time of transition.



Brig. Gen. Mitchell Brown



MS TAG Augustus L. Collins



Maj. Gen. Catherine Lutz

Temple Baptist Pastor Philip Slusher Receives Award



Missions Pastor Philip Slusher of Temple Baptist Church of Hattiesburg receives a Bronze Eagle Statue from Col John Rhodes, commander of the 155th Brigade Combat Team during a presentation Jan 22, 2012.

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

Temple Missions Pastor Philip Slusher said that getting involved in the Yellow Ribbon Program and participating in sendoff ceremonies generated a lot of interest in volunteer opportunities throughout the church. "At one point we had to decide just how big we were going to let this ministry grow, because it basically took off on its own," said Slusher, "but the prevailing thought was that we will support soldiers and their families as we can, wherever they are."

Things YOU can do to help Military Families



TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH ADOPTS MISSISSIPPI ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Representatives of the Mississippi Army National Guard recognized the hard work and dedication of the Temple Baptist Church Military Family Ministry at a ceremony held in Hattiesburg on Jan. 22.



Dianne Herrington, chairperson of the Military Family Ministries Temple Baptist Church, receiving the Mississippi Distinguished Civilian Service Medal From Col Rhodes.

“We’re here to present a Bronze Eagle award to Temple Baptist Church and the Mississippi Distinguished Civilian Service Award to Mrs. Dianne Herrington for all of their support to the Mississippi Army National Guard,” said Col. John Rhodes, commander of the 155th Brigade Combat Team.

Rhodes said that the partnership between the 155th BCT and the ministry group began around 2008, and has grown to encompass units from across Mississippi, thanks to the efforts of Herrington and the rest of the ministry team at Temple.

“We came to Temple initially to ask about having our Yellow Ribbon ceremony here, which they obviously agreed to, and it basically grew from there,” said Rhodes. “As time went by, more units from the 155th were integrated into the ministry, and then other units like the 184th Expeditionary Sustainment Command were getting involved, so this ministry truly reaches beyond the Hattiesburg area to the entire state of Mississippi.”

Herrington was very surprised to be presented with the prestigious award, which was signed by former Governor Haley Barbour and previous Mississippi Adjutant General Maj. Gen. William L. Freeman.

“Our whole church has been involved over the years in helping to buy things for care packages, packing and shipping boxes, baking cookies to be shipped, and I would expect that we have served well over 1,000 Mississippi Army National Guard families in one way or another over the past three years,” said Herrington. “Of course, we appreciate the recognition for what we do, but we want to give all the honor and thanks to our soldiers and their families. We have a great group of volunteers here and we love our soldiers and their families.”

GETTING READY

FAMILY READINESS LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Changes Coming

for TRICARE Dental

On May 1, 2012 the TRI-CARE Dental Program coverage will change from United Concordia to Met-Life. This means that over 2 million Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve members, Family members, and survivors may soon see some significant changes to their dental coverage. According to TRI-CARE, beneficiaries can expect to see the enhanced dental coverage at a lower premium share under the new contract.

NOTE: The change to Met-Life is for Family members, members of the Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve, and survivors only. The Active Duty Dental Program will continue to be administered by United Concordia. The TRI-CARE Retiree Dental Program coverage will remain under Delta Dental.

<http://www.military.com/military-report/changes-coming-for-tricare-dental?>

Regional Trainings for FRG Leaders UPCOMING SCHEDULES:

****North Region I-20 and above
8-10/June/2012 Whispering Woods, Olive Branch, MS
Deadline registration: 5/25/12

****Central Region 13-15/July/2012,
Holiday Inn Trustmark Park, Pearl, MS
Deadline registration: 7/29/12

****Southern Region I-20 and below
Grand Hotel, Natchez, MS
Deadline registration: 8/10/12

****North Region/Central Region**** May attend
Olive Branch or Pearl, MS Training only.

**** Central/Southern Region**** May attend
Pearl or Natchez, MS Training only.
This is due to our limited budget for ITO's.

RAPIDS Sites in MS

Pike County - McComb NG Armory

Lee County - Tupelo NG Armory

Grenada County - Camp McCain

Hattiesburg - Camp Shelby

Jackson - JFHQ & Raymond Rd Armory

Kid's AT 2012

24 - 30 June 2012

Camp Shelby, MS

For more information or questions please contact:

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DEADLINE FAST

APPROACHING!

2012 Upcoming Events:

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND May 28th

UPCOMING FRG LEADERSHIP TRAINING

JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST WE HAVE

NEW FRG LEADERSHIP HANDBOOKS

