

Bucky's Bulletin

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION



**WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD
ENLISTED ASSOCIATION**

presents

**45th WNGEA Annual Conference Photos and
EANGUS National Conference Photos**



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ROSTER

Name	Last	Council Position	Membership	Status
Roberta	Coker	President	Life	*
Nathan	Nickel	Past President	Life	*
Donna	Galik	Vice President	Life	*
Gary	Hans	Executive Director/Treasurer	Life	*
Rhonda	Martinson	Secretary	Annual	*
Patti	Winter-Schmidt	Publications Manager	Life	*
John	Olson	Corporate Partnership Manager	Life	*
Nicolas	Ripley	Education Selection Chair	Life	*
Stephen	Berry	Chaplain	Life	*
David	Coker	Historian	Life	*
Sid	Traxler	Parliamentarian	Life	*
Lowell	Koehler	Insurance Trust Liaison	Life	*
Robert	Serrahn	Retiree Liaison	Life	*
Thomas	Skaug	Legislative Manager - National	Life	*
Libby	Schmiedlin	Legislative Manager - State	Life	*
Wayne	Trelka	By-Laws Manager	Life	*
Gregory	Cullen	Resolutions Manager	Life	*
Gerald	Parchem	Ways and Means Manager	Life	*
Melanie	Lange	Awards Manager	Annual	02 16
Ross	Baker	Website Co-Manager	Life	*
Brandon	Zahn	Website Co-Manager	Life	*
Steven	Cywinski	Special Projects Manager	Life	*
Catherine	Berry	Auxiliary President	AUX	*
Shirley	Spitz	Past Auxiliary President	AUX	*
Roxie	Barwick	Aux Secretary/Legislation/Publications	AUX	*
Marie	Traxler	Aux Treasurer/Membership	AUX	*

*Life Member**

MISSION STATEMENT

Taking Care of Our Own

The Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association is established and organized to promote and support state and national security; to foster and improve the Wisconsin National Guard, and the National Guard of the United States, and to promote the status, welfare and professionalism of the Enlisted members of the Wisconsin National Guard through education, publications, and the exchange of ideas and information.

Bucky's Bulletin

The official publication of The Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association

Fall 17

Bucky's Bulletin is the voice of the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association. It is published every six months by and for members of the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association and its Auxiliary. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the United States Army or Air Force or Army or Air National Guard. Any letters or comments should be directed to the Publications Manager, in care of WNGEA, 3512 18th Avenue, South Milwaukee, WI 53172. Material for Winter and Fall issues will be submitted by 31 January and 1 September respectively. Correspondence for other than Publications should be directed to: WNGEA Inc., c/o EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2400 Wright Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53704.

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Special Message:

Are you aware that the United Services Automobile Association (USAA) has made significant contributions to both the State and National Associations?

Because of USAA's contributions, we have been able to keep the New Patriot Magazine on time for the last couple of years. USAA pays for the printing and mailing of that quarterly magazine. This saves the membership a lot of money and helps us keep our membership dues to a minimum. In addition to supporting the New Patriot magazine, USAA provides scholarships to the National Association and a **\$500.00 scholarship to each** State Association.

We need to support the organization that has shown fantastic support for our Association, both at State and National level. All we have to do to keep these important benefits is to **call USAA at 1-800-531-8366** for a free auto or homeowners insurance quote or you can explore the other financial services they have to offer. Even if you do not need these services at this time it won't cost you anything but will help us as an Association. Their continued support hinges on our support to their organization.

P.S. You might be surprised at the deals you can get. Please take time to call today.



Report of Change of Contact (Please Print)

(Please update your own record online if you know your access information)

Full Name: _____ Unit: _____

New Address: _____
(STREET) (CITY) (STATE) (ZIP)

New Email: _____

RETIREEES ONLY: IF NO INTERNET ACCESS, CHECK HERE: []

Email to: wngea@yahoo.com or mail to: WNGEA Executive Director, 2400 Wright St., Dist. Box 45, Madison WI 53704

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



*Roberta Coker,
WNGEA President*

Dear fellow Soldiers and Airmen, This year's 46th Annual Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EAN-GUS) Conference held in Reno, Nevada was amazing. Wisconsin sent three members to receive Professional Development Training in a paid status. When you get a chance please talk to them about this great opportunity and their experience. CCM Safer and CSM Conde both attended the conference and were able to sit on several panels and relay their experience through hands-on mentoring to our Professional Development members. The Reno National Guard Enlisted Association did an amazing job making sure everything was in place and everyone had a great time. The guest speakers were inspirational, informative and entertaining at times. For example, the presentation from Vietnam Prisoner of War Col (Ret) Ed Hubbard really made you take a reality check of yourself and the problems you face today. Nothing is insurmountable if you prepare and believe in yourself. COL (Ret) Dough O'Connell presentation - Lawyers, Gun's & Money: G-RAP & Legacy of a Scandal, provided insight and reflection on past programs that ran into trouble by discussing how things go wrong and the lasting effects of bad decisions. I'm glad I was able to attend this year's EANGUS conference and I look forward to seeing everyone at next year's EANGUS conference in Charleston, West Virginia, 11-16 August 2018.

In discussion with other State Presidents, CCM Safer, CSM Conde and our National Executive Director about the challenge we have recruiting more members, we believe we need to take a step back to years past and work closely with our recruiters and also give a free one year WNGEA membership to all new recruits. When we give the new recruits their membership, we will also give them information about how they can help the association to recruit more members. If you know someone who has just enlisted, contact them and have them reach out to one of us. We will help them become a member and provide

them with information on what benefits the Enlisted Association has provided to the current enlisted force and why the Enlisted Association is important to their future and the future of the National Guard. If you have other ideas to help our Enlisted Association grow please let us know. Overall, this has been an amazing year for the enlisted association to include providing professional development courses at our conferences. During next year's WNGEA State Conference in Eau Claire, April 27 - 29, 2018 we will continue to provide those same professional development course opportunities. CSM Conde and CCM Safer will work with their units to make sure we get the information out to all the members. I believe we have established a great connection with the Officer's Association and hope to make the connection even stronger in the future.

I want to take a moment to remind all enlisted members and their families about our scholarships. We have several different scholarships on our website that offer up to four college grants in the amount of \$500.00 and we have one yearly grant the "Raymond A. Matera Scholarship" in the amount of \$1,000.00. Nationally there is the CSM Virgil R. Williams Scholarship - \$2000 and let's not forget our Auxiliary Scholarships. Please go to our website WNGEA.ORG and research and spread the word. The next opportunity is just around the corner. Don't miss out!

Finally, the WNGEA website has a lot of useful information to include Drill Weekend Talking Points. These talking points give you highlights on what the associations are doing for you. Take the time to reach out, read them and then spread the word to enlisted members. As always, your Enlisted Association works in your best interest and we would love to hear your feedback on how we are doing, as well as, what myself and our Association team can do better. Together with everyone's help, we can build a team to make this association stronger and more effective. Remember - We set the stage for our next generation of Soldiers and Airmen.

Respectfully,

ROBERTA COKER, SMSgt, WI ANG
WNGEA President

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR by Gary Hans



Gary Hans,
Executive Director

The 46th EANGUS Conference in Reno, Nevada from 26-31 August 2017 was attended by the following Wisconsin personnel.

WNGEA Delegates:

Roberta Coker - President, WNGEA, Gary Hans - Executive Director, WNGEA, CMSgt Thomas Safer - State Command Chief, Air, CSM Rafael Conde - State Command Sergeant Major, Army, Libby Schmiedlin - State Legislative Chair, Dave Coker - Historian, Steve Berry - Chaplain, Bonnie Moser - Past

President, Chris Sower - Retiree/Delegate

WNGEA Auxiliary:

Cathy Berry, Cora Sower

Professional Development Personnel:

TSgt Ed Schmitt, SSG Talon Dumke, SPC Matthew Ozanne

I want to thank all of you who helped make the 46th EANGUS Conference in Reno, Nevada a most memorial event. Your dedication and support ensured that Wisconsin was represented at the Conference and was involved with the actions that affect the future of our enlisted soldiers and airmen.

The Wisconsin delegation represents only a small portion of the total 54 states and territories that were present, but I am very proud of our participation. The Wisconsin delegation attended many of the daily committee meetings to include scholarships, retiree affairs, bylaws, time and place, resolutions, and legislative committees. One of the major highlights of the Conference was being addressed by General Joseph Lengyel, Chief of the National Guard Bureau. EANGUS Committee reports can be found at EANGUS.ORG under the Documents Library, 2017 Conference.

The 2017 Resolutions Committee Report is also listed in the same place under the document library, 2017 Conference. The Resolutions Committee Report can be downloaded and printed to be used as a document to show what EANGUS is actively pursuing on the National level for Enlisted National Guard personnel. Besides the approved 17 Resolutions recommended by the resolutions committee, the Report also lists 19 resolutions that are still standing resolutions from 2016 and 8 that were reaffirmed from 2015 for another year.

Wisconsin received two awards at the EANGUS Conference, one for our publication, "The Bucky Bulletin" (special thanks to Patti Winter-Schmidt, Publications Chair) and another for our promotional items (flyers and posters).

Scholarships:

The Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association College Grant Program which include 1-\$1000.00 dollar grant and up to 4-\$500.00 dollar grants based on the number of applicants. Suspense: 1 May 2018.

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the

United States, CSM Virgil R Williams Scholarship Program. This is a \$2000.00 dollar scholarship. Suspense of 1 May 2018.

The Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association Auxiliary Scholarship Program. Applications will be accepted between 1 and 15 August 2018.

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Auxiliary Scholarship Awards Program which includes 1-\$1250.00 dollar scholarship and 3-\$1000.00 dollar scholarship. Suspense: 15 June 2018.

The 46th Annual WNGEA Conference will be 27-29 April 2018 at the Lismore Hotel in downtown Eau Claire, WI. We are looking forward to another successful Combined Association Conference. The Associations will be sponsoring Professional Development Classes for 100 Junior Officer and Enlisted Personnel at the Conference.

The 47th Annual EANGUS Conference (the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States), will be held in Charleston, West Virginia from 11-16 August 2018. To register, go to the EANGUS.ORG web site and register online. Early Registration cost is \$150.00 until 1 July. After 1 July registrations are \$200.00. Area's will be assigned a hotel based on the number of registrations per there area. There is a total of 6 hotels supporting the EANGUS Conference in Charleston. Rates will be \$107.00 plus tax per night.

Future EANGUS Conferences Locations and Dates:

2019 Des Moines, IA (4-7 August)
2020 Little Rock, AR (9-12 August)

Other Upcoming Events:

State Presidents Workshop (4 February 2018, Renaissance-Downtown, Washington D. C.)

Legislative Workshop (5-8 February 2018, Renaissance-Downtown, Washington D. C.)

Area V Caucus (18-19 May 2018, Rochester, MN)

Please visit our websites at www.WNGEA.org and www.EANGUS.org. These sites will keep you up to date on current legislation and resolutions that affect the enlisted force of the Wisconsin National Guard. The Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association (WNGEA) is a voluntary membership organization. Its purpose is to foster and improve the National Guard, promote the welfare, status, and professionalism of all enlisted members of the Wisconsin National Guard. We are your voice on Capitol Hill.

Life EANGUS/WNGEA Memberships. Life Memberships are at an all-time low cost of \$220.00.

Gary R. Hans, Sergeant Major, (Ret)
Executive Director
Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association
wngear@yahoo.com
C-920-723-8098

TREASURER'S REPORT

	Account	2015 Final Income/Expenses	2016 Approved Budget	2016 Final Budget
		1 Jan-31 Dec 2015	24-Oct-15	1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016
<u>Acct Code</u>				
4010	WINGA Insurance Trust	\$23,000.00	\$28,000.00	\$39,000.00
4020	Membership Dues	\$11,876.66	\$7,500.00	\$9,061.54
4040	Ways & Means Sales	\$27.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
4050	Interest Income	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
4060	Misc Income	\$210.16	\$100.00	\$19.00
4070	USAA Education Grant	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
4075	State Conference Income	\$829.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
4080	Raffle Income	\$1,757.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,087.00
4085	Area V Caucus Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4090	Donations	\$3.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	TOTAL INCOME	38,702.82	42,950.00	\$51,167.54
				-
EXPENSES				
5020	Raffle Expense	\$971.30	\$1,000.00	\$974.94
6010	EANGUS Dues	\$4,444.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,114.00
6050	Membership Expense	\$1,995.80	\$2,000.00	\$3,717.77
6100	WNGEA Grants	\$2,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,000.00
6120	Awards	\$676.71	\$500.00	\$780.46
6200	Payroll Expense	\$12,798.32	\$15,600.00	\$12,528.58
6205	W.C. Insurance Expense	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$266.00
6210	Executive Director Expense	\$1,373.41	\$2,000.00	\$1,868.06
6300	Professional Fees	\$607.60	\$1,500.00	\$1,222.50
6350	Bank Service Charges	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$35.00
6400	Association Office	\$1,725.24	\$3,000.00	\$3,502.03
6500	Publications Expense	\$4,995.32	\$5,000.00	\$6,206.41
6600	Presidents Fund	\$1,141.32	\$1,700.00	\$1,696.48
6650	State Conference Expense	\$2,286.66	\$2,000.00	\$2,439.14
6670	Executive Council Mtg Exp	\$423.40	\$2,000.00	\$536.10
6700	National Educational Seminar	\$4,747.86	\$5,000.00	\$7,350.70
6790	Regional Educational Seminar	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$100.00
6850	Committee Expense	\$120.31	\$100.00	\$129.98
6950	Taxes	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$42.00
6980	Permits, License, Fees	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
6999	Misc Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8010	Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
	Total Expenses	\$40,327.25	48,600.00	\$51,510.15
				-
Submitted By: Gary R. Hans, Treasurer, WNGEA				

ENLISTED ASSOCIATION'S WASHINGTON UPDATE

H.R.2288 As Amended: Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act for 2017 is intended to speed up the appeals process at the VA and cut the appeals present waiting list. If a veteran disagrees with the VA's decision on the question of service connection or disability level, he/she has an absolute right to appeal. However, the backlog for appeals between FY2015 and FY2017 has grown by more than 20% from 380,000 cases to 470,000 cases. If nothing is changed it is calculated that it will take 5 years for presently

pending appeals to be decided.

This law creates 3 lanes for appeals to move through: "Local Higher Level Review Lane", "New Evidence Lane" and "Board Lane". By creating this system, it is believed that the cases will move at their speed and not hold back other pending cases. A similar system has greatly improved the backlog for initial determinations.



Bucky's Auxiliary News



WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY

SIDE-BY-SIDE WE STAND WITH PRIDE

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER



*Catherine Berry,
WNGEA Auxiliary President*

Thanks to those of you who joined us for WINGA/WNGEA National Guard Joint Conference at Osthoff Resort in Elkhart April 28-30. Thanks to those who donated, bid and purchased at the silent auction. The proceeds support the Auxiliary and raise funds for the WNGEA Auxiliary Scholarship. At the Auxiliary annual business meeting new Scholarship Committee members were confirmed: Kathy Serrahn and Marlene Williams.

Our Area V Caucus was May 19-20, 2017 in Omaha, Nebraska with representatives from Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. In the Area V Caucus in Reno attendees agreed to pay \$100 for both 2016 & 2017 to the each of the active chartered states: Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin to assist the states with contributing to the national scholarship \$2 per member per year so that applicants from their state can be eligible for EANGUS Auxiliary scholarships. I was elected to serve another term (2017-2019) as Area V Director.

In 2018 WNGEA Auxiliary will offer two scholarships: 1-\$700 and 1-\$500 honoring Adele Cywinski, a prior very active WNGEA Auxiliary Member. WNGEA Auxiliary Application form will be available on the WNGEA.org website. For these state level scholarships the applicant must have a sponsor in the auxiliary and spouse of that auxiliary member in the association with two years of membership immediately preceding the application. WNGEA Auxiliary membership form will be available on the WNGEA.org website. The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Auxiliary (EAN-GUSA) will offer several scholarships in 2018: 1-\$3000, 1-\$2000, 1-\$1500, 2-\$1000. The increase in these scholarship dollars was approved in 2016 to be effective in 2018. Additional EANGUS Auxiliary Scholarships funded by USAA, Kaplan University, and Grand Canyon University

American Heroes are available. More detail on these is available at eangusauxiliary.org. To be eligible for these national scholarships the applicant must have a sponsor in the auxiliary and spouse of that auxiliary member in the association with one year of membership immediately preceding the application.

Our 2016 WNGEA Auxiliary scholarship winner was Laura Yenchesky studying mechanical engineering at MIT. Congratulations to Laura Yenchesky who was awarded the \$1250 EANGUS Auxiliary Scholarship in Reno August 2017.

EANGUS Publication awards were presented: Second Place for Bucky's Auxiliary News (Category 6) to WNGEA Auxiliary, Second Place for Area V Is Alive (Category 7) to EANGUS Auxiliary Area V, First Place to Wisconsin (Category 11) for Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association Auxiliary (trifold brochure). While the following two award presentations were streamed live to Roxie Barwick by Cora Sowers, I accepted on her behalf The Torch Award and The Sara Hendricks Lifetime Membership Award. I literally filled my briefcase with just these awards for my return trip!

The next EANGUS Conference will be in Charleston, West Virginia on August 11-16, 2018. Please note that our national newsletter the Signal is available through our national website. Those of you interested in it and not yet accessing it, let me know and I will be happy to send you the link as new issues are posted or I can send as an attachment to an email for you. To view prior issues see: <http://eangusauxiliary.org/publications/>

One of our roles is to lobby for legislation to support our military, veterans and retirees. If you have been contacting legislators we would like to hear about it and their responses, if any.

Respectfully,

Catherine Berry
WNGEA Auxiliary President
4203 Meadowwood Drive
Eau Claire WI 54701-9214
Cathy.berry@charter.net



WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION
Auxiliary Membership Application

SIDE BY SIDE WE STAND WITH PRIDE

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Name: _____

Date Of Birth: _____ Phone Number: () _____
mm/dd/yyyy

e-mail address: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Is Spouse a Life Member of **WNGEA/EANGUS**? Yes No
If yes, what is spouse's EANGUS life membership number? _____

Spouse's Unit: _____

Spouse's Rank: _____ Wisconsin National Guard Army Air

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: Annual Associate Gift

Is this New or Renewal?

Annual Membership: Upon application and payment of the prescribed annual dues an annual membership may be issued to the spouse of a member of the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association with all voting rights of the auxiliary.

Associate Membership: State associate membership may be issued to individuals who support the objectives of the Auxiliary, but are not otherwise qualified for annual or lifetime membership in the National Guard Enlisted Association. An associate member shall not be a voting delegate, eligible for scholarships, or qualified to hold office in the Auxiliary.

STATE AUXILIARY DUES: ANNUAL: \$ 12.00 Per Year ASSOCIATE: \$ 5.00 Per Year

Amount Submitted: _____

***GIFT** membership from _____ (member will be notified that a gift membership was given and date membership is paid through)*

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: WNGEAA

SEND TO: Marie Traxler
WNGEA Auxiliary Treasurer
N948 County Rd D
Whitewater WI 53190-3010

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Revised July 2016



State Sponsored Life Insurance (SSLI) Program

The Wisconsin National Guard Association (WINGA) makes available affordable group term life insurance for Soldiers and Airmen; including Active Duty (AGR and Technicians), M-Day, Veterans and Retirees.

The advantages of SSLI* are:

- **Most valid claims are paid within 24 hours.**
- **You can keep your insurance with no premium increase when you separate from the Guard** (rates increase as you enter a new age bracket).
- **After the first year of coverage, Guardsmen receive a 70% increase in coverage at no additional cost to you.**
- **\$1,000 of life insurance at no-cost to all Guardsmen.**
- **Premiums are payroll deductible.**
- **New Guardsmen receive \$10,000 coverage at no cost for one year.**

Other important features of the SSLI Insurance Plan are:

- Base coverage is available from \$10,000 to \$45,000.
- Maximum coverage with the 70% increase is \$77,500.
- Coverage is available for your spouse to age 70.
- Dependent children covered to age 21 or 25 if a full-time student.
- No health underwriting required for dependent children.
- Coverage is 24 hours/day, 365 days/year.
- No war clause, aviation accident or hazardous duty restrictions.
- Members 18-59 years of age are eligible to apply for insurance coverage.
- Coverage reduces by 50% at age 60 with premiums remaining the same.

Office Location: JFHQ, 2400 Wright Street, Room #205, Madison, WI 53704

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Phone: 608/242-3100 Fax: 608/242-3106

E-mail: insinfo@winga.org Web Page: www.winga.org/insurance.html

Underwritten by New York Life Insurance Company, 51 Madison Avenue, New York, NY, 10010 on Group Policy Form GMR/G-14109-1. This is a brief summary of benefits available under SSLI Group Life Plan. For specific provisions, please refer to the Certificate of Insurance.

“Insurance for You, Protection for Your Family”

CHAPLAIN REPORT by Stephen Berry

Greetings from your Chaplain Stephen Berry!

This past spring and summer have been busy for all of us in the National Guard. And your chaplain has been busy trying to keep up!

In May, I travelled with my wife, Catherine, who is Co-Director for Area V Auxiliary, as well as President of WNGEA Auxiliary. We travelled to Omaha, Nebraska to participate in Area V Caucus, preparing for EANGUS National Conference in Reno, Nevada. As Chaplain, I opened the caucus with a prayer for all of our brothers and sisters in arms and in harm's way, defending our rights and liberties. Another prayer closed the caucus. Thank you, Nebraska National Guard Enlisted Association for hosting the caucus.

Also, in May, I was in contact with CMSgt Rosie Marston about the upcoming EANGUS conference and how I could be of service. As many of you know, my alter ego is Santa.

On to Reno!

Yes, your chaplain travelled to Reno, NV to participate in the 46th Annual EANGUS Conference. I arrived on Saturday, 26 August and awaited Cathy's arrival on Sunday afternoon. After the end of the first business session, we met up with MSgt Jose' D. (JD) Escobar, President of the Nevada Enlist-

ed Association. He drove us to Kids Kottage Too, a shelter for neglected and abused children in the Reno area.

Santa and Mrs. Claus, with the able assistance of JD and Teresa, greeted 22 children ranging in age from 6 months to about 14 years. Mrs. Claus got some snuggle time with the baby. JD had arranged for the Nevada Enlisted Association to provide gift bags for all the children, and with Teresa's help each child received a gift from Santa, even though Santa was on vacation. Santa and Mrs. Claus also posed for photos with the children. The photos had to remain at the shelter to protect the children. There was quite a scramble to get close to Santa for the last photo! Santa wanted to take all the children home with him! Santa and Mrs. Claus are very grateful to MSgt Escobar for arranging for this visit! Thank you! After the event, Santa and Mrs. Claus attended the Host State festivities.

Beginning on Monday, your chaplain opened the Area V Caucus with prayer and then participated in caucuses and the daily business sessions as a delegate until the close of business on Wednesday.

Thank you for letting me represent the best of Wisconsin at the EANGUS conference in Reno! Next stop: Charleston, West Virginia in August 2018!

YOU ARE IN CONTROL OF YOUR RETIREMENT

This message is to all National Guard members that are thinking about retiring soon from the active National Guard, and those that have retired with 20 good years of service, or more, but are currently not age 60. Between your retirement from the active National Guard, and age 60 you are classified as a Gray Area Retiree.

Retired pay begins on your 60th birthday (or earlier if qualify for reduced retirement age); however, you must apply for it. Retirement pay is not automatic. Air Guard may receive a notice four months prior to age 60, or call 800-525-0102. Army Guard should call the RAO in Madison

It is highly recommended that you start your retirement pay application and get your questions answered shortly after turning 59. It normally takes between one and three months for your retired pay to become active, so your first retirement payment is ready for you at age 60.

Prior to age 59, you can also attend a Retirement Appreciation Day (RAD), held every other odd number year to get some information and answers.

Each National Guard Retiree is unique as to what you need to do to apply for retirement pay: application form, getting new ID Cards, TRICARE, and MEDICARE.

The Wisconsin National Guard has an official Retiree Activities Office (RAO), located in the Adjutant General's Office/DMA, Madison, and in Milwaukee at the 128th Air Refueling Wing.

Answers to your questions and concerns about retiree issues can be ask, and answered by former retirees that volunteer in each RAO. You can call, or email to ask questions or to set up an office appointment for a short briefing. Spouses are encouraged to attend this briefing.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

MADISON:

Tuesday and Thursday – 0730-1130

2400 Wright Street, room 160

Madison, WI 53704-2572

Phone: (608) 242-3115

Email: widma.retiree@wisconsin.gov

Web: <http://dma.wi.gov/retirees>

MILWAUKEE

Tuesday and Wednesday – 1000am – 1400pm

128th ARW, Retiree Activity Office

1835 E. Grange Ave.

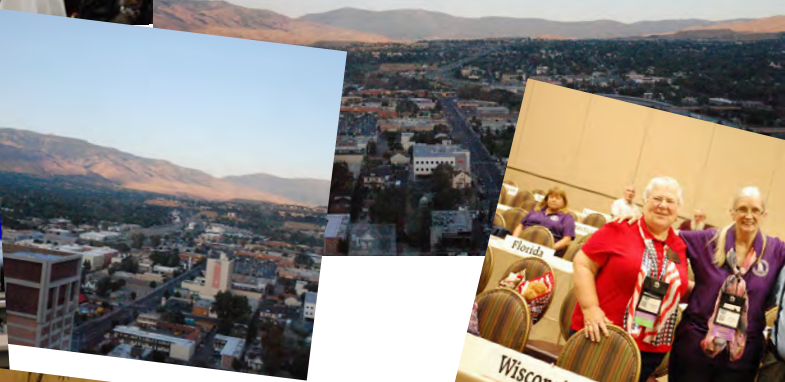
Milwaukee, WI 53201-8212

Phone: (414) 944-8212

Email: rao.128arw@wimilw.ang.af.mil







RETIREE COUNCIL UPDATE by Bob Serrahn

The Wisconsin National Guard Retiree Council By-Laws have been rewritten and approved by the council and the Adjutant General. A few of the major changes are as follows:

The Past President position on the council has been eliminated and replaced by a Vice President, who will take over when the current president's term has expired. The President may be reappointed for two additional terms.

The Congressional Area Representatives have been eliminated and replaced by Retired Representatives from each of the ARNG Major Commands and ANG Wings. Army Guard will have four. Air Guard will have three. JFHQ will have one. Each RAO will have one. ESGR will have one. WINGA and WNGEA will have one each. Major Command reps will be nominated by the Major command commander and forwarded to the council president. Any one that may be retiring soon may contact the Major command commander to seek being nominated to the Retiree Council.

There will still be honorary members, but membership

will depend on their level of interest, attendance at meetings, and involvement. Any current Honorary member that wants to stay on the list should let the council president know.

If anyone would like to see the updated By-laws, let me know and I will email you an electronic copy. Send an email to me at: wngeacom@mail.com

Standing Committees are: RAD, Awards and Recognition, Hall of Honor. Many of the other duties will be handled by the Executive committee.

Meetings are being dropped from four per year to two per year and three for the year there is the RAD.

SAVE THE DATE: There will be a Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) held this Fall at Ft McCoy/WMA on 29-30 September 2017. Details and registration will be mailed to all Wisconsin National Guard retirees in August. Soon to retire and recently new retirees are encouraged to attend.

LOOKING FOR A NATIONAL GUARD RETIREE

There will shortly be an opening in the Wisconsin National Guard Retiree Activities Office (RAO). Bob Serrahn will be leaving after five years of service, and that leaves an opening for another volunteer to step up. Estimated time to start will be in January 2018.

The RAO is located in the Department of Military Affairs (TAGO) building, 2500 Wright Street, Room 160. Office hours are Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The opening is for Thursday. Living within 10 to 20 miles of Madison would be ideal.

The mission of the RAO is to assist other, more recent retirees from all branches of service with their retirement questions, getting and updated ID Card, TRICARE medical, and other questions. You don't need to be an expert because there are others in the RAO that are the experts.

Between now January, you are invited to schedule a visit to check out what happens in the RAO. You can call the RAO at: 608-242-3115 to give them a heads up when you will want to come in.

PAY OFFICE

Attention all retirees and annuitants,
The Defense Finance and Accounting Service's addresses changed effective May 1, 2017. The old addresses are being discontinued and will be replaced by addresses in Indianapolis. The new addresses are:

Retired Pay:
Defense Finance and Accounting Service
U.S. Military Retired Pay
8899 E 56th Street
Indianapolis IN 46249-1200

Annuitant Pay:
Defense Finance and Accounting Service
U.S. Military Annuitant Pay
8899 E 56th Street
Indianapolis IN 46249-1300

The old PO Boxes in London, KY will remain open and all mail will be forwarded to the new address for one year. However, sending mail to the old address will add three to five days to the normal processing time. The telephone and fax numbers are not changing.

How to Write a Resolution

Guide For Writing Resolutions

A resolution is a formal expression of the opinion of an individual, or the will of a group adopted by a vote. Resolutions call for action by the person or organization that generates the resolution. This new resolution format may be different than what you have used in the past. It is much easier to use.

One of the real benefits of participating in the democratic process is the opportunity to have a voice regarding the public policy issues that affect our lives. It is therefore important that citizens understand the correct procedure for drafting resolutions. Some people are intimidated at the idea of writing a resolution. They shouldn't be. It isn't that difficult. Anyone can write a resolution that can make a change.

Why submit a resolution? If we lived in a perfect world, where all laws, procedures, and policy were made and maintained perfect, there would be no need for resolutions. The resolution process is a method to make new laws, or corrections and updates to the current law of the land that we live under. It is also used to introduce the need for a new law of the land if there is none. In simple terms, you are saying that what is currently in effect, is wrong, or not good enough, and you have a better idea or way to do it or have it.

Steps In Preparing A Resolution:

1. Identify the concern. Be sure the concern is a matter of statewide or national scope. It cannot be a personal or an individual issue. Address only one concern per resolution. Be sure your title is clear and concise.
2. Research and gather factual support materials, which are sufficient to allow a person with no prior knowledge of the subject to make an informed, intelligent decision.
3. Write the resolution in the proposed format below, taking care to insure that each fact statement in the "Background" area is accompanied by sufficient support material. Pointing to existing documents is very good. Each now needs a recommendation or suggestion that offers a solution, or a better process, and also directs the submitting agency or organization to take action
4. All resolutions shall be typewritten or word processed. Your resolution must be accompanied by a cover letter explaining your reason for writing the resolution, and some additional background on your submission to answer the why you are doing this, question.
5. When your resolution is presented before the annual membership conference, it would be appropriate to be present in the audience to answer questions and argue for its acceptance if necessary.

Hints To Help You Get Your Resolution Accepted And Passed:

1. Be concise. A resolution "Background" is to be a statement of fact or current policy on an issue, and your "Recommendation", a solution to solve that is-

sue. The association members will get copies of all resolutions, and this means a lot of reading. If your resolution is too wordy, it will not get the attention it deserves. Try and limit your resolution to five or less paragraphs in the "Background" area. Choose the strongest facts, and use the others in discussion and debate if necessary. Resolutions should not be longer than 2 pages. One page is best.

2. Be realistic. The "Recommendation" statements should include specific actions that are realistic and implementable. Include any resource availability (both human and financial) that will affect the implementability of resolutions, if they are known.
3. Be positive. A positive approach always works better than a negative one. Write positive statements, and address the issue positively when you are speaking to it. You may need to read your resolution many times and re-write it several to come up with the best presentation.
4. Be knowledgeable. Know the facts about all parts of your resolution. Be aware of other resolutions that have been passed on your issue, and be sure to state in your cover letter any differences in your resolution, and why your resolution should be passed.
5. Gather support and assistance. Your organization should not be the only ones involved in getting your resolution passed. Try to involve other organizations and members in supporting your resolution. Share your facts and ask others to speak pro to your resolution. This will not only help you get your resolution passed, it will also encourage other members to get involved.
6. Use your limited time on the floor wisely. As the author, you will have an opportunity to speak on the resolution. Remember that the members have a copy, so don't read it to them. Instead, take this opportunity to state some of the facts that might not be included in the "Background" clauses. Sell the group on the benefits of the resolution if it were to become law or policy.
7. Be available. Make sure you are available to the members to answer questions.
8. Have your documentation handy. Make sure you have at least two copies of your documentation with you. Questions may be asked that need further clarification. Suggestions may be offered to reword the resolution for better reading.

Purpose Of Writing A Resolution:

The goal of the resolution is to inform, and educate the reader in order to inspire them to take action approving the resolution. To do this, a successful resolution must do two things:

1. Identify and explain the facts of the problem or issue that needs to be addressed (the BACKGROUND portion)
2. And propose a solution that will address the problem

How to Write a Resolution *Continued*

1. as identified (the RECOMMENDATION portion).

Background:

The first portion of a resolution identifies and states the facts of the problem that needs to be addressed. The problem should be stated in factual terms. Opinions or summations are not expressed in this portion of the resolution. Each fact should be listed as a separate sentence or paragraph. State the most important known facts for the resolution, but don't be redundant

Recommendation:

The second portion of the resolution states the action that you propose, to address the problem or issue as identified in the "Background" portion of the resolution. Because resolving most problems involves an exercise of judgment, this is the portion of the resolution where the author expresses their opinions. If the author proposes more than one solution, each separate solution to the problem should be listed as a separate sentence or. When properly written, this section clearly restates the problem in summary form, and explains to the reader the action necessary to address that problem, without having to repeat any of the "Background" statements.

Sample Resolution Format

RESOLUTION NUMBER: _____.

(Assigned by the organization)

SUBMITTED BY: (Full Name of the author)

(City, St. Zip Code)

DATE: (Of Origination)

Pertaining to :

(TITLE OF RESOLUTION WHICH IDENTIFIES THE PROBLEM OR ISSUE)

Background:

- This is the part of the resolution that explains the primary issue or problem.
- This is where you list all the important facts about the issue. Facts should be listed in order of importance from most important on top to the least important on the bottom.
- Each unique fact should be presented in a separate paragraph.
- Do not summarize your facts.

Recommendation:

- This is the part of the resolution that restates the primary issue or main problem and proposes a solution to the issue or problem identified in the "Background" statements; and be it further
- This is where you provide suggestions or direction for a solution to your issue.
- This is where you offer additional supporting reasoning to your solution.
- This is where you summarize how your solution can fix the issue.
- This is your instruction to the association to take action and approve this resolution.

(SAMPLE) - That the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association, assembled at (conference location), on this (xx day of month, year), do urge the (final approving authority name) to support (the requested action to change, to increase, to initiate or do any action to) the (main subject name of the resolution).

Distribution:

The author may suggest a list of recipients to receive this resolution. Distribution should be in order of priority with the final authority on top of the list. If the author cannot suggest anyone, or does not know where it is to be sent, the author may put, "DISTRIBUTION TO BE DETERMINED".

Resolution Submission:

Copies of the resolution should be submitted to the Association office via postal or email with the cover letter. If sending via email, the resolution should be an attachment, and email letter body may be the cover letter, or may be a second attachment.

Resolutions can be sent to the WNGEA office anytime in the year, or brought to an executive council meeting, but must be received by the WNGEA no later than 1 January 20xx. They are then reviewed and discussed at the January Executive Council meeting. If approved by the council, they will be discussed and voted on at the annual WNGEA meeting in April. Once approved they will be sent to EANGUS for federal level resolutions, or to the Adjutant General for state level resolutions.

The author will receive acknowledgement of receipt, and then after discussions, a letter of actions that the WNGEA is taking on your submission, and the steps your approved resolution will be taking. At any step along the way, the resolutions may be rejected.

SUBMISSION COVER LETTER:

Include the following information on the submission cover letter.

- Reason for and benefits you feel that this resolution should be approved and made into law or policy.
- Examples of the issue that you are aware of, if any.
- How you came about, and why you created this resolution.
- If you wish to personally present your resolution at a future Executive Council meeting.
- All contact information: Name, postal address, telephone numbers, email address.

What Can A Resolution Be Used For?

- To add or change Federal law or policy.
- To add or change State law or policy.
- To add or change County law or policy.
- To add or change City ordinances or policy.
- To add or change EANGUS bylaw or policy.
- To add or change WNGEA bylaw or policy by non-council members.

WHAT IS WNGEA?

The Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association (WNGEA) is a voluntary membership organization. Its purpose is to foster and improve the National Guard, promote the welfare, status, and professionalism of all enlisted members of the National Guard. Membership in WNGEA gives you a voice in how the state and federal government takes care of their soldiers and airmen in uniform. You may be just one little voice by yourself, but when you join the thousands of other Guard members in Wisconsin and all other states, your voice is multiplied and becomes very loud and direct, so it is heard.

As a member of the National Guard, you have certain benefits of membership. What if you were to lose those benefits, or they were reduced to 50%? What would happen if you lost your 100% college tuition that you receive by being a member of the Wisconsin National Guard? Having a membership in the WNGEA gives you a voice in how the state and federal government takes care of their soldiers and airmen in uniform.

The WNGEA is the only professional organization dedicated to supporting rights and benefits of enlisted members

of the Wisconsin National Guard and the United States. As the downsizing of the military and cutbacks continue, we must fight to maintain the benefits we have, and to continue our efforts to keep the National Guard a viable force in the military.

How to become a member:

The WNGEA and EANGUS have an online process for ANNUAL and LIFE membership signup. The online procedure allows you to sign up as a new member. When you join online, you will be asked to make a USERNAME and PASSWORD. Please use your personal primary home email address when you join. Please do not use your .MIL official military email address. Go to <http://wngea.org/>, click the Membership Information tab and select "Join or Renew" then follow the steps. The Annual Membership Rates are as follows:

E-1 – E-9 ONE YEAR - \$25.00

Life Membership for all is now only \$220.00.

Without you, the association cannot exist. Now is the time to become a member of the WNGEA to help us have a voice for all.

NEW VETERAN HOTLINE TO GO LIVE IN OCTOBER

The VA is launching a Veterans Hotline. It is in the beta phase right now but will go live in October. The reason for the slight delay is because the VA discovered that Veterans want to talk to Veterans about their issues. Hats off to the VA for wanting to do this right.

VA to Staff White House VA Hotline with Veterans: This week VA announced the two-month pilot phase for the White House VA Hotline demonstrated that veterans calling the hotline prefer to talk to fellow veterans about their issues. As a result, VA announced it will hire mostly veterans to staff the call center instead of a third-party vendor, and is hiring additional VA personnel to complete the planned move to a 24-hour operation. The decision will delay the move to a 24-hour service by two months, which is no later than October 15. Until that time, the hotline's current pilot program service is available to receive calls from veterans from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, Monday through Friday. The phone number is 855-948-2311.

There has been a little confusion recently regarding The Home Depot's Veteran's Discount, so we reached out to their corporate office and received clarification. They have two

discount programs for veterans:

1) The first is a 10% discount for ALL honorably discharged veterans and those currently serving on Active Duty, in the Guard/Reserves, retirees, and those with service-connected disabilities but the discount is ONLY on Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veteran's Day. This is when you can use your driver's license with "Veteran" on it for the discount. (You can also use your VA Healthcare card or military ID if you have one.) This is the discount that almost every veteran can get, but it's only on these three days.

2) The second is a 10% discount available every day but ONLY for those on Active Duty, in the Guard/Reserves, retired, or with a service-connected disability. To get this "everyday discount", those eligible would need to show their military ID card (to prove they're currently serving), retiree ID card, or VA Healthcare card with "Service Connected" on it (for the new cards it's typed under your picture). You CANNOT use your driver's license with "Veteran" on it for this discount because the discount is much more exclusive... it's NOT for every honorably discharged veteran.

TYPE MEMBERSHIP

CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE

(NEW ANNUAL)

(RENEWAL ANNUAL)

(LIFE MEMBERSHIP)



WISCONSIN
NATIONAL GUARD
ENLISTED ASSOCIATION

2400 WRIGHT ST. DIST BOX 45
MADISON, WI 53704-2572

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

USE THIS FORM IF NO INTERNET ACCESS

NAME: _____
FIRST MI LAST.

PRIMARY EMAIL: _____(required)

HOME STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY STATE 5 DIGIT ZIP CODE

PRIMARY CONTACT NO: (_____) _____ - _____ RANK/GRADE: _____ / E-_____

DATE OF BIRTH: mon: _____ day: _____ yr: _____ SPOUSE NAME: _____

CIRCLE CHOICES: (ARMY GUARD) (AIR GUARD) (OTHER) (MALE) (FEMALE)

OFFICIAL UNIT DESIGNATION/NAME: _____

CIRCLE STATUS: (AGR) (TECHNICIAN) (M-DAY / TRADITIONAL) (RETIREE)

ASSOCIATE STATUS: (COMMISSIONED/WARRANT OFFICER) (CIVILIAN) (OTHER MILITARY SERVICE)

**ANNUAL MEMBER DUES - Suggest to join or
renew online at WWW.WNGEA.ORG**
E-1 - E-9 ONE YEAR - \$25.00 []
ASSOCIATE ONE YEAR - \$25.00 []
Includes both State and National Dues. You will
receive notice via email shortly before the date your
membership expires for you to renew. At that time, you
can establish an automatic renew option that your dues
will automatically be taken from your charge card.

*****LIFE MEMBERSHIP DUES- \$220.00**
This is our new Life Membership price.
**This is a special discounted price that may go
up in the future.**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WNGEA
Total Received: \$ _____
Check # _____ Processed by: _____
Note: _____
**Do not write in this area.
Suggest to photo copy before mailing.**

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PAST PRESIDENTS

WNGEA President's & Years of Service	Name	Branch of Service
1972-1973	CSM David Ebert	Army
1973-1974	SGM Jim Abraham	Army
1974-1976	SFC Franklin Stoneburner	Army
1976-1978	MSgt William Fitzpatrick	Air
1978-1980	SGM Wayne Sedgwick	Army
1980-1982	SGM Alan Seidl	Army
1982-1984	CSM Donald Meister	Army
1984-1986	CSM Donald Adams	Air
1986-1988	SGM Neil Thome	Army
1988-1990	CSM Donald Meister	Army
1990-1992	SFC Deanna Luedtke	Army
1992-1994	SGM William Krueck	Army
1994-1996	MSgt Jeff Rohloff	Air
1996-1998	CSM Lowell Koehler	Army
1998-1999	SFC David Conis	Army
1999-2000	CSM Lowell Koehler	Army
2000-2002	MSG Mark Spitz	Army
2002-2004	SMSGt Robert Serrahn	Air
2004-2006	SGM Gary Hans	Army
2006-2008	CSM John Olson	Army
2008-2010	SGM Bonnie Moser	Army
2010-2012	MSgt Jim Cieslewicz	Air
2012-2014	MSG Thomas Krueck	Army
2014-2016	MSgt Nathan Nickel	Air
2016-2018	SMSGt Bobbie Coker	Air

Auxiliary President's & Years of Service	Name
1980-1981	Jean FitzPatrick
1981-1984	Carol Kolata
1984-1986	Jane Rohloff
1986-1988	Kate Mead
1988-1990	Peg Thome
1990-1992	Karen Maum
1992-1994	Kathy Serrahn
1994-1996	Marlene Williams
1996-1998	Ernestine Iannello
1998-2000	Adele Cywinski
2000-2002	Shirley Spitz
2002-2003	Cindy Stansfield
2003-2005	Catherine Berry
2005-2008	Shirley Spitz
2008-2010	Delaine Reis
2010-2014	Shirley Spitz
2014-2018	Catherine Berry

**Wisconsin National Guard
Enlisted Association**

2400 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704

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