

WNGEA

Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association Conference Handbook

2025 Joint Association State Conference
Double Tree by Hilton, Madison East
Madison, Wisconsin
25-27 April 2025



Hosted by:
115th Fighter Wing (FW)
Volk Field Air National Guard Base



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Double Tree by Hilton Madison East, WI (25-27 April 2025)

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Welcome to the 2025 WINGA & WNGEA Joint Conference.

We are excited to be back this year for another great conference. I would like to thank the 115th Fighter Wing and Volk Field for all their efforts in putting together this year's Joint Conference at Double Tree in Madison, WI. I encourage all Professional Development attendees to take this opportunity to learn more about the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association (WNGEA). We are always looking for new board members and encourage everyone to reach out and learn how to get involved.

All members of the WNGEA are eligible for the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association College Grant Program, the CSM Virgil R. Williams Scholarship and Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Scholarships. We also want to thank USAA for their generous \$1000.00 annual Scholarship. Please be sure to reach out to your fellow soldiers and airmen and have them fill out a scholarship application before it is too late. Scholarships have various due dates so be sure to apply in time. The guidance for applying is located on our website: <https://wngea.org>.

All members will also receive an email from EANGUS with drill weekend "Talking Points", please take the time and read them and share with the soldiers and airmen. There is a lot of great information about what is happening at the National level that affect your career and your benefits.

WNGEA has been busy over the last year working with Enlisted Associations of the National Guard US (EANGUS) on legislative pushes for the Guard. Tricare for all and The Major Richard Star Act have been big pushes on capitol hill. Our team had the opportunity to go to DC and speak with our representatives highlighting how important these resolutions are to Guard members.

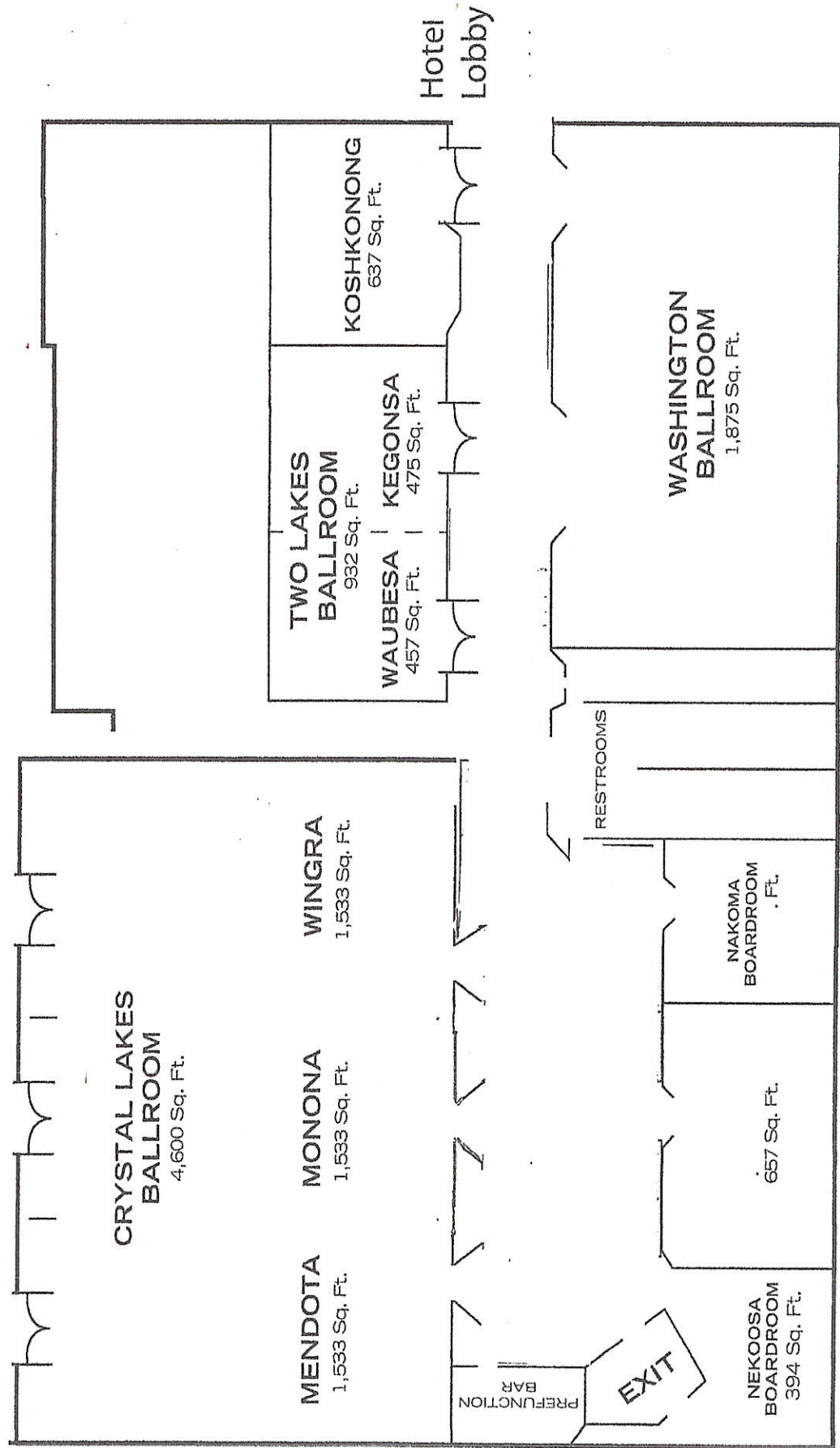
Thank you for attending this year's Joint Conference and I hope I am able to meet and talk to everyone over the weekend. Enjoy the Professional Development Classes, the Speakers, and be sure to thank our Corporate Sponsors for their continued support. If you are interested in serving on our Executive Council and becoming a board member, please let me know, I will assist you in the process.

Make sure to follow our page on Facebook: "Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association" for updates.

Respectfully,

Sharon Luebke
SSG, WIARNG
President, WNGEA

DoubleTree by Hilton Madison East
 4402 E Washington Ave, Madison, WI 53704



Continental Lane Entrance

East Washington Parking Lot



The Wisconsin National Guard Officer/Enlisted Associations wants to thank you for registering to attend the 2025 WINGA/WNGEA State Conference at the Double Tree Madison East in Madison, WI. Special thanks to our host units, the 115th Fighter Wing and the Volk Field ANG Base. This Letter of Instruction (LOI) will provide you with additional details to make your experience satisfying and rewarding.

1. **Registration:** when you arrive at the Double Tree Madison East, 4402 E. Washington Avenue, Madison, WI, stop by the conference registration table on your left from the main entrance. The hotel has free parking and Wi-Fi. **Please wear your name badge at all times** as this is your ticket to get access to all conference events and our hospitality room.
2. **Hotel:** room rate is \$98.00/per night plus tax. If you haven't already done so, you can reserve a room at the Double Tree Madison East by calling 608-244-4703. Room block name is "WIN" under the Wisconsin National Guard or use this link: Reservation Deadline is 11 April 2025. [Available Rooms - DoubleTree by Hilton Madison East](#)
3. **Family Activities:** there are many tourist activities in the Madison area for your enjoyment. On Saturday at the Double Tree Madison East we will be offering a "Paint and Sip" class and a Spouse/Guest Connection Session. Childcare is available on Friday and Saturday evenings. Sign up for child care is on the registration form.
4. **Dress Code:**
 - Ice Breaker Social:** has a Hawaiian theme. Hospitality Room is Casual.
 - Award Ceremony, Business meetings, Professional Development:** Business Casual Saturday Social.
 - Banquet meal:** Semi-formal, Business Attire, or Military Uniform (ASU/Class A/Mess Dress)
5. **Conference App:** **Go to the App store and enter WNGEA (Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association). Once the app is downloaded, click on the top tab for WING Conference details, to register on line, and link to hotel reservations.**
6. **Ice Breaker Social:** this event is our meet and greet social combined with our corporate partner trade show. We have 24 Partners in Patriotism (PIP) supporters this year. This event is 6:00-9:00 pm on Friday in the Crystal Lakes Ballroom, (see hotel floor plan). This event has a Hawaiian theme, so you are welcome to wear your favorite Hawaiian attire. Food and beverages are provided including complimentary "Taste of Wisconsin". There is also a cash bar available. Do not consume alcohol if you are not of legal age. There will be Bingo prizes, 50:50 raffle, games and much more.

7. **Vendor Bingo:** During the Ice Breaker, we have an optional vendor bingo game. Get all of the bingo logos stamped by the vendors and turn your card in for great prizes. If you decide to not play bingo, please take the time to introduce yourself and thank our corporate partners.
8. **Joint Hospitality Rooms:** Please wear your name badge both evenings.
Friday Evening (9:00 pm to 12:00 am): the Hospitality room is located in the Washington Ballroom. Complimentary beverages and snacks are available both evenings.
Saturday Evening (9:00 pm to 12:00 am): the Hospitality room will be in the Washington Ballroom. See the Neil Diamond performance. _
9. **Meals:** all meals are complimentary and included in your registration, with the exception of the banquet which was an optional additional charge of \$40/person. Check the conference schedule or the conference app for times and locations.
10. **Joint Opening Ceremony:** this event takes place in the Crystal Lakes Ballroom from 8:30-10:30 am on Saturday. Dress is business casual. This is our opening program and includes the WNGEA Award Presentations for the National Guard Army and Airmen of the year. The Color Guard will be sponsored by the Wisconsin Challenge Academy. The Wisconsin Adjutant General will provide opening remarks.
11. **Award Recipients:** individual awards will be presented during the Opening Ceremony. When your name is called, please come forward to receive your award from senior military leaders. A photo session will take place at the conclusion of the ceremony.
12. **WINGA/WNGEA Annual Business Meetings:** All officers and enlisted are expected to attend their respective association meetings.
13. **Evaluation Form:** Conference evaluation forms will be available at the registration table or on the conference app. Your feedback is very important and will help us improve the State Conferences of the future.
14. **Your Wisconsin National Guard State Conference is hosted by the 115th Fighter Wing and the Volk Field ANG Base and sponsored by the Wisconsin National Guard Association, Inc (WINGA) and the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association, Inc. (WNGEA).** These Associations are membership-based organizations which provide programs and services to benefit Wisconsin National Guard Soldiers, Airmen and their families. Please consider membership in one or more of these organizations so they can enhance future benefits for the National Guard community.

Your 2025 Conference Planning Team.

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION

WNGEA Schedule of Events

Double Tree Madison East, Madison, WI (25-27 April 2025)

Friday, 25 April 2025

1500 – 2130	Registration Check-in	Hallway by Koshkonong Room
1600 – 1700	WNGEA Quarterly Executive Council Meeting	Nekoosa Room
1800 – 2100	Vendor/Exhibit Display	Crystal Lakes Ballroom & Hallway
1800 – 2100	Childcare (Be sure to register for childcare)	Hotel Suite #225
1800 – 2100	Ice Breaker/Social (Taste of Wisconsin/Exhibitors) (Hawaiian Theme) 50/50 Raffle/Prizes	Crystal Lakes Ballroom & Hallway
2100 – 2400	Joint Hospitality Room Open (Karaoke)	Washington Ballroom & Hallway

Saturday, 26 April 2025

0700 – 0830	Registration Check In	Hallway near Koshkonong Room
0700 – 0815	Continental Breakfast (All Registered Guests)	Washington Ballroom
0730 – 0815	Joint Session Rehearsal	Crystal Lakes Ballroom
0730 – 0815	Officer/NCO Open Discussion W/TAG (PD*)	Two Lakes Ballroom
0815 – 0830	Break	
0830 – 1030	Joint Business Session (PD*) (Award Ceremony) WI TAG, MI TAG, Guest Speaker, Dave Davlin Color Guard by Challenge Academy	Crystal Lakes Ballroom
0900 – 1600	Green Room (VIP's/Speakers)	Nekoosa Room
1030 – 1045	Break	
1045 – 1145	WNGEA Annual Business Meeting (PD*)	Two Lakes Ballroom
1145 – 1300	PD* Luncheon/Legislative Brief (All Reg. Guests) Legislative Briefing by EANGUS President - CSM (Ret) Robert Sweeney	Crystal Lakes Ballroom
1300 – 1315	Break	
1315 – 1415	Enlisted Breakout (PD*) (CSM Weyer/CMSgt Workman)	Two Lakes Ballroom
1315 – 1415	Officer Breakout (MG Rogers (PD*))	Washington Ballroom
1315 – 1400	Spouse/guest Connection Session	Yahara Room
1400 – 1600	Spouse/Guest (Paint and Sip)	Yahara Room (Wine & Design Co)
1415 – 1430	Break	
1430 – 1600	State Leader Panel (PD*) (TAG,DAGs,CW5, CSM, CMSgt),	Crystal Lakes Ballroom
1600 – 1800	Free Time	
1730 – 1800	Banquet Registration (Those not registered)	Hallway by Crystal Lakes Ballroom
1800 – 1900	Banquet Reception Social hour (Elvis Performs)	Hallway by Crystal Lakes Ballroom
1800 – 2100	Child Care Service (Be sure to register for childcare)	Hotel Suite #225
1900 – 2100	Banquet/Banquet Event (132d Band Brass Quintet)	Crystal Lakes Ballroom
2100 – 2400	Joint Hospitality Room Open (Neil Diamond Performs)	Washington Ballroom & Hallway

Sunday, 27 April 2025

0830 – 0930	Continental Breakouts	Crystal Lakes Ballroom
0930 – 1100	(PD*) Army Officer/Enlisted	Washington Ballroom
0930 – 1100	(PD*) Air Officer/Enlisted	Two Lakes Ballroom

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION

53rd ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

**Double Tree by Hilton, Madison East
25- 27 April 2025**

1045 - 1145 WNGEA Annual Business Meeting (Washington Ballroom)

President: Please turn cell phones off.

• Pledge of Allegiance.

President: Welcome and Remarks.

Recognition and Introduction of Head Table

Identify Professional Development Personnel. (Please Stand)

Identify SOY/AOY Awardees that are Present (Please Stand)

Recognize WNGEA Past Presidents in the room (Please Stand)

Recognize EANGUS Area V Directors present (Please Stand)

Recognize CSM Duane Weyer, State Command Sergeant Major (Please Stand)

Recognize CMSgt Chad Workman, State Command Chief Master Sgt (Please Stand)

Recognize Members of Executive Council (Please Stand)

Special Guests (TAG, DAG's, etc) (Please Stand)

President: Admin Announcements

I encourage all to visit and talk with Vendors and thank them for their time. The Hospitality Room is the Washington Ballroom and will be open from 2100 to 2400 each night. The Hospitality Room will be closed during Business Hours and the Banquet.

(x) Identifies reports located in the conference book

Do we have any other verbal committee reports to give at this time?

- [] Introduce Scheduled Guests/Speakers
- [] President Comments: Meeting Reports, and Motion Procedures.
Most reports are in the conference book for your review.
- [] Call for any changes to the agenda or meeting procedure suggestions.
- [x] President's Report. (Page 1)
- [x] 52d Annual Conference Minutes-motion approval.
(Take a moment to review, a copy is on each table)
- [x] Treasurers Annual Report-President accepts report (Page 8)
- [x] Executive Director Report (Page 9)
- [] National legislation Report
- [] State Legislation Report
- [x] Resolutions Report-motion approval of presented resolutions. (Page 11)
- [] Membership and Marketing Co-Chairs Report (Army & Air Guard)
- [x] Corporate Partnership Report (Page 12)
- [x] Publications Report (Page 13)
- [x] Retiree Liaison Report (Page 14)
- [x] Leader of Prayer Report (Page 15)
- [] Education Selection Report
- [x] Awards Report (Page 16)
- [] Insurance Report
- [] By-Laws Report-motion approval of changes.
- [] Historian Report
- [] Web Managers Report
- [] Special Projects Report
- [] Unscheduled Reports, guests, and other briefings.

[] OLD BUSINESS:

- Any ISSUES FROM 2024 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
- Any Other OLD BUSINESS.

[] NEW BUSINESS:

- 2025 WING Conference/Professional Development, Doubletree by Hilton Madison East, Madison, WI (25-27 April 2025). Hosted by the 115th FW and Volk Field
- 2025 Area V Caucus, Omaha, NE (25-26 April 2025)
- 2025 Golf Outing (Prairie Pines Golf Course, Friday, 30 May, Sun Prairie (Flyer)
- 2025 EANGUS Conference, Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, NV. (10-15 August 2025 (10 and 15 August are travel days.)
- 2025 Officer/Enlisted Sportsman Challenge (19 Sep 2025) North Bristol Sportsman's Club, Sun Prairie, WI.
- 2025 RAD, Fort McCoy, WI (Conducted every other year) (27 September 2025)
- 2026 WING Conference, 24-26 April, Central Wisconsin Convention and Expo Center, Rothchild, WI
- Discuss Scholarship Committee
- Fill Empty Chair Positions
- Next Quarterly Executive Council Meeting. Date/Time: 19 July 2025, Location: ?

[] Any other NEW BUSINESS.

[] Good of the Order: (Non-Official Business)

[] President: Closing Statements/Announcements.

[] Adjournment



2024 Annual WNGEA Treasurers Report

Account		2024 Proposed Budget 28-Oct-23	2024 Actual Budget as of: 31 Dec 2024	2025 Approved Budget 27-Oct-24
Acct Code				
4010	WINGA Insurance Trust	\$44,000.00	\$49,000.00	\$44,000.00
4020	Membership Dues	\$6,000.00	\$5,733.06	\$6,000.00
4040	Ways & Means Sales	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
4050	Interest Income	\$50.00	\$120.43	\$50.00
4060	Misc Income	\$100.00	\$250.00	\$100.00
4070	USAA Education Grant	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
4075	State Conference Income	\$10,000.00	\$9,268.61	\$10,000.00
4080	Raffle Income	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
4085	Area V Caucus Income	\$0.00	\$335.33	\$0.00
4090	Donations	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	\$0.00
	TOTAL INCOME	61,850.00	67,007.43	61,850.00
EXPENSES				
5020	Raffle Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6010	EANGUS Dues	\$2,500.00	\$3,177.00	\$2,500.00
6050	Membership Expense	\$2,200.00	\$788.15	\$2,200.00
6100	WNGEA Grants	\$3,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,500.00
6120	Awards	\$900.00	\$1,233.86	\$900.00
6200	Payroll Expense	\$9,600.00	\$11,242.80	\$9,600.00
6205	W.C. Insurance Expense	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
6210	Executive Director Expense	\$2,700.00	\$3,258.83	\$3,000.00
6300	Professional Fees	\$1,000.00	\$375.00	\$1,000.00
6350	Bank Service Charges	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
6400	Association Office	\$3,200.00	\$1,543.27	\$3,200.00
6500	Publications Expense	\$3,000.00	\$2,872.40	\$3,000.00
6600	Presidents Fund	\$3,000.00	\$1,816.95	\$3,000.00
6650	State Conference Expense	\$20,000.00	\$33,331.54	\$20,000.00
6670	Executive Council Mtg Exp	\$700.00	\$1,085.20	\$700.00
6700	National/Legislative Seminar	\$8,000.00	\$7,267.75	\$8,000.00
6790	Regional Educational Seminar	\$500.00	\$1,073.30	\$500.00
6850	Committee Expense	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
6950	Taxes	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
6980	Permits, License, Fees	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$50.00
6999	Misc Expense	\$0.00		\$0.00
8010	Donations	\$0.00		\$0.00
	Total Expenses	\$61,400.00	\$70,091.05	\$61,700.00

Submitted By: Gary R. Hans, Treasurer, WNGEA



WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION
“Serving the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Forces since 1972”

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT (April 2025)

I want to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Associations 53rd Annual Conference. This year we are again conducting a Joint Conference with the Officers Association (WINGA). I encourage everyone to experience the benefits of a Joint Conference and understand that WINGA and WNGEA are working toward the same goals of sustaining the Wisconsin National Guard for the future. We also have some important upcoming events that are available for all members to participate in and learn what the WNGEA and EANGUS do for its members and all Enlisted personnel. Bottom line is we need and appreciate our active members for their efforts throughout the year. Special thanks go to this year's host units, the 115th Fighter Wing and Volk Field Air National Guard Base for their efforts to provide you with an enjoyable experience at this year's 2025 Conference.

Mark your Calendars:

- 2025 WINGA/WNGEA Golf Outing, Prairie Pines Golf Course, Sun Prairie (Friday, 30 May, registration begins at 0915) Flyer is in the conference book.
- 2025 Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Conference, Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, NV. (10-15 August 2025) (10 and 15 August are travel days.) Looking for Delegates!
You will be able to sit on National Committees, vote on relevant Enlisted issues and meet our EANGUS Legislative Directors who work for our issues on a daily basis. We hope to have a strong delegation representing Wisconsin to include our Senior Enlisted Leadership. The WNGEA does set monies aside to reimbursement personnel who attend the EANGUS Conference in a delegate status. Contact the undersigned if you are interested in attending the 2025 Enlisted Association Conference as a delegate in Reno. We are always interested in having new personnel attend the National Conference. Wisconsin will also be hosting 5 personnel to attend the EANGUS Conference from the Army and Air National Guard to attend the Professional Development Classes. If you are interested in attending in a Professional Development status contact your Chain of Command and show them this article or contact the undersigned for additional information. **Until you take the time to attend National Conference you will not fully understand the impact the National Association has on issues that affect you.**

- 2025 Officer/Enlisted Sportsman Challenge, North Bristol Sportsman's Club, Sun Prairie, WI. (19 Sep 2025)
- 2025 Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD), Fort McCoy, WI (Conducted every other year) (27 September 2025) Stay in touch with your Retirement Benefits.
- 2026 WING Annual Conference, 24-26 April 2026, Rothchild, WI, Holiday Inn and Suites and the Central Wisconsin Convention and Expo Center.
- 2026 Area V Caucus, Fargo, ND. (May 2026)

2024 EANGUS Conference Professional Development Personnel:

Professional Development, SFC Alex Kilbane (2024 Soldier of the Year)
 Professional Development, SGT Caleb Campbell
 Professional Development, TSgt Luis Rosado
 Professional Development, SrA Caroline Ergish
 Professional Development, SrA Carver Empry

We also want to thank the WI State Senior Enlisted Leadership for their support:
State Command Sergeant Major, CSM Duane Weyer
State Command Chief, CMSgt Chad Workman
The 115th Air Wing Command Chief, CMSgt Michael Alvarez

2025 USAA and WNGEA Scholarships:

The Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association and USAA will be awarding (2) \$1000.00 scholarships and (5) \$500.00 scholarship this year. The closing date is 1 June 2025. We also want to thank CSM (Ret) Donald C. Meister (Deceased) for his \$1000.00 dollar donation to the WNGEA Scholarship Fund. Go to <https://WNGEA.ORG> to apply.

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 Enlisted voice on Capitol Hill.

This past year we lost two prior President's of the WNGEA. (CSM (Ret) Donald C. Meister and SGM (Ret) Bonnie Moser). Their past efforts and support of the Enlisted Association should not be forgotten.

Gary R. Hans, Sergeant Major, Retired
 Executive Director
 Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association
wngea@yahoo.com
 C-920-723-8098

Index of 2024 Resolutions

- 24-01** Veterans Court Services Expansion Program
- 24-02** TRICARE for Young Adults Extension
- 24-03** National Guard Child Care Tax Credit
- 24-04** Expedited Return of Deported Veterans to the U.S.
- 24-05** Expansion of Access to IVF and All Other Reproductive Healthcare
- 24-06** Junior Enlisted Pay Raise
- 24-07** Retention of 10% Tinnitus Disability
- 24-08** Retention of Enlistment/Retention Incentives when Accepting T32 AGR or Tech Jobs
- 24-09** Retiree Continued Contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan
- 24-10** Military Occupation Compatibility with Civilian Certificates & Skills
- 24-11** Automatic Re-Enrollment in TRICARE Reserve Select and Current Dental Carrier
- 24-12** Addressing Inequities in the USAF's Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (COOL) Program
- 24-13** Ensuring Full Military Retirement Pay for Veterans with Disabilities
- 24-14** Transfer of GI Bill Benefits After Retirement
- 24-15** Disparity in Buying Back Title 32 AGR Service for Title 32/Title 5 Federal Retirement
- 24-16** Support of the Servicewomen and Veterans Menopause Research Act
- 24-17** Information Clearinghouse and Opposition to "Defend the Guard Act" State Legislation
- 24-18** Payroll Allotments for National Guard and Reserve Members
- 24-19** Saving Tuition Assistance and Education Benefits
- 24-20** Wearable Less-Than-Lethal Tactical Response Systems
- 24-21** Safety Beacon
- 24-22** Commendation of the National Guard Association of Michigan and Auxiliary, the State of Michigan, and the City of Detroit

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION
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CORPORATE SPONSOR
(PARTNERS IN PATRIOTISM) REPORT

Special Thanks to our 2025 “Partners in Patriotism”

Corporate Partners

Platinum Level (\$2,250 and above)

- Armed Forces Benefits Association (AFBA)

Silver Level (\$1,250)

- American Military University
- Oshkosh Aerotech
- USAA
- VFW

Copper Level (\$750)

- Beyond Clothing
- Darley Defense
- HDT Global
- Oshkosh Defense
- Patriot Taxiway
- Promax Insoles
- Robertson Fuels
- Zumro

Bronze Level (\$350)

- PM Pro-Learn
- UW-Whitewater University
- Western Governor’s University

Other Sponsors

- ESGR
- Cross Country Mortgage
- Drip Drop Hydration
- Homes for Heroes
- Service Member Support Division (SMSD)
- Transition Assistance Program
- Vortex Optics
- Wisconsin National Guard Foundation

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION
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PUBLICATIONS REPORT

**Double Tree by Hilton Madison East, Madison, WI
25-27 April 2025**

From: Publication Manager

Subject: Annual Report

Welcome everyone to the Annual Professional Development Conference.

This past year we published 2 issues of the Bucky Bulletin. The Spring issue is as of now a hard copy, because it has the scholarship application forms and information on how to apply. It also includes the conference registration form and information. We also post this copy to our WNGEA web page.

The Fall issue is published electronically and posted to the WNGEA web page. This issue features the scholarship winners and Soldiers/Airmen of the year award winners. It also includes information from the State Conference and the National Conference.

If at any time you would like to submit an article or pictures from your unit, please feel free to send it to me and I will definitely publish it. Remember the Bucky Bulletin is your award-winning magazine.

Submit items to, daroofoa@outlook.com

This concludes my report.

Patti A. Winter-Schmidt, CMSgt, (Ret)

Publication Manager

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION

RETIREE COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

**Double Tree by Hilton Madison East, Madison, WI
25-27 April 2025**

The Retiree Activity Office (RAO) has been established to help Retired Guard members that have left the National Guard with 20 plus years of service, but are under the age of 60 which is called the Gray Area, to acquire their retirement, and learn about the other benefits of their full retirement. The RAO is also available to answer any question before, during, and after you are into your retirement. For more information go to WNGEA.ORG and look for the RAO link under Benefits

There are two RAO offices in Wisconsin:

Madison: Joint Force Headquarters Wisconsin, Retiree Activities Office
2400 Wright Street, Room 160, Madison, WI 53704
(608) 242-3115, or (800) 335-5147 ext. 3115
Office Hours: Tues & Thur from 0730-1130 hours.

Milwaukee: 128th ARW Headquarters, Retiree Activities Office
1835 E. Grange Ave, Building 512, Room 14, Milwaukee, WI 53207
(414) 944-8212
Office Hours: Tues & Wed from 1000-1400 hours.

The RAO mission is to act as an interface between the active duty and retired communities, keeping retirees and widows of retirees (all ranks and all services) informed on matters related to their military status, provide appropriate information and services as necessary including TRICARE, Military ID Cards, Survivor Benefits, Death Reporting and much more. The RAO also maintains a list of toll-free phone numbers, Web sites and e-mail addresses for additional information.

You can check out on the Retiree Website for the services available:

<http://dma.wi.gov/DMA/support/rao>

Support organizations and associations
Military online news
RAO newsletters with important issues.
Retiree and survivor resources.
Travel and lodging
Health issues (Tricare, Medicare, VA)

Gary R. Hans, Sergeant Major, Retired
WNGEA Retiree Liaison

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION
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LEADER OF PRAYER REPORT

**Double Tree by Hilton Madison East, Madison, WI
25-27 April 2025**

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

MAUM, Roland L.	1SG	WI ARNG	04 FEB 2024
MOSER, Bonnie K.	SGM	WI ARNG	02 JUN 2024
X- REPPEN, David N.	1SG	WI ARNG	21 JUN 2024
MEISTER, Donald C.	CSM	WI ARNG	03 NOV 2024
X-WEST, Ronnie L.	MSG	1158 TRANS	09 OCT 2024
X-ELLISON, Neil S.	SSG	WI ARNG	28 DEC 2024

AIR NATIONAL GUARD

X-HAMMANN, Arthur F.	MSgt	WI ANG	25 APR 2024
X-TEGGE, Fredrick M.	TSgt	128 ARW	20 NOV 2024
X-CUFF, David T.	SMSgt	128 ARW	14 NOV 2024
X-EISCH, William	CMSgt	128 ACS	04 NOV 2024
X-SEELY, Ronald M.	SMSgt	WI ARNG	11 DEC 2024
X-O'DELL, Thomas C.	SMSgt	128 CES	24 DEC 2024

Legend:

X - Not a WNGEA member; ★ - Not reported on WNGEA Leader of Prayer Report;
X - Not reported on EANGUS Memorial Book Report

Stephen E Berry
STEPHEN E. BERRY, SSG (Ret), Leader of Prayer
6920 Sunset Avenue, Lino Lakes, MN 55014
715-579-7734

ssgberry1842@gmail.com

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION

AWARDS REPORT

The Double Tree by Hilton, Madison East, Madison, WI

25-27 April 2025

2025 Air Guard Award Recipients

2025 AIRMAN OF THE YEAR

SSgt Nicholas Cihler
128th MXS - Maintenance Squadron

2025 NCO OF THE YEAR

SSgt Kacie Emhoff
115th LRS - Logistics Readiness Squadron

2025 SENIOR NCO OF THE YEAR

MSgt Gregory Dewing
115th OSS - Operational Support Squadron

2025 FIRST SERGEANT OF THE YEAR

MSgt Jaqueline Franck
FV CRTS – Volk Field Combat Readiness Squadron

2025 Army Guard Award Recipients

2025 SOLDIER OF THE YEAR

SPC Vincent A. Bird
32d MP Co – Military Police Company

2025 SOLDIER OF THE YEAR (Alternate)

PFC Ryan L. Nettesheim
Det 1, Co B 638th Aviation Support Battalion

2025 NCO OF THE YEAR

SSG Brandon M. Byrne
Co A, RRB – Recruiting and Retention Bn

2025 NCO OF THE YEAR (Alternate)

SGT Eli W. Koehler
WI Med Det - WI Medical Detachment

Awards Chair, WNGEA

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION
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Past President's

Year	Name
1972-1973	CSM David Ebert
1973-1974	SGM Jim Abrahamson
1974-1976	SFC Franklin Stoneburner
1976-1978	MSgt William Fitzpatrick
1978-1980	SGM Wayne Sedgwick
1980-1982	SGM Alan Seidl
1982-1984	CSM Donald Meister
1984-1986	SMSgt Donald Adams
1986-1988	SGM Neil Thome
1988-1990	CSM Donald Meister
1990-1992	SFC Deanna Luedtke
1992-1994	SGM William Krueck
1994-1996	MSgt Jeff Rohloff
1996-1998	CSM Lowell Koehler
1998-1999	SFC David Conis
1999-2000	MSG Mark Spitz
2000-2002	MSG Mark Spitz
2002-2004	SMSgt Robert Serrahn
2004-2006	SGM Gary Hans
2006-2008	CSM John Olson
2008-2010	SGM Bonnie Moser
2010-2012	MSgt Jim Cieslewicz
2012-2014	MSG Thomas Krueck
2014-2016	MSgt Nathan Nickel
2016-2021	SMSgt Bobbie Coker
2021-2023	TSgt Libby Schmiedlin

Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association (WNGEA) Executive Council			
NAME	LAST	COUNCIL POSITION	Membership
Sharon	Luebke	President	Life Member
Libby	Schmiedil	Past President	Life Member
Curtis	Leren	Vice President/Resolution Manager	Life Member
Gary	Hans	Executive Director/Treasurer/Insurance Liaison	Life Member
Rhonda	Martinson	Secretary	Annual Member
Roberta	Coker	State Conference Committee Co-Chair	Life Member
Patti	Winter-Schmidt	Publications Manager	Life Member
Jason	Walker	Education Selection Chair	Life Member
Jason	Walker	Co-Legislative Manager - State/National	Life Member
Stephen	Berry	Leader of Prayer	Life Member
Jay	Brody	Co-Legislative Manager - National/State	Annual Member
Casey	Filter	By-Laws Manager	Life Member
Kyle	Kenowski	Junior Enlisted Manager-Army	Life Member
Rich	Koceja	Junior Enlisted Manager-Air	Life Member
Alyssa	Meyers	Junior Enlisted Manager-Air	Life Member
Stephanie	Corson	Junior Enlisted Manager-Air	Life Member
Sharon	Luebke	Membership Marketing - Army/Facebook Admin	Life Member
Gary	Hans	Website Manager/APP Manager	Life Member
bary	Hilbert	Historian	Life Member
VACANT		Parliamentarian	
VACANT		Awards Manager	
EANGUS Area V Directors			
Stephanie	Gelbowitz	EANGUS Area V Director (Chair)	Iowa
Chuck	Votava	EANGUS Area V Director	North Dakota
Jamie	Mahan	EANGUS Area V Director	Illinois
As of: 16 April 2025			



WINGA/WNGEA



Spring 2 person Scramble Golf Outing

When: May 30th (Friday)

Time: 0915- Registration starts

0950- Call to carts

1000- Shot Gun Start

2025

Where: Prairie Pines Golf Course

3039 Happy Valley Road, Sun Prairie 53590

Event: 2-Person Scramble

Cost- \$90/person WINGA/WNGEA Members

Cost - \$100/person Non WINGA/WNGEA Members

-Includes 18 holes, cart, range balls, lunch on the course

WINGA VENMO:

@WINGA-WINGAAssn

WINGA WINGA Assn
@WINGA-WINGAAssn



venmo

Each Player can buy

Up to 4 Mulligans at \$5 each

Cash at the course or with registration



Driver Raffle: Ping G430 Max

1 ticket \$5 or 5 Tickets \$20



Register here:

<https://forms.osi.apps.mil/r/d/KmRVFMaca>

Or Scan the QR Code:

Or email:

jeremy.m.holmes.mil@army.mil

AFBA is always ready, always there for the National Guard



In 1947, the Armed Forces Benefit Association (AFBA) emerged from the basement of the Pentagon to solve a critical need in support of the military. More than 75 years later, our commitment to those who go in harm's way remains core to everything we do.

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The SSLI program provides:


- 24-hour coverage with no war or terrorism exclusions
- Fast claims payment (when certain criteria are met)
- Continued coverage after you retire or separate as long as contributions are paid

In addition, AFBA provides access to a host of member benefit services and offers for your entire family. Learn more about the program at **[afba.com/national guard](https://afba.com/nationalguard)** or contact your state association.



* AFBA is not affiliated with any government agency.

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Accounting

2025 WINGA/WNGEA Joint State Conference Evaluation Form
25-27 April 2025, The Double Tree by Hilton Madison East, Madison, WI

Check all that apply:

Served, didn't retire		Active		Spouse/ Guest		Officer		Warrant Officer		
PIP/ Corporate Sponsor		Retired		Paid Status (PD orders)		Enlisted		NCO		
Ease of Registration:	Select One (1=Poor, 5=Excellent)					1	2	3	4	5
Online Pre-registration						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Mailed Pre-registration						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Onsite Registration						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
QRC						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Conference App Registration						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Friday, 25 April										
F-35 Brief and Take-off Viewing (by invite only)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
WNGEA Annual Business Meeting (PD)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
NGAUS Conference 2025 Spouse Luncheon Meeting						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Ice Breaker Social: Food & Beverage						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Trade Show: Partners in Patriotism (PIP) / Corporate Sponsors						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
FREE Childcare (during Ice Breaker)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Hospitality Room (Entertainment: Karaoke)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Saturday, 26 April										
Continental Breakfast						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Officer & NCO Company Grade Caucus (PD)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Warrant Officer Caucus (PD)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Retiree Caucus						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Joint Opening Session/Awards Program (PD)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
WINGA Annual Business Meeting (PD)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
EANGUS/WNGEA 101 (PD)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Professional Development Luncheon						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Luncheon Speaker/Topic: Legislative Brief by EANGUS (PD)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Officer/Enlisted Breakouts (PD)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Spouse/Guest Connection Session (Speakers: Mrs. Tina Strub et. al.)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
WING State Military Leadership Panel (PD)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Spouse/Guest Event: Paint and Sip						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
FREE Childcare (dinner only)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Social & Dinner: Meal and Beverage						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Social & Dinner: Environment						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Social Entertainment: Elvis impersonator						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Dinner Entertainment: NGB Video and Army Band						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Hospitality Room (Entertainment: Neil Diamond impersonator)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Sunday, 27 April										
Continental Breakfast						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Morning Sessions: Army / Air Professional Development (PD)						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Dress Code										
Dress Code Notification, Education, and PowerPoint						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Dress Code Execution						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
The Double Tree by Hilton Madison East										
Hotel Rooms						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Meeting & Event Rooms						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Services						1	2	3	4	5 N/A
Facilities						1	2	3	4	5 N/A

Please Continue Survey on Other Side

Please Continue Survey on Other Side

Questions:**(Select One)**

YES	NO
Yes	No
Yes	No
Yes	No

Was this your first WINGA/WNGEA Conference?

Would you attend another WINGA/WNGEA conference?

If so, would you recommend your peers join you? Why/Why not?

Was there enough break time?

Was there enough time to network?

Did you have enough time to visit our PIP/Corporate Sponsors?

Was the conference a fair value for your money?

Was the dress code a deciding factor for whether you attended the conference?

Do you have kids (minor or dependant children)?

If you have kids, did you use the FREE on-site childcare Friday or Saturday?

N/A

If you have kids, would you use FREE on-site childcare if it were available again?

N/A

Yes	No
Yes	No
Yes	No
Yes	No
Yes	No
Yes	No
Yes	No
Yes	No

What did you like most about the conference?

What did you like least about the conference?

What topics and/or speakers would you like to see/hear at future conferences?

In this venue what is the ratio you'd like to see between WING or other military speakers and civilian speakers and why?

Rate how you best receive & respond to new information. (1=least to 4=best): Personal email____, Text____, Military email____, Social Media____.

Which, if any, social media platforms are you best able to receive and respond to?

Comments for WINGA /WNGEA (select one):

Comments for the Host Units - 115th FW & Volk ANG Base:

Thank you for completing the conference evaluation. Return it to the registration table or email to
michael.j.williams@winga.org or wngea@yahoo.com .