

Bucky's Bulletin

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION



presents

**2026 EANGUS NATIONAL CONFERENCE
IN DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA**



WNGEA DELEGATES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ATTENDEES

FALL 26

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ROSTER

Name	Last	Council Position	Membership	Status
Curtis	Leren	President	Life	*
Alexander	Kilbane	Vice President Army	Life	*
Stephanie	Corson	Vice President Air	Life	*
Sharon	Luebke	Past President / Junior Enlisted Manager - Army	Life	*
Casey	Filter	By-Laws Manager	Life	*
Gary	Hans	Executive Director / Treasurer / Insurance Liaison	Life	*
Rhonda	Martinson	Secretary	Life	*
Roberta	Coker	State Conference Committee Co-Chair	Life	*
Patti	Winter-Schmidt	Publications Manager	Life	*
Jason	Walker	Education Selection Chair	Life	*
Jason	Walker	Legislative Manager - State / National	Life	*
Nicholas	Kletzien	Resolutions Manager	Annual	*
Stephen	Berry	Leader of Prayer	Life	*
Rich	Koceja	Junior Enlisted Manager - Air	Life	*
Alyssa	Meyers	Junior Enlisted Manager - Air	Life	*
Stephanie	Corson	Junior Enlisted Manager - Air	Life	*
Sharon	Luebke	Membership Marketing - Army / Facebook Admin	Life	*
Gary	Hans	Website Manager / APP Manager	Life	*
Barry	Hilbert	Historian	Life	*
Alexander	Kilbane	Special Projects Manager	Life	*
VACANT		Parliamentarian		
VACANT		Awards Manager		
Area V Directors as of 16 September 2026				
Chuck	Votava	EANGUS Area V Director (Chair)	North Dakota	
Jason	Walker	EANGUS Area V Director	Wisconsin	
Stephanie	Gelbowitz	EANGUS Area V Director	Iowa	

*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 26

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, 2400 Wright Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53704. Material for Spring and Fall issues will be submitted by 15 January and 15 September respectively. Correspondence for other than Publications should be directed to: WNGEA, c/a 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 **\$1,000.00 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 **go to USAA.com** 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 39, Madison WI 53704**

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello, My name is Curtis Leren, and I am the new president of the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association (WNGEA). I have been a member of WNGEA for five years. I currently serve as the Base Facility Manager in an AGR position at the 128th Air Refueling Wing and have completed 27 years of service in the Wisconsin Air National Guard.

First, thank you for being a WNGEA member. Your membership strengthens our legislative efforts and adds credibility to our discussions with lawmakers. One of the questions legislators commonly ask is how many Army and Air National Guard members we support—and how many of them are WNGEA members.

Please know that your membership has made a meaningful difference. Over the past year, WNGEA and the Wisconsin National Guard Association (WINGA) visited legislators at the State Capitol to advocate for several important priorities. Through our face-to-face meetings, along with numerous calls to action from our members, we achieved significant successes.

I am proud to share that, beginning this tax year, all Wisconsin military pay for National Guard and Reserve members will be exempt from state income tax. This change puts more money in the pockets of those who volunteer to serve the state of Wisconsin. Other accomplishments include making the Veteran Identifier available on Wisconsin driver licenses for Wisconsin Guardsmen and reducing the Wisconsin GI Bill residency requirement from five years to three years.

During the next legislative session, two of our priorities will be establishing a Wisconsin veteran definition consistent with the federal definition and expanding the availability of the current property tax exemption. A standardized veteran definition would reduce confusion and help prevent unintended denials of benefits. We will also advocate for expanding the 100% property tax exemption currently available to individuals with a 100% VA disability rating to include veterans with disability ratings from 70% through 100%.

At the federal level, there is also continued momentum behind the Major Richard Star Act. If passed, this legislation would allow eligible combat-injured military retirees to receive their full military disability retirement pay and VA disability compensation without one benefit reducing the other. This would particularly benefit medically retired service members with fewer than 20 years of service. Our national association, EANGUS, supports this effort and is currently asking members to contact their federal legislators and respectfully urge them to support the bill.



Your membership is meaningful, and your engagement with your legislators is impactful. Thank you again for your continued support of Wisconsin veterans, National Guard service members, and their families.

Sincerely,
Curtis Leren
President Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association



WNGEA and WINGA Representatives with Governor Evers as he signed the state tax exempt bill.

LEADER OF PRAYER UPDATE

Greetings, fellow Wisconsin National Guard members!

I was not able to attend the EANGUS 2026 conference in Daytona Beach, but I continue to list deceased members in WNGEA's quarterly reports and in the EANGUS Memorial Book held in Washington, DC.

Continuing to serve you in prayer, I remain,
Stephen Berry
Leader of Prayer



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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT (October 2026)

I am providing a wrap up of major events that have taken place in the last year within the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association (WNGEA) and a list of upcoming important dates to remember. It has been a busy and eventful year for the Association.

The 2026 Wisconsin National Guard (WING) Conference:

The 2026 Officer and Enlisted Conference and Professional Development was held at the Central Wisconsin Convention and Expo Center in Rothschild, WI from 24-26 April 2026. We had 160 registered for the conference including members, spouses, guests and corporate sponsors. We had 140 banquet attendees on Saturday evening. We had 60 Officers and 39 Enlisted personnel with 59 Army Guard and 41 Air Guard. We also recognized 8 Airmen and Soldiers of the year.

2025 EANGUS Conference:

The 2026 EANGUS Conference was held on 30 July to 4 August 2026 at the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach, FL. We had 15 participants from WI including delegates, Senior Enlisted Leadership, spouses and Professional Development personnel. I want to thank all attendees for their participation in making the EANGUS Conference an enjoyable experience for all involved. Their participation in the various committee meetings, including, Resolutions, Junior Enlisted, By-Laws, Retiree Affairs and Scholarships to name a few, contributed to the overall success of the conference.

WNGEA 2026 EANGUS Delegates:

CSMgt Michael Alvarez, State Command Chief
SMSgt (Ret) Bobbie Coker
SGM (Ret) Gary Hans
CSM Aaron Johnson
SFC Alexander Kilbane
CSM Nicholas Kletzien
MSG Jeff Sebelko
CMSgt Jason Walker

Professional Development Attendees:

SSG Dylan Baird
TSgt Patrick Joyce
SSG Katie Marek
SSgt Donna Wilson

Attendees also met the Army National Guard Command Team, LTG Stubbs and CSM Kendrick and the Air National Guard Team, Maj Gen Efferson and CMSgt Moore. Speakers also included the ARNG Command Sergeant Major, CSM John Raines.

We also want to thank the WI State Senior Enlisted Leadership for their support in attending the 2026 EANGUS National Conference:

CMSgt Michael Alvarez, State Command Chief

CSM Aaron Johnson

CSM Nicholas Kletzien

We also want to thank CMSgt Jason Walker of the 115th Fighter Wing (FW) for continuing as a Director for EANGUS Area V and to SMSgt (Ret) Roberta Coker for serving as the EANGUS Scholarship Chair.

The 2026 Resolutions Committee forwarded 20 resolutions which eleven were passed by the General Session. Go to EANGUS.ORG and WNGEA.ORG for a complete description of each Resolution. These resolutions represent the hard work by many State Associations and individuals from across the country to address issues that affect Enlisted Soldiers and Airmen. **For a full report of the new FY27 Resolutions and FY26 Standing Resolutions go to: EANGUS.ORG - Legislative Resolutions**

Upcoming events for 2026/2027! Mark your Calendars.

- **WNGEA office has moved its new location at 1420 Wright Street, room 134.**
The WNGEA mailing address and telephone number have not changed.
- **2026 Sportsman's Challenge, North Bristol Sportsman Club - TBA**
- **2026 (4th Annual Veterans Shoot, 10 November 2026) Open to all Veterans.**
Sponsored by the Dane County Sheriff Department. **Dane County Law Enforcement Training Center**, 5184 State Highway 19, Waunakee, WI (8am to 1pm). You need to register to compete in the rifle competition at www.danesheriff.com. Free food and prizes are available to all veterans in attendance.
- **2027 WING Conference, Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI (23-25 April 2027)**
- **2027 Area V Caucus, Sioux City, SD**
- **2027 EANGUS Conference, Palm Springs, CA (August 1-5 2027)**
- **2028 WING Annual Conference, Ingelside Hotel, Pewaukee, WI (28-30 April)**
- **2028 Area V Caucus, IL**
- **2028 EANGUS Conference, Atlantic City, NJ**
- **2029 EANGUS Conference, Spokane, WA**

Until you take the time to attend EANGUS National Conference you will not fully understand the impact the National Association has on issues that affect you.

Download our App (WNGEA)

Go to the App Store and download our App (WNGEA) for current information at your fingertips. You will have access to the WNGEA.ORG website, current information on our Annual Wisconsin National Guard Conference and current issues of the EANGUS New Patriot and the Wisconsin Bucky Bulletin.

EANGUS Legislative Action Center:

Use this link to sign up for and receive notification of legislative issues and to contact your D.C. delegation and to support EANGUS legislative priorities. You can also *scroll down* the page to find other useful information such as EANGUS Legislation support letters and testimony, previous congressional issues EANGUS has addressed.

[Resolutions - EANGUS](#)

Please visit our websites at www.WNGEA.org and .

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.

“The Wisconsin National Guard Foundation, a 501(c)3 charitable foundation, is now offering opportunities for soldiers, airmen and family members to apply for grants and scholarships for 2026. Instructions and application forms are available at www.wingfoundation.org.

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

SRP Assistant Briefer

The Wisconsin National Guard Association, Inc. is accepting resumes from interested candidates to assist with briefing and selling the State Sponsored Life Insurance (SSLI) program to Wisconsin National Guard Soldiers and Airmen. Most briefings take place during Soldier Readiness Processing (SRP's) weekends conducted at Camp Williams. Work is part-time. Hourly wage is \$20.00 plus reimbursement for per diem expenses. Position remains open until filled. Send resumes to:

WING Insurance Trust
Attn: COL (Ret) Michael Williams
State Insurance Administrator
2400 Wright Street, Room 156
Madison, WI 53704

TREASURER'S REPORT

	Account	2025 Actual Budget as of: 31 Dec 2025	2026 Approved Budget 29-Oct-25	2026 Actual Budget As of 22 Sep 2026
Acct Code				
4010	WINGA Insurance Trust	\$47,000.00	\$44,000.00	\$26,000.00
4020	Membership Dues	\$5,501.13	\$6,000.00	\$5,562.27
4040	Ways & Means Sales	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
4050	Interest Income	\$14.72	\$50.00	\$0.00
4060	Misc Income	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$342.00
4070	USAA Education Grant	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
4075	State Conference Income	\$13,258.38	\$10,000.00	\$11,269.80
4080	Raffle Income	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
4085	Area V Caucus Income	\$1,416.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4090	Donations	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$660.00
	TOTAL INCOME	69,190.23	61,850.00	\$44,834.07
EXPENSES				
5020	Raffle Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6010	EANGUS Dues	\$3,224.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,367.00
6050	Membership Expense	\$472.59	\$2,200.00	\$1,675.00
6100	WNGEA Grants	\$3,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,000.00
6120	Awards	\$742.30	\$900.00	\$742.30
6200	Payroll Expense	\$11,192.40	\$9,600.00	\$5,392.20
6205	W.C. Insurance Expense	\$252.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
6210	Executive Director Expense	\$1,897.47	\$3,000.00	\$2,663.64
6300	Professional Fees	\$1,200.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,248.00
6350	Bank Service Charges	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
6400	Association Office	\$1,958.41	\$3,200.00	\$1,038.84
6500	Publications Expense	\$3,187.03	\$3,000.00	\$2,555.12
6600	Presidents Fund	\$1,829.87	\$3,000.00	\$803.17
6650	State Conference Expense	\$19,119.54	\$20,000.00	\$8,982.04
6670	Executive Council Mtg Exp	\$16.52	\$700.00	\$0.00
6700	National/Legislative Seminar	\$18,180.04	\$8,000.00	\$5,001.39
6790	Regional Educational Seminar	\$651.00	\$500.00	\$906.28
6850	Committee Expenses	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$3,938.62
6950	Taxes	\$25.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
6980	Permits, License, Fees	\$10.00	\$50.00	\$25.00
6999	Misc Expense	\$1,147.15	\$0.00	\$125.00
8010	Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total Expenses	\$68,105.32	\$61,700.00	\$40,463.60
Submitted By: Gary R. Hans, Treasurer,				

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

We are asking all of our membership to go into the WNGEA.ORG website and update their profile. Failure to follow these steps will lessen our ability to keep you informed of important Association information. If you have a military email addresses listed on WNGEA.ORG we are asking you to use a civilian email address. The Military address will strip out all attachments we may send you direct our email to SPAM. We also need everyone to verify their correct mailing address in the database. This can be accomplished by logging into WNGEA.ORG.

1. Type in your username or email address
2. Enter your password, or send for lost password
3. Upper right screen, click on Howdy, your name
4. Click on edit my profile
5. Go to Civilian Email and enter new email
6. Screen down and verify that your mailing address is correct

Please contact me if you are having issues logging into WNGEA.ORG or correcting your profile.

Gary R. Hans, Sergeant Major, USA, Retired
Executive Director, WNGEA
920-723-8098
WNGEA@yahoo.com

Area 5 Follow Up Information from 2026 National Conference

1. The EANGUS National Conference was held from 30 July through 4 August 2026 In Daytona Beach, Florida.
2. Area 5 re-elected Stephanie Gelbowitz as the At-Large Director. Chuck Votava was also re-elected Chair.
 - a. Committees:
 - i. Chuck Votava: NGRF, Credentials and Rules
 - ii. Jason Walker: Air Guard, Building
 - iii. Steph Gelbowitz: Finance
 - b. Next year (Odd years) the Army and Air Director positions will be up for re-election.
3. Area 5 voted to establish a new bank account headed by Terry Dell with several other members from other states to move the account and build online options for sending receiving money. Updates will be sent as tax ID number, account, and signers are established.
4. Conference reports can be found at the following link:
<https://eangus.org/conference-portal/documents/>
 - a. Highlights include:
 - i. Bylaws recommendations 2 and 3 passed on the floor.
 1. Bylaw proposal 2 adjusts the timeline for bylaws to be submitted from 90 days to 45 days prior to conference.
 2. Bylaw proposal 3 clarifies the role(s) of immediate past president to allow other past presidents to cover down in case the most immediate past president is unable. We ran into this situation last year when Bob Sweeny had to step down for health reasons.
 - ii. See link for resolutions passed in block.
 - iii. Nominations Results:
 1. Mireya Cruz(TX)-President
 2. Ashley Brodnax(AR)-Vice President
 3. Scot Baughman(PA)-Treasurer
 4. Christopher Rollins(WV)-Secretary
5. 2027 National Conference will be held in Palm Springs, CA from August 1st through the 4th (or 5th?). Bulk Registration can be purchased at <https://eangus.org/2027-registration/> . Be sure to read the updated refund policy (also on this site) before purchasing.
 - a. Future National Conferences:
 - i. 2028: Atlantic City, NJ
 - ii. 2029: Spokane, WA

Area 5 Follow Up Information from 2026 National Conference

- iii. 2030: Daytona Beach, FL
 - iv. 2031: Palm Springs, CA
6. Future Area 5 Caucus Info:
- a. 2027 will be hosted in Sioux City, Iowa. Timeline will be late May or late June. After the National Site Visit and avoiding Annual Training for as many as possible. Area Chair and Directors will work with POCs in Iowa to plan and push out info to the states.
 - b. 2028 will be hosted by Illinois. Similar timeline with more details to follow.
7. All EANGUS events can be found at the EANGUS calendar at <https://eangus.org/events/> . If you'd like to add them to your calendar and receive updates, scroll all the way down to the bottom and click on the "subscribe to calendar" button. This includes "in-person" events as well as virtual committee meetings, etc. If you have members who would like to attend committee meetings that are not a chair or co-chair of that committee, they are welcome to attend to find out more and stay informed.
8. EANGUS office in DC. The current lease for space in the National Guard Memorial Building, owned by NGAUS, expires in February of 2027. A motion was made, that passed unanimously on the floor, to "Empower the Executive Council to work with the Building Committee and Executive Director John Gipe to negotiate and sign a lease within commuting distance to Washington D.C. at, or below the current price plus 10% for office space". This will allow re-negotiation withing our current space, a new office space, or a work from home option.
9. Scholarship Committee. There were several scholarships given out but the most important information to pass on to the states is that they are being highly under-utilized. The University of Phoenix, for example, had offered 3 full ride scholarships and was only able to award 1 of them. The requirements to be eligible for the scholarships are not that significant and pose an amazing opportunity for members and family members of EANGUS to receive a life-changing scholarship. Please make note of this for when next year's scholarships are announced.
10. The Corporate Partner Committee rolled out a new program that has different levels of partners with different dollar amounts and benefits associated with each. Although this was originally approved by all members on the Corporate Advisory Panel (CAP), there were some questions and concerns from partners in attendance that hadn't previously been expressed (that's the nice way of saying that they agreed to it without reading it). The working group assigned to this project will work to make adjustments and revisit the new program to ensure we are working in the best interest of EANGUS and our partners.

EANGUS Conference
ARMY VP KILBANE DOING THE WISCONSIN INTRODUCTIONS



WNGEA ARMY VP KILBANE COINED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ATTENDEES



FISCAL YEAR 2027 LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS

Soldiers and Airmen of the Florida National Guard stand in formation during a ceremony celebrating America's 250th birthday at Saint Francis Barracks, St. Augustine, Florida, July 2, 2026. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. N.W. Huertas)

The appearance of U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) visual information does not imply or constitute DoD endorsement.

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A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Mireya Cruz
EANGUS President

It is my privilege to present the Fiscal Year 2027 EANGUS Legislative Resolutions Report, the collective voice of enlisted National Guard members from all 54 states, territories, and the District of Columbia.

This report is built the way our Association is built: from the ground up. Every Standing Resolution in these pages began as an idea raised by a Soldier, Airman, retiree, or family member in a state association. Each was sponsored by its state, refined through Area review, debated by the Committee on Resolutions, and adopted by the delegates at an Annual Conference; the newest ten earned their place this August at our 55th Annual Conference in Daytona Beach, Florida. When EANGUS speaks on Capitol Hill, we speak with the full weight of the enlisted force behind us.



Our Standing Resolutions call for what our members have earned: healthcare that reaches every Guardsman regardless of duty status, pay and benefits that keep faith with those who serve in two roles, a duty status system simple enough to be fair, full-time support careers worth keeping, dignity in retirement, and support for the families who serve alongside us. This year the delegates added ten new Standing Resolutions to that agenda, from protecting training and pay during government shutdowns to securing national cemetery burial eligibility for every honorably serving member of the National Guard.

To our members: this is your agenda, and I ask you to carry it into every armory, drill floor, and hometown conversation. To our corporate partners, adjutants general, and state leaders: thank you for standing with the enlisted force. And to the Members of Congress and staff who receive this report: these resolutions are offered as practical, member-driven solutions, and EANGUS stands ready to work with you on every one of them.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mireya Cruz'.

Mireya Cruz, SFC, USA

President

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States

ABOUT EANGUS

Founded in 1972, the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) is the only national professional association dedicated exclusively to enlisted members of the Army and Air National Guard.

Today, EANGUS provides a unified voice representing over 450,000 National Guard members, veterans, retirees and their families across all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia.

EANGUS is headquartered in Washington, D.C., and maintains a full-time professional staff to advocate before Congress, the Department of War and other federal agencies. Our mission is to promote, safeguard and improve the status, welfare and professionalism of enlisted National Guard members, veterans, retirees and their families through legislation, employment, education, emergency resources and partnerships.

Every year, the policies and priorities that EANGUS advances begin with grassroots resolutions submitted by our state associations and approved by delegates. These resolutions form the foundation of the annual Resolutions Report and shape our advocacy on Capitol Hill.

As the National Guard's role and scope in both international and domestic operations continues to grow, EANGUS remains committed to delivering actionable results and protecting the rights of those who stand ready at home and abroad.

Why We Matter

- ▶ Ensuring parity in pay, benefits and retirement for enlisted members
- ▶ Advocating for quality healthcare, family-support and education programs
- ▶ Championing modernization of equipment, force structure and training to keep the Guard ready
- ▶ Serving as a critical link between citizen-soldiers, citizen-airmen and national policy

Quick Facts

- ▶ Representing over 450,000 enlisted Guardsmen, retirees and families
- ▶ Founded in 1972
- ▶ 54 states, territories and DC, organized in 7 Areas
- ▶ Headquarters: 1 Massachusetts Ave NW, Suite 880, Washington, D.C. 20001
- ▶ Contact: (800) 234-3264 · eangus@eangus.org
- ▶ Website: www.eangus.org

THE EANGUS RESOLUTIONS PROCESS

The EANGUS Resolutions Process ensures that the legislative priorities of the Association are driven by the voices of enlisted members across all states and territories. Every policy position begins with a grassroots idea: an issue identified by National Guard Soldiers, Airmen, veterans, or retirees that affects readiness, benefits, or quality of life.

1

From Idea to Resolution

State associations transform member feedback into formal Resolution Proposals with a title, short description, business case, and recommendation, submitted through the EANGUS website after the annual Call for Resolutions opens in February.

2

Review & Refinement

Area Resolutions Representatives review each submission for clarity and consistency with the EANGUS mission before it is forwarded to the national Committee on Resolutions and evaluated with EANGUS Legislative Staff.

3

Adoption at Conference

During the Annual Conference, the Committee debates, amends for clarity, and votes on each proposal. Those recommended by majority vote go to the full delegate assembly for final adoption as Standing Resolutions.

4

A Living Agenda

Standing Resolutions remain active until fulfilled, replaced, or archived. Each year the Committee reviews older resolutions for continued relevance, keeping the agenda current and credible.

Once adopted, Standing Resolutions become the official legislative positions of EANGUS. The collection of active resolutions in this report forms the foundation of the Association's advocacy on Capitol Hill and among federal agencies, ensuring that every initiative reflects the needs and priorities of America's enlisted National Guard force.

Resolutions may be proposed only through a sponsoring State association. The full Resolutions SOP, submission instructions, and the searchable Standing Resolutions Database are available at eangus.org/resolutions.

NEW FOR FY27

At the 55th Annual Conference in Daytona Beach, Florida, the delegate body adopted ten new Standing Resolutions recommended by the Committee on Resolutions. Each entry below is marked

NEW FY27 where it appears in the category listings.

26-01 Include the National Guard Relief Foundation in 10 U.S.C.
Calls for recognition of the National Guard Relief Foundation as a military welfare society under Title 10, opening emergency relief to all Guard members.
SPONSORED BY WISCONSIN

26-03 Sustain Funding for National Guard Psychological Health Programs
Calls for sustained funding for National Guard psychological health programs to prevent delays in critical care.
SPONSORED BY NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

26-05 National Cemetery Burial Eligibility for National Guard Members and Dependents
Calls for national cemetery burial eligibility for all Guardsmen and eligible dependents, regardless of active-duty status.
SPONSORED BY NEW MEXICO

26-07 Duty Status Reform
Supports simplifying more than 30 Reserve Component duty statuses to improve equity, benefits, and administrative clarity.
SPONSORED BY WEST VIRGINIA

26-09 National Guard Full-Time Support Workforce Modernization
Supports NGB's initiative to modernize the Title 32 technician workforce into an AGR and Title 5 structure.
SPONSORED BY WEST VIRGINIA

26-02 MyCAA Eligibility for Spouses of Title 32 AGR Members
Seeks to extend MyCAA scholarship eligibility to spouses of National Guard members serving full-time on Title 32 AGR duty.
SPONSORED BY KENTUCKY

26-04 Accessible Substance Abuse Services for Traditional National Guardsmen
Seeks to expand access to substance abuse treatment for all National Guard members, regardless of duty status.
SPONSORED BY NEW MEXICO

26-06 Protecting National Guard Training and Pay During Government Shutdowns
Seeks to protect Guard pay, training, allowances, and retirement points during government shutdowns.
SPONSORED BY UTAH

26-08 Gym Membership Reimbursement for National Guard Members
Calls for a gym membership reimbursement benefit for National Guard members without access to military fitness facilities.
SPONSORED BY KENTUCKY

26-10 Standardized DD Form 214 Processing Timelines for National Guard Members
Urges NGB to create a standardized, time-bound policy for processing DD Forms 214.
SPONSORED BY NEW MEXICO

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION

AWARDS REPORT

**Central Wisconsin Convention and Expo Center, Rothschild, WI
24-26 April 2026**

2026 Air Guard Award Recipients

2026 AIRMAN OF THE YEAR

SrA Colin Bridwell
126th Combat Weather Flight

2026 NCO OF THE YEAR

TSgt Christina Mikulcik
115th Fighter Wing

2026 SENIOR NCO OF THE YEAR

SMSgt Kathy Patton
126th Combat Weather Flight

2026 FIRST SERGEANT OF THE YEAR

MSgt Melissa Meagher
128th Air Refueling Wing

2026 Army Guard Award Recipients

2026 SOLDIER OF THE YEAR

SPC Guillermo Alvarado
C-MED, 132d BSB

2026 SOLDIER OF THE YEAR (Alternate)

SPC Aidan Boettcher
HHB, 1-120th Field Artillery

2026 NCO OF THE YEAR

SSG Gregory Lewandowski
HHB, 1-120th Field Artillery

2026 NCO OF THE YEAR (Alternate)

SSG Weston Peplinski
B Battery, 1-120th Field Artillery

Awards Chair, WNGEA

WNGEA 2026 Scholarship Recipients

The Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association (WNGEA) is proud to recognize and congratulate the recipients of the 2026 WNGEA scholarships. These scholarships reflect WNGEA's continued commitment to supporting the educational goals and future success of the of Wisconsin National Guard members and their dependents.

This year, two outstanding students were selected to receive scholarship awards.

Alejandro Munoz Jr. was selected as the recipient of the USAA \$1,000 Grant. Alejandro will be attending Marquette University, where he will continue his education and pursue his academic and professional goals. Alejandro is the dependent of Retired SMSgt Alejandro Munoz Sr., formerly of the 128th Civil Engineering Squadron.

Saffron Walker was selected as the recipient of the \$1,000 Raymond A. Matera Scholarship Grant. Saffron will be attending UW–Stout Polytechnic, continuing her education as she prepares for her future career. Saffron is the dependent of CMSgt Jason Walker of the 115th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Scholarship check presentations were conducted at both Wisconsin Air National Guard wings. At the 128th Air Refueling Wing, the presentation was conducted with CCM Nikki Synowicz, Senior Enlisted Leader. At the 115th Fighter Wing, the presentation was conducted with CCM Maria Chew, Senior Enlisted Leader. These presentations provided an opportunity to recognize the recipients and celebrate their accomplishments alongside the Wisconsin National Guard community.

WNGEA extends its sincere congratulations to Alejandro and Saffron and wishes them continued success as they begin the next chapter of their educational journeys. We are excited to support their growth and know that they will continue to make a positive impact and prosper as citizens.

The WNGEA remains committed to investing in the future of Wisconsin National Guard families and is proud to play a part in helping deserving students pursue their educational dreams.

Chief Master Sergeant Jason Walker

WNGEA 2026 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Pictured Saffron Walker, Chief Master Sergeant Maria Chew (115 FW Command Chief), and Chief Master Sergeant Jason Walker (Father of Saffron)



SMSgt (ret.) Alejandro Munoz Sr., Chief Master Sergeant Nicole Synowicz (128 ARW Command Chief), Recipient Alejandro Munoz Jr., Colonel Aaron Gulczynski (128 ARW Maintenance Group Commander)

Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association College Grant Program

The Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association has established a grant program. The following persons are eligible: WNGEA members, unmarried son or daughter of WNGEA members, spouse of WNGEA members, and unmarried son, daughter, or spouse of deceased WNGEA members. Applicants must be enrolled as a full time, part time (minimum 9 credits), graduate or undergraduate student at a college, university, trade or business school.

Up to four college grants will be offered in the amount of \$500.00 each for the current school year of application for students taking at least 9 credits. One grant will be reserved for graduate students. In addition, we will have one yearly grant in the amount of \$1,000.00. That scholarship will be called the "RAYMOND A. MATERA SCHOLARSHIP" and will be awarded to the individual selected as the top applicant for the year. This award was established by our Executive Council in honor of MG Raymond A. Matera, the former Adjutant General for Wisconsin. Also, a \$1000.00 yearly grant will be awarded from funds donated by USAA.

There shall be no consideration whatsoever given because of friendship, rank or grade of applicant, applicant's parents or applicant's spouse. Neither shall the applicant's geographical place of residence in the state be considered. The grants will be awarded on the basis of need, leadership, and good moral character.

APPLICATION PACKETS WILL HAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. WNGEA College Grant Program application form.
2. Copy of latest school or college transcript. If applicant has been out of school for more than one semester, copy of most recent educational transcript **MUST** be included.
3. A cover letter from the applicant with outlining facts as to:
 - a. His/her desire to continue their education
 - b. Why financial assistance is needed.
 - c. Awards received, accomplishments, and volunteerism.
 - d. Organizational membership and role in organization.
4. A signed letter of recommendation from one of the following (minimum):
 - a. An academic reference from Principal, Dean or Counselor.
 - b. A personal reference and recommendation from minister, community leader, etc., giving general personal traits.
 - c. If applicant is a National Guard member, a letter from their First Sergeant or Commander outlining contributions to the unit.
6. Proof of acceptance to the applicant's school or educational program.
7. Your WNGEA/EANGUS membership will be validated against the current master list from the EANGUS/WNGEA membership database.

A scholarship recipient may not reapply for two years after receipt of a grant. Those persons who applied and were not selected are encouraged to reapply.

If an awardee does not complete the school term for which the grant was awarded due to any cause other than sickness or physical injury, he/she will refund the award to the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association within 60 days of the date enrollment was terminated.

If a new enlistee is unable to complete his/her contract for any cause other than sickness or physical injury he/she will refund the award to WNGEA within 60 days of the date enrollment was terminated.

Applications must be RECEIVED by the Chair no later than 01 June. No other application forms will be accepted other than the current year's application. The deadline for applications will be observed in all instances. In the event of a full Mobilization, the grant program will be suspended and all money placed in a trust fund until such time as the WNGEA shall once again become active.

The college grant/education committee of the WNGEA shall be made up as follows:

1. Chairman - This person will be appointed by the president of the WNGEA.
2. The remainder of the committee shall be made up of a combination of Air National Guard, Army National Guard members and/or professional educators.

The president of the WNGEA shall be a permanent associate member of the committee but will have no vote and will serve in an advisory capacity only.

**MAIL TO: WNGEA Executive Director
ATTN: Scholarship Chair
2400 Wright Street, Dist Box 39
Madison, WI 53704**

Revised 27 October 2024

**Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association
Educational Grant Application
Must be received no later than 01 June**

1. Name of Applicant _____
(LAST) (FIRST) (MI)

2. Your Full Street Address _____

2a. Your location: _____
CITY ST ZIP+ (AREA CODE) HOME PHONE

2b. Primary Email address: _____

3. Birth Date _____ Marital Status _____

4. Enlisted Association Membership: ☐ I am a member ☐ I am sponsored by my parent/spouse who is a member (check one)

5. Expiration date of current WNGEA membership _____ who's membership: (Yours) ☐ (Sponsor's) ☐
(DATE)

6. Your: Military Rank, Unit name. Or, your sponsor's Name, Rank, Unit name, Home Address, and Phone No: _____

7. Expiration term of military enlistment: (member) / (sponsor) _____

8. Current status of applicant: (check one) ☐ High School, must be scheduled to begin college this fall. ☐ College
☐ Business/Trade School ☐ Working. ☐ Graduate School. If in high school or college, name and address of school and grade/ term.

Will be attending: ☐ Full Time (12 or more credits) ☐ Part Time (6-11 credits) (check one) **Must be completed.**

9. Have you applied for or received any other educational assistance? ☐ yes ☐ no (include GI Bill & WI Tuition Assistance)
If so, specify type and amount _____ Awarded? _____

10. Do you live with your parents? YES ☐ NO ☐. Are you claimed by anyone as a dependent for taxes? YES ☐ NO ☐

11. If you are claimed as a dependent, give the number and ages of other children living at home with financial dependence on parents, including those in college: _____

12. Approximate family income: Under \$25,000 ☐ \$25,000-\$50,000 ☐ \$50,000-\$75,000 ☐ \$75,000-\$100,000 ☐
Over \$100,000 ☐

13. Are you employed? If so, type of employment and employer? _____

14. Other sources of income? _____

15. Name and address of school that you plan to attend: _____

CERTIFICATION

A. I HAVE ANSWERED THE ABOVE QUESTIONS TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.

B. If I receive a grant, and I fail to complete the school term for reason other than sickness or physical injury, I agree to return any grant monies received by me to the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association.

C. I further state that I have provided this information freely and voluntarily and hereby waive any objections to providing this information which might be made pursuant to the Privacy Act, 5USC, Section 552a. WNGEA has my permission to use the information given in considering and processing this application.

IMPORTANT

These items MUST be attached

1. Latest transcript
2. Cover Letter from application (need For assistance, etc.)
3. Letter(s) of recommendation
4. Proof of acceptance to school

Use this list as a checklist before you seal your Package for mailing.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ DATE _____ SIGNATURE OF SPONSOR IF APPLICANT IS A DEPENDENT _____

2026 EANGUS Scholarship Program



Scholarship opportunities for EANGUS Members and their dependents

\$2000 and \$1000 cash scholarships!

&

One \$10,000 Scholarship from AFBA

Payable to school attending



**Command Sergeant Major
Advisory Council Scholarship**

Full Tuition Scholarships!

Columbia Southern University

Grand Canyon University

American Military University

University of Phoenix



**GRAND CANYON
UNIVERSITY**



Go to <https://eangus.org/scholarship-information/>
for scholarship details, deadlines, and how to apply or
email the Scholarship Committee at scholarship@eangus.org

Scholarship Chair Bobbie Coker
Scholarship Vice-Chairs Nancy Waller

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD WE CARE FOR AMERICA FOUNDATION (WCFA)

With thousands of National Guard members and their families facing financial hardships as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing economic challenges, the United States Automobile Association (USAA) and the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) We Care for America Foundation are teaming up to help National Guard members and families in need.

The We Care for America Foundation is dedicated to providing emergency financial assistance to the men and women of the National Guard and their families. Each day, across the 54 States and territories, our National Guard members are working hard to support their communities and protect our Nation and we want to be there when they are affected by a catastrophic personal hardship, a declared national disaster, or a nationwide pandemic.

The EANGUS We Care for America Foundation is fully engaged and working to help our National Guard members and families.

Thanks to the generous donations we received from corporations and individuals over the past few years, we now have an emergency relief program that fully supports National Guard members through Grants and Interest-Free Loans. We have re-branded the outward facing name of the foundation as the **National Guard Relief Foundation** and have consolidated our programs so that they are as simple as possible for our Guard families to navigate and apply for assistance.

For more information, assistance or to donate go to:
[We Care For America | Foundation \(eangus-wcfa.org\)](https://eangus-wcfa.org)

Eligibility

Currently Serving members of the National Guard

Retired members of the National Guard (includes grey area retirees)

Prior members of the National Guard who received an honorable discharge

Surviving spouses who have not remarried of Soldiers who died while serving in the National Guard or died after reaching retirement eligibility



State Sponsored **Life Insurance Program (SSLI)**

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 #162, 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 Armed Forces Benefits Association (AFBA), 909 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.
Policy #: MAT POL Ed. WINGABROR0119. 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”

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)

MEMBERSHIP DUES - Suggest to join or renew online at WWW.WNGEA.ORG

E-1 to E-9 ONE YEAR - \$25.00 []

ASSOCIATE ONE YEAR - \$25.00 []

LIFE MEMBERSHIP - \$220.00 []

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.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WNGEA

Total Received: \$ _____

Check # _____ Processed by: _____

Note: _____

**Do not write in this area.
Suggest to photo copy before mailing.**

*****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.

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States will provide a Life Membership Card by mail.

Questions? Contact me

**Gary R Hans
Sergeant Major, Ret
Executive Director, WNGEA
Email: WNGEA@yahoo.com
Cell: 920-723-8098**

PAST PRESIDENTS

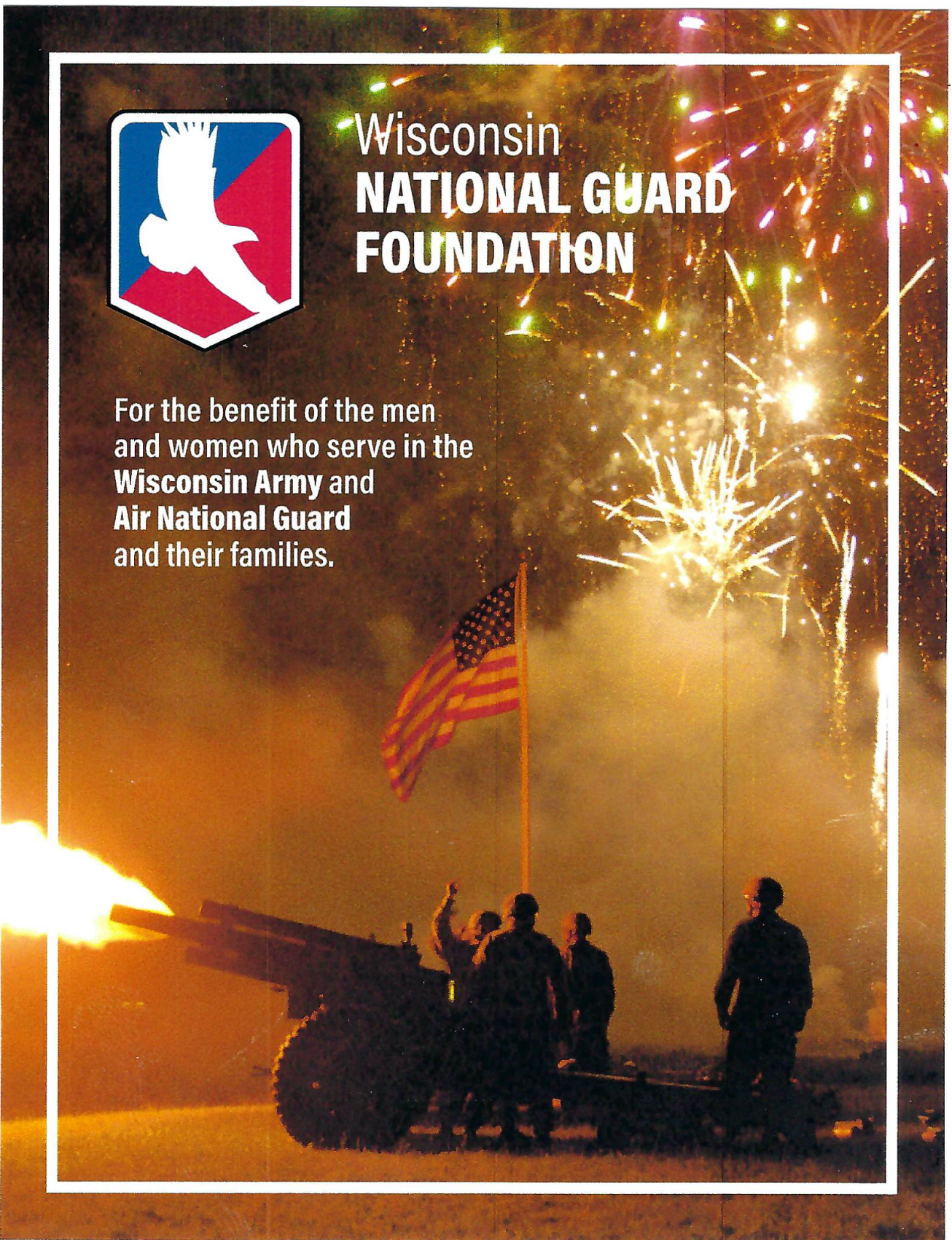
WNGEA President's & Years of Service	Name	Branch of Service
1972-1973	CSM David Ebert	Army
1973-1974	SGM Jim Abraham	Army
1974-1976	SFC Franklin Stoneburner	Army
1976-1978	MSgt William Fitzpatrick	Air
1978-1980	SGM Wayne Sedgwick	Army
1980-1982	SGM Alan Seidl	Army
1982-1984	CSM Donald Meister	Army
1984-1986	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	MSG Mark Spitz	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
2016-2021	SMSgt Bobbie Coker	Air
2021-2023	TSgt Libby Schmiedlin	Air
2024-2026	SSG Sharon Luebke	Army

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 FOUNDATION**

For the benefit of the men
and women who serve in the
**Wisconsin Army and
Air National Guard**
and their families.



**Wisconsin National Guard
Enlisted Association**

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Madison, WI 53704

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