WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION, INC.

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2025 Year In Review, WINGA, Inc.

This past year was successful on many fronts highlighted with WINGA achieving 108% membership in NGAUS for the 45th consecutive year. WINGA board officers for 2025 included: President, Col Jeannie Jeanetta; Air VP, Col Timothy Guy; Army VP, MAJ Justin Hofmann; Secretary, LTC Myron Davis (January-August), Acting Secretary, Maj Natalie Huschka, (LTC Myron Davis resigned in 2025), and Treasurer, Maj William Reece.

Sponsored Events and Activities

1. WINGA co-hosted the 74th Annual Joint State Conference with the Enlisted Association at the DoubleTree Hotel in Madison. The 115th Fighter Wing hosted the conference on 25-27 April which was attended by 213 WI National Guard members, veterans, retirees, and spouses, and 24 corporate sponsors.

2. The Wisconsin National Guard Association hosted the 147th NGAUS Conference in Milwaukee. The Wisconsin delegation consisted of 204 guard members, retirees, and spouses. Our block of rooms and hospitality suite were at the Hilton Hotel.

3. 2d Lt Christopher Welter (115th FW) and 2LT Alexis Mercado (1158th Trans Co.) attended the two Capital Summits hosted by NGAUS in Washington DC.

4. The National Guard Executive Directors Association (NGEDA) Annual Meeting was in Milwaukee, WI on 27-30 January and attended by Jeannie Jeanetta, Brooke Schultz, Dan Statz, and Mike Williams.

5. The WINGA sponsored the Shooting Challenge at North Bristol Sportsman's Club on 19 September; 39 officers, enlisted and their guests participated. $1,860 was raised for Wisconsin National Guard Scholarship funds.

6. WINGA sponsored the WINGA golf outing, which was held at the Sun Prairie Golf Club on 30 May; 58 golfers participated. This event raised $572.

7. Capt Jacob Curtis attended the NGAUS Legislative Workshop on 11-12 February.

8. Twelve (12) Company Grade Officers (8 Army, 4 Air) attended the NGAUS Conference in Milwaukee on a WINGA scholarship. Recipients included: 2LT JohnPaul Gaston (2-127 Inf), CW3 LeRoy Fox (107 Maint Co), CPT Dusty McCormick (54 CST), Capt Kainoa Chun-Moy (115FW), CPT Kolt Knutson (157MEB), WO1 Erin Mendez (RRB), 1LT Morgan Schwittay (RRB), WO1 Betsy TaylorHart (64 Trp Cmd), CPT Jennifer Vanden Bosch (WI Med Det), 2nd Lt Timothy Kaminski (115FW), Capt Greg Greenwood (Volk Field ANG Base), and Capt Luke Cofax (128ARW).

Funding Support

1. WINGA awarded $1,500 in MSC/Wing Grants to the 128th Air Refueling Wing ($500), the 115th Fighter Wing ($500), and to JFHQ Det ($500).

2. WINGA received six (6) scholarship applications and the Awards Committee, Chaired by COL (Ret) AJ Feucht, recommended all six applicants receive $1,000 scholarships. The recipients were Sydney Van Roo (member Col Bart Van Roo), Aiden Dunlap (member LTC Michael Dunlap), McKenzie Holmes (member COL Jeremy Holmes), Erik Mikkelson (member CW4 Leif Mikkelson), Leah Newmann (member LTC Cory Newmann), and Brielle Laube (member LTC Mike Laube).

3. The WINGA board of directors approved two additional advances of $150,000 to the NGAUS 2025 Planning Committee bringing the total grant to $240,000.

4. The WINGA Insurance Trust received our 2025 Experience Refund in the amount of $122,168.72.

5. WINGA received $13,000 in financial and product donations from 11 corporate sponsors at NGAUS 2025.

Awards, Gifts and Recognition

1. WINGA Company Grade Officers of the Year were:
    - CPT Kelton Heinemann, Det 1, Co C, 2nd Bn, 104th Aviation
    - 1st Lt Rachel Jones, 128th Air Refueling Wing
    - CW3 Cynthia Betts, JFHQ

2. Presented the WINGA Distinguished Service Award to Col Dan Statz, 115th Fighter Wing, Past President of WINGA.

3. WINGA sponsored awardee plaques for the Army Hall of Honor and the Air Hall of Fame in the amount of $962.69.

4. NGAUS individual award recipients:
   - Senator Tammy Baldwin, Harry S. Truman Award
   - 1st Lt Rachel Jones, Theodore Roosevelt Leadership Award (Air)
   - CPT Kelton Heinemann, Theodore Roosevelt Leadership Award (Army)
   - CW3 Cythia Betts, Eagle Rising Award for Warrant Officers

5. WINGA President, Col Jeannie Jeanetta, reappointed MAJ Justin Hofmann as Co-Chair of the WINGA/WNGEA Joint State Conference Committee.

6. MG Paul Rogers, MI TAG & NGAUS Chairman, Dave Davlin, and CSM (Ret) Bob Sweeney, Executive Director of EANGUS received special gifts from WINGA/WNGEA for being our keynote speakers at our state conference.

7. COL (Ret) Leah Moore was the winner of a 9mm pistol that was raffled off at the NGAUS Conference compliments of the Top Pack Defense Company in Sun Prairie.

Membership/Program Initiatives

1. New Directors appointed to the WINGA Board of Directors are: 1LT Zachary Kielar (32nd IBCT), WO1 Betsy TaylorHart (64th Troop Command), MAJ Angelea Campione (32nd IBCT), 2Lt Timothy Kaminski (115th FW), and CPT Darryl Carlson (426th RTI).

2. WINGA achieved 108% membership in NGAUS. This accomplishment represents 45 consecutive years of +100% membership in NGAUS, which is more consecutive years than any other state.

3. WINGA again offered a NGAUS Life Membership Incentive Program providing 50% or $500 grant to Company Grade Officers and a 25% or $250 grant to Field Grade Officers. 23 officers took advantage of this program in 2025; 14 of them were CGOs and 9 were FGOs. The breakdown of those 23 officers was 18 ARNG (5 were WO's – 1 FGO and 4 CGO) and 5 ANG.

4. WINGA received $82 from NGAUS for the 5% "Early Bird Rebate"; unfortunately, no units achieved 100% membership by 31 March.

5. WINGA received two 25% rebates from NGAUS for membership year 2025 totaling $3,860 which will be used to fund the 2026 NGAUS Life Membership Incentive Program (see #3 for 2025 incentive information).

6. WINGA sponsored its fifth annual "45 or Bust" program where five WINGA members received a complimentary NGAUS/WINGA Life Membership by random drawing. The life membership recipients were CPT Johnathon Gause (173BEB), MAJ James Grunewald (WI Med Det), Capt Luke Cofax (128ARW), LtCol James Sullivan (128ARW), and CW2 Dan Clay (32IBCT).

~~7.~~ Individuals who sponsored full or ½ Digital Life Memberships: Col Jeannie Jeanetta (2LT Miriam Zarling, WO1 Erin Mendez, CPT Danielle Lavrenz), CW5 (Ret) Troy Bittner (WO1 Elizabeth TaylorHart), COL (Ret) Mike Williams (MAJ Ben Lardie), MAJ (Ret) Lynn Rasmussen (LTC Seth Kaste, CPT Cole Cobb, CW5 Jason Tobias), and Anonymous (1LT Zachary Kielar).

~~8.~~ The 115th Fighter Wing hosted the 2025 Joint State Conference. They donated the proceeds they raised from the Friday Night 50/50 Raffle to WINGA and WNGEA to sponsor life memberships. We randomly selected a CGO who paid annual dues to receive NGAUS & WINGA life membership. The winner was 1LT Jason Brasch (132BSB).

9. The WINGA Board of Directors approved funding to continue the NGAUS Life Membership Incentive Program in 2026.

10. Future state conference locations include the 2026 conference at the Central Wisconsin Expo Center in Rothchild, the 2027 conference at the Chula Vista Resort in WI Dells, and the 2028 conference at the Ingleside Resort in Pewaukee.

11. WINGA staff participated in all the Soldier Readiness Processing (SRP) events at Camp Williams resulting in 2,352 actions for the State Sponsored Life Insurance (SSLI) program.

12 January 2026