May 2020

Wisconsin National Guard Association, Inc.

Engaged Today, Securing Tomorrow

Your Communicator

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

I hope this issue of *The Communicator* finds you safe and healthy. These past couple of months has been trying and has caused multiple disruptions to our way of life.

I am sad to report that both the WINGA and NGAUS conferences have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, this also includes our annual business meeting. However, there is still association business that requires our attention. If you could, please take some time to visit the WINGA website and review the NGAUS resolutions, 2019 annual WINGA business meeting minutes, and other pertinent reports. We have some important WINGA business regarding our association election. **This year we must conduct elections electronically, so please review the instructions on page four of this newsletter.**

I am very saddened that the 2020 NGAUS General Conference in Boston was cancelled. NGAUS is always a great professional development experience, the opportunity to hear from national leaders and view the latest industry inventions for the warfighter. It will be even more disheartening to miss the time to catch-up with friends and colleagues throughout the Guard Nation. At this time, NGAUS is working on developing various COA's to possibly host a virtual event.

Even in these challenging times, I am as excited as ever about the future of our association and look forward to working with you to strengthen WINGA for future generations. I ask each of you to find ways you can engage, not only to make WINGA a stronger organization, but furthering the profession of arms.

I look forward to a brighter future following these dark times.

President Eric Leckel

Congrats to Officers of the Year:

- CW2 William Ryan, WIARNG Warrant Officer of the Year
- CPT Craig Destree, WIARNG Company Grade Officer of the Year
- CPT Thomas Fry, WI ANG Company Grade Officer of the Year

WINGA CONF CANCELLED

The 2020 WINGA/ WNGEA State Conference has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak. Unfortunately, this includes cancelling the WINGA Annual Business meeting. **Please go to page 4 for details on election of officers, resolutions, etc.**

NGAUS CONF CANCELLED

The 2020 NGAUS Conference in Boston has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak. Instead, a virtual meeting will be held. Please go to page 2 for more details.

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Officers

President –COL Eric Leckel

Army VP – CPT Alicia Dorsett

Air VP – LtCol Dan Statz

Secretary – LTC Myron Davis

Treasurer – LTC D J Klauser

Executive Director – COL (R) Michael Williams

Board of Directors

HQ JF ARMY – LTC Doug Kolb & MAJ Brian Russell

64th TC – LTC Jeremy Holmes & VACANT

32nd IBCT – LTC Brion Aderman, MAJ Bill Barthen & CPT Lonnie Roy

157th MEB – LTC Brendon Manglos & CPT Nicholas Rinaldi

128th ARW – Capt David Lake

115th FW – Capt Natalie Huschka

Volk Field ANGB – 2LT Adam Lichtenberg

Company Grade Officers – (Air) – VACANT (Army) CPT Emily Yttri

Warrant Officer – CW2 Joseph Rasmussen

Retired Officers – Col (R) Mike Hinman, COL (R) Kristine Schultz & CW4 (R) Tricia Gundlach

TAPS

If you are aware of the passing of a member, please notify us.

Brig Gen (Ret) Russell Witt

Maj Gen (Ret) Al Wilkening
Maj Gen Wilkening served as Wisconsin's Adjutant General from 2002-2007.

Your Communicator Electronic vs Printed Copy?

Would you like to reduce paper clutter **and** save WINGA money? If you prefer to receive *Your Communicator* via email — or if you do not to want to receive a printed copy — please notify us at lrasmussen@winga.org

Calendar

STATE

WINGA & WNGEA State Conf
TBD
23-25 April 2021

NATIONAL

NGAUS Annual Conf

142rd: 28-31 Aug 2020
Boston, MA –
CANCELLED

143rd: 9-12 Sep 2021
Charlotte, NC

144th: 26-29 Aug 2022
Columbus, OH

145th: 18-21 Aug 2023
Reno, NV

CANCELLED

NGAUS 2020, BOSTON

Due to concerns over the health and safety of attendees and participants, the NGAUS board of directors elected to cancel the 142nd General Conference & Exhibition which had been scheduled for 28 Aug—1 Sep in Boston.

In its place, the association will conduct an abbreviated virtual conference from Washington DC. This will enable NGAUS members nationwide to convene to conduct important business and hear from defense leaders. Complete details for the digital conference will be provided by 1 June.

The NGAUS business meeting and reports will be held on Friday 28 August. Guest speakers will be featured on Saturday 29 August. NGAUS will also prepare a video of the roll call of states.

NGAUS will roll out their conference app so that members will have access to schedule details.

Please go to the NGAUS website www.ngaus.org for additional details.

CORPORATE SPONSORS FOR WINGA 2020 CONFERENCE

We would like to thank these corporate sponsors for their support of the 2020 WINGA Conference. Because the 2020 State Conference was cancelled, their contributions will be applied towards the 2021 WINGA Conference.

Armed Forces Benefits Association (AFBA)
Blue Cross / Blue Shield
Mead & Hunt
Humana Military
Mack Defense
USAA

PROMOTED OFFICER DONATIONS FOR WINGA 2020 CONFERENCE

A big THANK YOU to the following officers who were promoted in 2019 and who contributed to the 2020 WINGA Conference. Their contributions will be applied towards the 2021 WINGA Conference.

COL Kathy Adamson
Maj Eric Dunford
LtCol Jennifer Friehe
CW3 Mark Nohr
CW4 Anne Schoenemann
COL Scott Bush
COL Mike Hanson
MAJ Jeremiah Hellenbrand
LTC Jeremy O'Leary
Maj Matthew Wunderlin

Calendar Alert—WINGA Sporting Challenge

The WINGA Sporting Challenge will be held on Friday, 18 September at the Bristol Shooting Range.

Please go to the WINGA website www.winga.org for additional details.

Calendar Alert—WINGA Golf Outing

The WINGA Golf outing Committee is still locking in details..
Please go to the WINGA website www.winga.org or additional details.

RETIREE INFORMATION

Websites & Links:
WI Retiree website: http://dma.wi.gov/retirees
To sign up for email notifications:
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDMA/subscriber/new?category_id=WIDMA_C1
Army Echoes website: https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Retirement/army-echoes

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Awards, Gifts & Grants:
COL (R) Darrel Feucht – Chair
LTC Doug Kolb
Maj Jeremy Phillips
COL (R) Marty Seifer

By-Laws:
COL Michael Hanson – Co-Chair
LTC (R) Tammy Gross—Co-Chair
LtCol Christina Schmoker

Credentials:
Lt Col (R) Don Schuh—Chair
COL (R) Michael Williams
CW4 (R) Tom Gundlach

Finance:
LtCol Dan Statz – Chair
COL Eric Leckel
CPT Alicia Dorsett
LTC Myron Davis
LTC D J Klauser
COL (R) Michael Williams

Insurance:
COL (R) David Gault – Chair
COL (R) Michael Williams – SIA
BG Joni Mathews
LTC Douglas Moore
COL (R) Terry McArdle
SGM (R) Lowell Koehler
SGM Janice Finck
SGM John Juen
CMSgt (R) Gregory Cullen
LTC (R) Bob Strange

Legislative:
Col Erik Peterson – Co-Chair
MAJ Brian Faltinson—Co-Chair
Col Jon Kalberer
LtCol Ryan Gaffaney
CPT Alicia Dorsett

Nominations:
MAJ (R) Kevin Quist – Chair
COL (R) Ricky Kappus
Lt Col (R) George Bacik

Communications:
LTC Sarah Frater – Chair
CPT Emily Yttri
CPT Alicia Dorsett

Resolutions:
Joint: LtCol Jeannie Jeanetta
Army: LTC Myron Davis
Air: LtCol Dan Statz

Corporate Relations:
Col (R) Mike Hinman—Chair
MAJ Kathrine Berberich
LtCol Tom Mielcarek
Capt Luke Steffel
CPT Alicia Dorsett

Company Grade Advisory:
CPT Emily Yttri—Co-Chair
Vacant—Co-Chair
CPT Carl Olson, Capt David Cefalu,
Capt Cedar Hamilton, CPT Ben Krall,
CPT David Kranz, CPT Kimberly Roeloffs,
CPT Ben Gelhaus, 1LT Tim Vial,
CW2 Brianna Christensen

2020 WINGA/NGAUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

1. Information on 2020 NGAUS and WINGA membership was distributed to the commands in November. Thereafter, commands will receive updates on the percentage paid.
2. It is easy to pay your membership dues:
- Call our office (608-206-7006) & provide credit card information.
- Mail a check to the WINGA office; make checks payable to "WINGA".
- Pay online on the WINGA website www.winga.org ; click on the Join or Renew button and follow the prompts to create an account or sign into an existing account. Please do not use a government computer.

3. NGAUS Life membership is $1,000; WINGA Life is $80. **WINGA offers an incentive program whereby company grade officers will receive a $500 incentive and field grade officers will receive a $250 incentive toward the payment of NGAUS life dues. That would make NGAUS & WINGA life membership for company grade officers $580 and field grade officers $830. This incentive program will be on a first-come, first served basis. You must also become a WINGA life member in order to take advantage of this offer. If you are interested, please contact us at 608-206-7006.**
4. Active Life Memberships continue to count towards WINGA and NGAUS' 100% membership even after member retires.
5. Commands who achieve 100% membership by the Early Bird deadline will be eligible for the 5% Early Bird rebate. **The Early Bird Membership deadline is Monday, 27 April 2020. NGAUS extended this March deadline to April.**
6. The second deadline for membership dues will be 29 June 2020. Dues for membership year 2020 will continue to be collected through 28 September 2020.
7. Membership, participation, and the payment of dues in and for WINGA & NGAUS are a completely voluntary decision of each service member.

Pay Grade	NGAUS Dues	WINGA Dues	Total
O-1 thru O-3; W01 thru CW3	$40	$5	**$45**
O-4 thru O-6; CW4 & CW5	$80	$10	**$90**
O-7 & O-8	$130	$20	**$150**

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIIP

The Wisconsin National Guard Association (WINGA) and the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) are **your** professional associations. The success of these organizations is based on your membership, involvement and participation on association activities and volunteer support. Membership in professional organizations can enhance your personal and professional development and provide endless networking opportunities. Membership in WINGA/NGAUS displays a business initiative, engagement in the military and commitment to stay abreast of current developments in the National Guard. Benefits of association membership also includes:

- leadership roles within the associations
- newsletters and magazines
- professional development opportunities at conferences
- access to member-only benefits such as college scholarships

Networking opportunities and a chance to influence legislation which benefits the National Guard are two of the greatest benefits of association membership. However, to benefit from these initiatives, we encourage you to participate and be an active member of your associations. Paying your annual dues is not enough to reap the benefits of association membership. You must also make an investment of time and effort in association activities and become involved. Simply put, what you get out of association membership is directly relative to what you put in.

Attention All WINGA Members
Electronic Ballots

The 2020 WINGA/WNGEA State Conference has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 Virus outbreak. Unfortunately, this includes cancelling the WINGA Annual Business meeting. At our Annual Meeting, a number of key business items were to be discussed and voted on to include:

- Ballot for election of Association Officers
- Ballot for election of three Board positions
- Army, Air and Joint Resolutions to go forward to NGAUS
- 2019 Annual Business meeting minutes
- 2019 Committee Reports

Proposed 2020 NGAUS Resolutions, Business Meeting minutes and 2019 Committee Reports are posted at www.winga.org for your review and approval. The WINGA Executive Committee has determined that the following items need your immediate approval:

- Election of Officers (two-year term, 2020-2022). All positions are incumbents and uncontested
- Election of three Board positions
- 2019 Treasurer's Report (included in this Communicator issue)
- 2019 Annual meeting minutes (included in this Communicator issue)

The above three items are included in this Communicator issue for your review and approval. **Please email a "Yes" or "No" vote to info@winga.org no later than 1 June 2020.** Your email vote must contain your name and rank. Please use a non-military computer with a civilian email address. If you have write-in candidates for any positions, please state the person's name, rank and unit of assignment in your email.

2020-2022 WINGA Officer Ballot

President: COL Eric Leckel
Air Vice-President: Lt Col Daniel Statz
Army Vice- President: CPT Alicia Dorsett
Secretary: LTC Myron Davis
Treasurer: LTC DJ Klauser

Note: All WINGA members can vote for the five (5) above officer positions.

Board of Director Positions

Retiree (At Large): three-year term, 2020-2023. Position is currently held by CW4 (Ret) Tricia Gundlach who is the incumbent.
Air Company Grade Officer: fill unexpired term (until 2021) for this position. This will position will require a write-in nominee.
Army Company Grade Officer: three-year term, 2020-2023. Position is currently held by CPT Emily Yttri who is the incumbent.

Note: Only retirees vote for #1 above and only CGO's vote for #2 and #3 above.

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PLEASE NOTE: You must be a current WINGA member to vote. WINGA membership is defined as active life member, retired life member, or annual member whose dues have been paid for 2020. If you are not a current member and wish to become a member, please go to the WINGA website www.winga.org and click on "Join or Renew". If you prefer to call and pay over-the-phone, please call Lynn Rasmussen at 608-206-7006 or contact her via email at lrasmussen@winga.org .

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Michael Williams, *Executive Director*, michael.j.williams@winga.org
Lynn Rasmussen, *Administrative Assistant*, lrasmussen@winga.org

2019 TREASURER'S REPORT

Fellow WINGA Members:

Thank you for your trust in me to serve as your WINGA Treasurer in 2019. The fiscal condition of the Association continues to be sound. Attached you will find the WINGA "Profit and Loss Statement" for 2019.

The Association continues to support many programs and services which enhance and promote our members, their families and the Wisconsin National Guard. A few noteworthy activities in 2019 include:

- Awarded seven (10) $500 scholarships to dependents of WINGA members totaling $5,000.
- Recognized three (3) outstanding Company Grade Officers; CPT Cody Anderson, Lt Jenna Lenski and CW2 Lucas Marks.
- Contributed $1,500 to Northern Lightening Exercise.
- Awarded $500 in grants to MSC/Wings.
- Rebates of $999.75 to 100% NGAUS/WINGA membership units.
- Provided $173 in funding to support the Warrant Officer Summit.
- Provided $2,000 for the TAG Contingency Fund.
- Sponsored four (4) CGO's attending Professional Development at NGAUS Conference.
- Sponsored two (2) NGAUS awardees attendance at conference.
- Financially supported Incentive Life Membership Program for NGAUS for $14,250.
- Sponsored attendee to attend the NGAUS Legislative Days in DC.
- Sponsored awardee plaques for Army Guard HOF and Air Guard HOH for $1,447.
- Operational grants to WNGEA totaling $41,000.

For the 39th consecutive year, the Wisconsin National Guard Association achieved +100% membership in NGAUS. This is a proud tradition which gives Wisconsin #1 membership ranking amongst all of the other states and territories.

David J. W. Klauser
LTC, JA, WIARNG
Treasurer, WINGA, Inc.

WINGA PROFIT & LOSS			
January - December 2019			
Income		**Expense**	
4.00 Income Accounts		1.00 Personnel Services	$64,738.73
4.01 WINGA Officer Dues	$5,782.00	2.00 Contractual Services	
4.02 Financial Draws	$110,000.00	2.02 State Assn Expenses	$47,878.77
4.03 Corporate Contributions	$23,070.00	2.03 National Associations	$20,366.92
4.05 NGAUS	$3,631.52	2.04 Newsletter Printing & Mail	$4,580.35
4.06 Miscellaneous	$280.00	2.05 Printing	$1,018.00
4.07 Div & Interest on Accounts	$23,638.49	2.06 Tax Services	$2,100.00
4.09 WINGA Conf	$17,803.25	2.07 Banking Services	$9,960.13
Total 4.00 Income Accounts	**$184,205.26**	2.08 Insurance	$1,575.00
6.00 In/Out Revenue Account		2.10 TAG Contingency Fund	$2,000.00
6.01 WINGA Conf	$370.00	2.11 Awards & Grants	$8,619.53
6.03 NGAUS Conf	$17,800.95	2.12 Gas & Electric	$2,372.43
6.04 NGAUS Early Bird 5% Rebate	$999.10	2.13 Tax Liability	$10.00
6.06 NGAUS Officer Dues	$59,586.00	2.14 IT Software Support	$3,557.46
6.07 WNGEA	$22,000.00	2.15 Legislative Services	$224.95
Total 6.00 In/Out Revenue	**$100,756.05**	2.16 Contingency Fund	$275.00
		2.8 Corporate PIP Printing	$391.31
Total Income	**$284,961.31**	**Total 2.00 Contractual Services**	**$104,929.85**
Gross Profit	**$284,961.31**	3.00 Office Supplies & Materials	$4,176.29
		5.00 In/Out Expense Account	
		5.01 WINGA Conf	$185.00
		5.02 Financial Draw to WINGA	$95,000.00
		5.03 NGAUS Conf	$20,625.00
		5.04 NGAUS Early Bird 5% Rebate	$999.75
		5.05 Advance to Insurance Trust	$40,000.00
		5.06 NGAUS Dues	$59,924.00
		5.07 WNGEA	$32,000.00
		Total 5.00 In/Out Expense	**$248,733.75**
		Total Expense	**$422,578.62**
		Net Ordinary Income	**($137,617.31)**
		Net Income	**($137,617.31)**

WINGA CONFERENCE 2019 BUSINESS MEETING
27 April 2019, 1120 hrs
Radisson Hotel and Convention Center, Green Bay, WI

The WINGA 2019 Conference business meeting was called to order by President Leckel at 1120 hrs at the Radisson Hotel and Convention Center, Green Bay, WI.

The WINGA Business Meeting Script was followed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by LtCol Statz.

COL Leckel held a moment of silence to recognize those deceased members from the past year.

Mike Williams presented the report from the Credentials Committee.

Units that obtained 100% membership prior to 31 March 2019 were recognized and received a check representing their share of the 5% Early Bird Rebate from NGAUS. 100% units were HQ ANG, Volk Field CRTC 128 Air Control Squadron, RRC, 732d CSSB, 54st CST, WI Medical Detachment, and 173rd BEB.

Committee Reports, which are published in the Conference booklet, were presented to the Assn membership and were accepted.

Col Petersen presented the legislative report. Col Petersen stated that it was important for us to established relationships with our community leaders so they can bring our concerns to our elected officials. LtCol Statz thanked Col Petersen for his committee's efforts.

LTC Davis, Army Resolutions Chair, presented the following resolutions: WI-1, WI-2, WI-3, and WI-4, which all passed. The following resolutions from other states, KY-1, IL-1, IL-2, and IL-3 were passed for co-sponsorship. The Army resolutions were found on pages 26-28 in the conference booklet.

COL Leckel called for a recess for lunch at 1200. The business session reconvened at 1300.

LtCol Dan Statz, Resolutions Co-Chair, presented the following resolutions: Joint Resolutions WI-2, WI-3, WI-6, WI-8 passed; WI-5 was amended and passed; WI-4 and WI-7 did not pass; Air Resolutions WI-9 passed. The Air and Joint resolutions were found on pages 29-38 in the conference booklet.

New WINGA Directors were sworn in: MAJ Brian Russell (JFHQ), MAJ Robert Brania (JFHQ), and MAJ Jeremy Duffy (64th TC).

Current WINGA Directors were reappointed: LTC Mike Hanson (32 IBCT), and Capt David Biel (115th FW).

Outgoing WINGA Directors were recognized: LTC Doug Kolb (64th TC), MAJ Nick Braun (64th TC), and Capt Brad Kelly (Volk CRTC).

One Board member was elected at caucus meetings this morning – COL(R) Kristine Schultz was re-elected as the Retired Army Officer.

Old Business: None. New Business: None.

The 141st Annual NGAUS Conference will be held in Denver, CO, 30 August – 2 September 2019. Conference information and registration will be included in the next WINGA newsletter and will be available on the WINGA website.

128 ARW will be the host unit for the 70th annual WINGA conference in 2020. The event will be held in Brookfield, WI on 24-26 April, 2020.

The 2019 WINGA Conference Business Meeting was adjourned at 1330 hrs.

WINGA 2020 GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The deadline for WINGA Scholarship applications is fast approaching. Up to ten $1,000 undergraduate grants and two $500 graduate scholarships can be awarded. The WINGA website (www.winga.org) contains information on the WINGA Awards Program. One application form works for both the Educational Grants and the Presidential Scholarship Award.

Applications for these awards are due at the WINGA Office, 2400 Wright St, Room 151, Madison, WI 53704-2572, **not later than July 1, 2020**.

NGAUS SCHOLARSHIPS

AFBA NGAUS Active Life Member Scholarship. The NGAUS AFBA Active Life Member Scholarship awards two $5,000 scholarships every year to Active Life members of NGAUS or dependents of Active Life members seeking an undergraduate, graduate or post-graduate degrees. Applicants must be a full-time student. The application period closes **1 June 2020**. Go to the NGAUS website https://www.ngaus.org/membership/member-benefits/scholarships to apply.

Grantham Scholarship. NGAUS and Grantham University will award two full graduate scholarships. One scholarship is for an active NGAUS member and current Guardsman who is a commissioned or warrant officer ranked O5 and below. The second scholarship is for a spouse of an active member. Each scholarship is valued up to $14,200 and covers tuition costs, required textbooks, software and fees. Scholarship value depends on degree selected and credits transferred. The application period closes **3 August 2020.** Go to the NGAUS website https://www.ngaus.org/membership/member-benefits/scholarships to apply.

Van Hipp Heroes Scholarship Fund. Established in 2015, Van Hipp donations 100% of the proceeds from his book "*The New Terrorism: How to Fight it and Defeat It*" to the Van Hipp Fallen Heroes Scholarship Fund, which will award scholarships to Guardsmen wounded in action in the War on Terror. This initiative is administered by the National Guard Educational Foundation. The application period closes **1 July 2020**. Go to the NGAUS website https://www.ngaus.org/membership/member-benefits/scholarships to apply.

Leonardo DRS Guardian Scholarship Fund. Scholarships are provided to the dependent children of a National Guard member who died in an operational or training mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation New Dawn. This grant provides up to $25,000 per student over a four-year college education to help cover the cost of tuition, application room and board, fees, and books. The National Guard Educational Foundation administers the application and selection process. Application deadline period closes **30 June 2020**. Applications and information can be found at https://www.ngef.org/get-involved/apply-for-the-leonardo-drs-guardian-scholarship/

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Wisconsin National Guard Association, Inc.

Engaged Today, Securing Tomorrow

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DIRECT BENEFITS OF YOUR WINGA/NGAUS MEMBERSHIP

- Tax-free retired military pay in Wisconsin
- WI State Tuition Assistance Program and post 9-11 GI Bill
- Over past 4 years, funded $67,000 for NGAUS Life Membership Incentive for 147 officers
- Over past 7 years, funded over $38,500 Educational Scholarships for 77 members and dependents
- Annual WINGA Conference, including sponsoring of no-cost Professional Development
- No-cost $10,000 life insurance policy to new members of the WI National Guard for 1 year
- No-cost $1,000 life insurance coverage for all actively serving WI National Guard members
- Annual funding for Hall of Honor & Hall of Fame Programs
- Annual grants of $500 to each MSC and Wing Commands
- Annual funding of $2,000 for Northern Lightening Exercise
- Funded $85,000 to assist with the F35 aircraft initiative
- State Soldiers & Sailor Relief Act
- Definition of "veteran" now includes NG and reservists with 20 years of service
- Post-deployment mental health care & TRICARE Coverage
- WINGA newsletter (published 3 times per year) & monthly NGAUS magazine
- Benefit parity for the National Guard

NGAUS
The National Guard Association of the United States