YOUR COMMUNICATOR

Wisconsin National Guard Association, Inc.

The Wisconsin National Guard Association exists to promote the readiness, modernization, and relevance of the Wisconsin National Guard family and its members.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES **November 2022**

Welcome to the November issue of Your Communicator! This newsletter is one of many tools used to share information from and solicit input to YOUR organization. The September edition provided a great re-cap of our summer activities. We are now focused on new legislative priorities and membership.

Following the local/national November elections, the political landscape is coming into view. One of my WINGA priorities is to focus more on State Legislative Issues. Please submit your legislative ideas to enhance the WING mission through budget increases, benefits, and policy changes to michael.j.williams@winga.org .
For example:

- Securing long-term State Security Officer's pay increases
- Increasing State cooperative agreements facility funding
- Expand State tax-free military pay benefits

The WINGA 2023 membership drive is in full-swing with dues and payment information inside this publication. Why be a member? If you are getting this newsletter, you already get it. Please be well versed on the value of Professional Organization involvement when mentoring others.

Professional Development: This isn't just about sitting through presentations; it's about developing connections with others in the Profession of Arms and with our industry partners.

Advocacy: Professional organizations have resources that individual efforts are typically lacking. WINGA/NGAUS provide the staff, funds, connections, and authority to lobby. Numbers count in the legislative business and high membership provides professional organizations a seat at the table.

Feed Your Passion: Military members typically have a passion to serve. WINGA/NGAUS provide opportunities for members to make a greater impact beyond their normal sphere-of-influence.

Visit WINGA.org for additional membership benefits and championed legislation.

The recent cold snap quickly reminded all of us that the holiday season is upon us. I recently participated in Wisconsin's "Deer Hunting Holiday" and this is the first time I remember my water freezing before I could drink it. The WINGA sporting challenge prepared me to pull the trigger, but unfortunately, I haven't seen a worthy buck yet. I hope you've had better luck and wish you all a joyous holiday season; be it with your family at home or your deployed family abroad!

President Dan Statz

Army Promotions Will Be Stalled For Months Because of New HR System

The Army's transition to its new HR system is expected to stall many promotions through at least the end of January, service officials told Military.com.

Army public affairs officials told Military.com in error on Wednesday that the move to the new Integrated Personnel and Pay System-Army, or IPPS-A, would have no impact on promotions.

Full Story at: https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/11/18/army-promotions-will-be-stalled-months-because-of-new-hr-system.html?ESRC=dod_221118.nl

TAPS

MG (Ret) Rod Hannula
Col (Ret) Jim McMurray
COL (Ret) Art Welch

Please notify us if you are aware of a member's death. We publish the names of those who pass away as we are notified, which may result in a delay of notifying you, our members.

Save these 2023 Dates

WINGA/WNGEA Annual State Conference
28-30 April 2023
Chula Vista Resort, Wisc. Dells
Host Unit: JFHQ

145th Annual NGAUS Conference
18-22 August 2023
Reno, Nevada

National Capitol Summits
March & July 2023, exact dates TBA

Applications for Company Grade Officers and Warrant Officers are on the WINGA Website. Send completed forms for the March event to Michael.j.williams@winga.org NLT 1 Feb 2023.

Your WINGA Board of Directors

Executive Board Officers

President: Lt Col Dan Statz
Army VP: CPT Alicia Dorsett
Air Force VP: Col Jeannie Jeanetta
Secretary: LTC Myron Davis
Treasurer:: LTC (Ret) DJ Klauser
Executive Director: COL (Ret) Mike Williams

Directors

JFHQ & 426 RTI: MAJ Trevor Thomas & MAJ Nicholas Braun
32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team: LTC Orrin Viner, MAJ David Kranz, & CPT Kayla Krueger
64th Troop Command: MAJ Leah Baldwin & CPT Mitchell Hoh
157th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade: LTC Paul Cusick & CPT Jeremy Bates
115th Fighter Wing: Capt Natalie Huschka
128th Air Refueling Wing: 1st Lt Joshua Ganrude
Volk Field Air NG Base: Capt Matt Stai

Company Grade Rep—Army: CPT Justin Hofmann
Company Grade Rep—Air Force: Capt Cedar Hamilton

Warrant Officer Rep: CW3 Joseph Rasmussen

Retired Officer—Army: BG (Ret) Joni Mathews
Retired Officer—Air Force: Col (Ret) Mike Hinman
Retired Officer—At Large: CW4 (Ret) Tricia Gundlach

Contact your WINGA BOD Rep to connect and volunteer with one of our committees:

State Sponsored Life Insurance (SSLI)

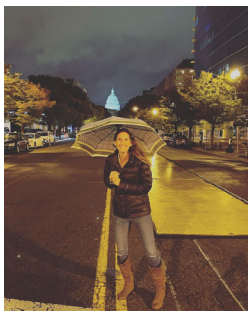
A life insurance policy is a contract between the owner of the policy, referred to as the policy owner and the insurance company. When you purchase an insurance policy, whether it is for a car, home or life insurance, you are transferring the risk of loss from yourself to the insurance company. Risk generally can be managed in three ways. It can be avoided, assumed or transferred. Insurance, regardless of type, transfers risk from the insured person to the insurer. Accordingly, life insurance transfers the risk of financial loss resulting from the death of an insured to an insurance company.

In the family insurance market, life insurance is concerned primarily with the financial loss caused by the death of a wage earner. In a sense, life insurance in this market protects survivors against the insured dying too soon. An individual's untimely death can expose his or her family to enormous financial risk. But life insurance can help ease any potential financial burdens survivors are likely to encounter. Your State Sponsored Life Insurance (SSLI) program offers affordable term life insurance to all Wisconsin Guardsmen, both current members and separated/retired. For more information about your SSLI fringe benefit, contact the SSLI office at 608-242-3100 or insinfo@winga.org or www.winga.org/insurance.html

"Colonel Mike" Williams (Ret)
State Insurance Administrator

NGAUS CGO National Capitol Summit, Washington D.C., October 2022

Army CPT Alicia Dorsett, Btry A 1st Bn 121st FA. "The NGAUS Capitol Summit was a great opportunity to receive a better understanding about the relationship between NGAUS, the National Guard Directors, NGB, and congress. As a company grade officer, it is important to comprehend this relationship early on in our career to understand how to impact change for the Guard and how important the Association really is."



Army CPT Michelle Geldernick. "I wasn't 100% what to expect but I had a great experience. Learned a lot. Met a lot of new and wonderful people from many different states and was able to see parts of D.C. at night, which was breathtaking."

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION DUES FOR MEMBERSHIP YEAR 2023

Overview & History: For the 42nd consecutive year (2022) Wisconsin achieved more than 100% membership in the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS). That is more consecutive years of 100% membership than any other state or territory. Again for 2023, our goal is for Wisconsin to meet its 100% membership goal no later than 28 June 2023. Commands achieving 100% membership by the 28 March 2023 deadline will be eligible for the 5% Early Bird rebate. In doing so they will receive a check which represents 5% of all annual dues paid by Wisconsin for achieving Early Bird status.

The NGAUS & WINGA membership year is a calendar year from 1 January-31 December; Wisconsin's membership campaign runs from 1 November 2022 to 27 September 2023. Membership is voluntary.

Life Membership Dues: In 2023, NGAUS is again offering Digital Active Life Membership (DALM) for only $500. Officers must also become WINGA life members for $80. WINGA is offering an incentive of $250 for company grade officers and $125 for field grade officers. **This option means company grade officers can become active life members of NGAUS & WINGA for only $330 while the cost to field grade officers would be $455.** The only difference in the DALM vs. the traditional life membership is members receive a digital copy of the National Guard Magazine and WINGA newsletter rather than a printed copy. Traditional NGAUS life membership dues are $1,000 making this is a 50% savings. Active life members are members forever—even after they retire—so there is no need to become a retired life member.

Pay Grade	NGAUS DALM	WINGA Incentive	WINGA	Total
O-1 thru O-3 WO1 thru CW3	$500	-$250	$80	**$330**
O-4 thru O-8 CW4 thru CW5	$500	-$125	$80	**$455**

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**

Annual Membership Dues: Annual membership dues remain unchanged from previous years.

Scan this QR Code to take you to the WINGA Website **www.winga.org**

Dues Payment Options on the WINGA Website (Go to our page by scanning the above QR Code.). You can pay your membership dues (annual, DALM, and retired life) directly on the WINGA website using:

- Credit or debit
- PayPal (It is WINGA's PayPal account; no requirement for payee to have a PayPal account.)

Drop down menus will display the correct dollar amount for each rank within each membership type.

In addition to our Website you can pay dues using the following:

- Credit or debit by calling Lynn Rasmussen 608-206-7006
- Venmo—QR Code (on the right of this page) or search for WINGA or WINGAAssn (if asked, last 4 digits of phone number are 6274)

WINGA WINGA Assn
@WINGA-WINGAAssn

venmo

With this new lower life membership rate, senior officers could consider sponsoring a life membership for a junior officer. Being a mentor and sponsor for a young officer will bring many personal and professional rewards. This is an excellent way to "pay it forward" and start a junior officer's military career with a "gifted" life membership in WINGA and NGAUS.

If you are interested in gifting an annual or life membership, please contact WINGA at: michael.j.williams@winga.org

Additional membership documents are available on our WINGA website www.winga.org: WINGA Membership Flyer, NGAUS Membership Flyers, NGAUS Accomplishments and Priorities, and Why Should I Join WINGA/NGAUS.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH & DISMEMBERMENT BENEFIT FOR NGAUS MEMBERS

Dues-paying members and life members of the NGAUS have an accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) benefit at no extra cost to the member. NGAUS members under the age of 80 are automatically enrolled for $2,500 in AD&D coverage. This $2,500 benefit, will automatically cover all members under age 80. There are no other enrollment requirements for the member to be covered. WINGA will coordinate completion of the form so that the claim can be paid. The AD&D benefit is viewed as a significant addition to the membership package.

FREE AUSA MEMBERSHIP FOR NGAUS MEMBERS

NGAUS recently partnered with the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) to provide NGAUS members with the benefit of becoming an AUSA member at no cost. This offers members' AUSA membership benefits throughout the duration of their NGAUS membership. When NGAUS members sign up for the free AUSA membership they have access to all AUSA member benefits: access to AUSA savings, educational products, member access & pricing to PD & networking opportunities, employment assistance, scholarships, legal document preparation system, etc. Go to: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeoPM-Ae1gqE7KwpOPEb6oY2syXGe_tz935i0igqN7qWCK_2Q/viewform

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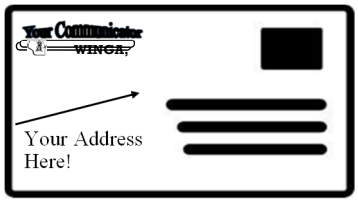

DIRECT BENEFITS OF YOUR WINGA AND/OR NGAUS MEMBERSHIP

- Tax-free retired military pay in Wisconsin
- WI State Tuition Assistance (Remission) Program & Federal (Post-9/11) GI Bill Benefits
- Since 2016, funded over $107,000 for NGAUS Life Membership Incentive for 306 officers
- Since 2012, funded over $75,000 in Educational Scholarships for 106 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 Command
- Funded Officer and Warrant Officer Summits
- VA Home Loans available for Title 32 service
- Three month maternity leave from unit training assemblies with pay & retirement credit for drill-status members
- Reemployment rights for State Active Duty or responding to a national emergency or natural disaster
- Definition of "veteran" now includes NG and reservists with 20 years of service
- Post-deployment mental health care & TRICARE Coverage
- WINGA newsletter (published 6 times per year) & monthly NGAUS magazine
- Benefit parity for the National Guard