



Spring 2020

# VIKANG NEWS

*U.S. Air Force Col. Daniel Gabrielli, 133rd Airlift Wing commander, receives the Outstanding Unit Award from U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Jon Jensen, Adjutant General, Minnesota National Guard, in St. Paul, Minn.*

## IN THIS ISSUE

President's Report	2
Congressman Pete Stauber	5
Vice President - Legislative Affairs	6
Vice President - Alumni	7
Academic Scholarships	8
34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade	9
1st Armored Brigade Combat Team	10
Joint NGAMN & MNGEA State Conference & Exhibition	12



## State Conference

Please join us for the State Conference which will take place on **April 24-26, 2020** at the Holiday Inn in Saint Cloud.

See details on page 12.



# President's Report

Lieutenant Colonel Lyle Rock

Happy New Year and welcome to our first VIKANG Newsletter of the year! I am sad to say that my term will be coming to an end at this year's State Conference in April, and I want to thank the many fellow Guardsmen that I have worked with over the last 4 years for the tremendous work that they do and for their incredible dedication to our association.

We have accomplished a lot, and this past year we were able to max out our state membership rate at a 68%, making 2019 the second highest in the past 20 years. It's not always just about the membership rate, it's about the resolutions that are put forward on behalf of YOU, the members, but the rate is vitally important and carries the weight of our state when legislators are deciding whether or not to support our resolutions and to help turn them into law.

Additionally, I am very excited to announce that this year we will have our 2nd Annual Combined State Conference where we will be partnering with our brothers and sisters from the Enlisted Association to put on another fantastic conference. We have also invited Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, former Minnesota Army National Guard and are hopeful he will be in attendance, so please take this opportunity to meet him and hear what he has to say.

The State Conference will take place on **Saturday April 25th, 2020** at the Holiday Inn in Saint Cloud. We have reserved several poolside rooms for our hospitality area which will provide a great opportunity for socializing with friends and colleagues on both Friday and Saturday nights. This is also a great time to bring your family for a mini vacation and enjoy the use of the pool while receiving our group poolside rate. Saturday during the business meeting we will engage on crucial issues facing the Guard which will help you stay in touch with what's happening at the national level as well as provide an opportunity to talk and network with some of the Minnesota's finest military leaders on both the officer and the enlisted side. On Saturday evening we will have our formal banquet and conclude in the hospitality area. You can sign up on our web page at [NGAMN.org](http://NGAMN.org).



*U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Anne Oberg left, gives symptoms of being sick to Senior Airman Joshua Ewert, both members of the 109th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, during a training flight in Minn., Oct. 9, 2018. Ewert and Oberg are aeromedical evacuation technicians who are responsible for providing essential medical care to patients while being transported on an aircraft.*

**Are you a National Guard Federal Employee?** Well, last year NGAUS introduced legislation that would extend TRICARE health coverage to all part-time National Guardsmen and Reservists who work for the federal government. These bills (for both the House and the Senate) are called the Tricare Reserve Select Improvement Act. The current law denies thousands of Guardsmen and Reservist this valuable benefit which could save them thousands of dollars a year in health care premiums while ensuring their families have continuity of care when they are deployed. Here are some of NGAUS's priorities for 2020:

## FEDERAL

- Tax Incentives for Employers to Hire Guardsmen
- Tax Deductions for Drill Travel
- Increase Annual Military Leave for Federal Employees from 15 to 30 Days
- Allowing TSP Contributions Outside 401k Threshold
- Increased Fulltime Staffing Levels
- TRICARE for All
- C-130H Modernization & C-130J Recapitalization
- Enhancing National Guard Cyber and Space Missions
- Early Retirement Credit Under 12304b Orders
- Improved Mental Health Care Access and Treatment for Guardsmen



*Congratulations Brig. Gen. Frank Stokes (right) in his new position as the Air National Guard Readiness Center commander from the Bulldogs of the 148th Fighter Wing. The Air National Guard Readiness Center provides resources, policy oversight and guidance to ensure combat and domestic operational readiness for the Air National Guard's 90 wings. Stokes, a Duluth-native, was the 148th Fighter Wing commander from 2009 to 2015 prior to accepting a new role at the National Guard Bureau.*

We are looking for someone to chair this year's Minnesota National Guard Associations' 3rd Annual Golf Tournament taking place on Friday June 19th at Emerald Greens in Hastings. We have been doing this for the past two years and have all the blueprints and bookings completed, we just need someone to execute it. If you are interested, please contact me per below.

If you prefer the VIKANG Newsletter electronically, please go to [www.ngamn.org](http://www.ngamn.org), sign in and click the "Subscribe to the electronic VIKANG News Letter" link under Contact Us (bottom left of the page). If you do not have an account with NGAMN, you will need to register using a non-MIL email address. This will allow you to receive the Newsletter faster and save the association potentially thousands of dollars over the course of the year, in printing and postage

On a final note, I will be handing the gavel over to our next President, Lt Col Connie Armstrong at the upcoming Combined State Conference. Connie has done a spectacular job as the Vice President Air over the past two years and she has been instrumental in our Scholarship program and continues to offer great advice at every turn. She brings a great amount of experience into our association as she recently served as the President of the Minnesota Women Lawyers and I know she will do a great job for the association as well.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. [president@ngamn.org](mailto:president@ngamn.org) or 612-978-8473.

# Vice President - ARMY

LTC Jay Hackett

"Defending resolutions is what we are all about, we kind of miss the point by not putting emphasis on resolutions." This quote is from NGAUS President Brigadier General (ret) J. Roy Robinson, who spoke at the recent National Guard Executive Directors Association meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. I'm glad he put it that way and was a little relieved, in a way, to hear BG Robinson bring this up. I have been what you might call a "passive" active member for many years. Resolutions were what came up deep in the drowsy middle of the business meeting during the State Conference. I never paid that much attention to resolutions. As a young lieutenant, the resolution process just happened. Along for the ride, I would come for the SWAG and the camaraderie and I'm glad I did. I didn't understand until much later that my voice was valuable and mattered. Since we're approaching State Conference time, a little primer on the resolution process is in order. I'm targeting this message to all the 2LT and 1LT Hackett's out there that might come to the business meeting in need of coffee and other proper hydration.

Caucusing at the State Conference is the first step in the process. This means discussing, proposing, debating and possibly approving your good ideas to make life in uniform even better. When we meet in April, we expect that each Group will come to the business meeting ready to caucus. Group representatives will facilitate their caucus, leading the discussions and preparing the proposals for the assembled members to hear and debate. BG Robinson and others would agree, that this is a very important step, as it is where we "make our hay". We're taking your good ideas, your issues and turning them into actionable resolutions to lobby Congress.

Once your resolution is heard, debated, considered and approved by the State Association a draft resolution is submitted to NGAUS for review. This is done by July 1st each year. NGAUS reviews resolution with Legislative Task Forces, National Guard Bureau and other Guard subject matter experts to refine and validate. When the National Association meets in the fall the resolution you've submitted for consideration becomes a standing resolution if adopted. As a standing resolution, NGAUS rings that congressional bell on your behalf over and over and over until legislative action is taken.

I'm challenging you to be better than I was. Come to the business meeting and see what it's all about. I'm challenging the Army Group Reps to have their caucuses planned, ready and contributory. Even if you are a "passive" active member, lend your voice to the caucus process.

Bring your partner or spouse, esprit de corps and your big ideas to the State Conference. Have a good time! The coffee will be on me.

# Vice President - Air Force

Lieutenant Colonel Connie Armstrong

Congratulations to the Minnesota Air National Guard's 2020 Outstanding Airmen of the Year. These individuals were nominated at the squadron level and met boards at both the wing and state level before their selection and will go on to compete at the national level.

## MINNESOTA AIR NATIONAL GUARD: A VISIBLE PRESENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

When Duty Calls. . . The weather in northern Minnesota can be unpredictable and the Duluth public relies upon the 148th Fighter Wing for snow removal at the Duluth International Airport.



*Pictured from left to right: CMSgt Mark Rukavina, Command Chief, Minnesota Air National Guard; MSgt Richard Kaufman, SNCO of the Year, 148th Fighter Wing; TSgt Christopher Armstrong, First Sergeant of the Year, 148th Fighter Wing; TSgt George Wexler, NCO of the Year, 133rd Airlift Wing; SrA Jeffrey Fouts, Airman of the Year, 133rd Wing; and Col Brian Mandt, Vice Chief of Staff, Minnesota Air National Guard. (Not pictured 1Lt Kevin Vanek, CGO of the Year, 133rd Airlift Wing.)*



*Heavy equipment operators assigned to the 148th Fighter Wing remove snow from the flight line after a two-day storm that dropped 22 inches of fresh power in the area. December 2, 2019.*



*Continuing a longstanding tradition, members of the 148th Fighter Wing assemble to march in the Christmas City of the North Parade in downtown Duluth in November 2019.*



*Increasing the ability to educate students in the northland, elected officials, military leaders, and community partners participate in a groundbreaking ceremony for the classroom expansion of STARBASE at the 148th Fighter Wing in Duluth on November 6, 2019.*



# Congressman Pete Stauber Hoping to Bring the F-35 to the 148th Fighter Wing

By Lt Col Lyle Rock

*Congressman Stauber poses for a quick photo with the F-16 Crew during his Orientation Flight*



*Congressman Stauber Shakes Hands with the 148th Wing Commander Chris Blomquist during his F-16 Orientation Flight*

Over the last year, Minnesota Congressman Pete Stauber has been hard at work trying to bring the F-35 aircraft and its mission to 148th Fighter Wing in Duluth, Minnesota. Last Spring, he and several members from the Duluth community, including Brigadier General Jon Safstrom and Colonel Chris Blomquist, personally met with former Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson, Director of the Air National Guard Lieutenant General L. Scott Rice, and Assistant Secretary of the Air Force John Henderson, at the Pentagon to highlight why the 148th is the right base for the F-35.

In the Fall of 2019 while aboard Air Force One, Stauber spoke directly to President Trump about bringing the F-35 to the 148th and told him why Duluth would be the perfect fit, during the President's visit to Minnesota. More Recently Congressman Stauber spoke with the newly confirmed Secretary of the Air Force Barbara Barrett and plans on meeting with her at the Pentagon this Spring to continue to make the 148th home to the F-35.

Congressman Stauber will also support efforts to see the C-130J model at the 133rd Airlift Wing. Keeping both Wings relevant with modern aircraft is vital to their future missions, to their communities and the state of Minnesota.

## The Gophers and the Flying Vikings Train Together

U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules' from the 109th and 96th Airlift Squadrons, prepare for take-off in St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 8, 2018. The squadrons are taking part in a large C-130 Hercules formations which gives them the opportunity to build on their communications, planning and mission execution skills while working with another unit.





# Vice President - Legislative Affairs

Lieutenant Colonel Jeramy Browning

I am excited to begin service as the new Vice President of Legislative Affairs for NGAMN! First order of business, I would like to thank LTC James Douglas for the amazing work that he has done for the association. In my first few months, I see the Legislative Affairs work done in 2019 had a huge impact in advancing the Joint, Army and Air priorities supported by the NGAMN members.

## The Fiscal Year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) included funding for several of NGAUS' supported priorities to include:

- Early retirement credit for National Guard and Reserve servicemembers under 12304b orders
- Access to TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) for federal employees who serve in the National Guard beginning in 2030, including National Guard dual-status technicians
- \$1.3 billion for the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account (NGREA), includes:
  - \$395.0 million for the Army National Guard
  - \$395.0 million for the Air National Guard
- \$1.4 billion for UH-60 Black Hawk M model helicopters for the Army
  - Consistent with FY20 DoD budget, which requested 64 M model Black Hawks for the Army National Guard
- \$338.0 million for 4 C-130J Super Hercules aircraft for the Air National Guard
- \$100.0 million for the Army National Guard High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) modernization program

- \$75.0 million for F-16 Viper Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radars for the Air National Guard
- \$972.4 million for Joint Light Tactical Vehicles (JLTVs) for the Army
  - Consistent with FY20 DoD budget, which requested 512 JLTVs for the Army National Guard
- Continued C-130H modernization, includes funding for engine upgrades and propeller replacements
- \$7.0 million for the National Guard preventative mental health program

Currently the NGAUS legislative staff is working with congress to advance the resolutions adopted at the Denver General Conference this past fall. Those details should be available on the website soon.

I am dedicated to supporting the past and present service members of the National Guard in this roll. As we prepare for the State Conference April 24-26 I will need input for Joint, Army and Air resolutions that the field would like pushed forward to the national level for support. I also need your assistance reaching out to our Senators and Representatives to gain support for the upcoming legislation.

Here is a link to the Draft new resolution form: [ngaus.org/sites/default/files/2019-01/FY2020ResolutionsForm\\_0.pdf](https://ngaus.org/sites/default/files/2019-01/FY2020ResolutionsForm_0.pdf).

Feel free to reach out to me if you have new resolutions to propose. Alternatively, send me the completed draft resolution form to [legislative@ngamn.org](mailto:legislative@ngamn.org). Our association will review and vote on any new resolutions at the State Conference, I hope to see you there.

# Vice President – Alumni

Brigadier General (Retired) Tim Kennedy

The Alumni Group hosts two dinners per year. One is held the first Friday in December and the second is held in conjunction with the NGAMN State Conference. Our next dinner will be the evening of Friday, April 24th in St. Cloud. Our guest speaker will be Allison Alstrin of Project Got Your Back. Project Got Your Back, serves as the backbone organization in Minnesota to grow and sustain collective impact to support all MN 'Military Connected' (currently serving, prior service, veterans, families and caregivers). They are working across the state to identify resources (public and private) and then connecting individuals, communities, and regions. The goal is improved awareness and engagement unifying efforts to honor and support 'Military Connected' in MN. Please sign up and attend. At the conclusion of the dinner, you mingle with those currently serving in their hospitality suites.

The Army National Guard memorialization (Court of Honor) program is an annual opportunity to recognize officers and enlisted who served with distinction in the Army National Guard and contributed to the community outside of the Guard. The deadline for 2020 submissions is April 1. For 2020, the induction ceremony will take place on Sunday, October 4, 2020. If you know of someone worthy, please submit a packet for them. I have done them in the past and will be happy to provide you any assistance you might need.

The National Guard Association National conference will be held August 28 through August 31 in Boston, Massachusetts. Please plan to attend the conference at the birthplace of the National Guard. Visit [NGAUS.org](http://NGAUS.org) to see the fill list of the events that are part of the conference.

If you are a retiree on Medicare and Tricare For Life, you should look into a Medicare Advantage Program. There are many different programs and one of these programs could save you money. In the past, it was my understanding that if you had Tricare For Life, that you could only have original Medicare. Last fall, I found out the this was incorrect and signed up for an advantage program. It is costing me less and providing me more benefits. If you have questions, contact me at [bgrettim@gmail.com](mailto:bgrettim@gmail.com).

One of the benefits of belonging to NGAUS is their legislative program. They are continually working on National Guard issues. One of the wins in the new defense budget (the NDAA) was the removal of the "Widows Tax". Many military survivors receive payments through the VA's Dependency or Indemnity Compensation Plan, or DIC; but those who also receive Survivor Benefits Program see their VA DIC payments subtracted from the total. This has been called the widows tax and has been costing survivors about \$925 per month. With the new NDAA, the widow's tax was repealed. It is a phased-in approach that will occur over a three-year rollout. No changes will be made to the benefit in calendar year 2020, but the offset will be reduced partially over 2021 and 2022, with full elimination starting on Jan. 1, 2023. The benefit is not retroactive.

Thank you for being a member of NGAUS and NGAMN. I hope to see you at one of the events this year.

## The National Guard Association of Minnesota State Sponsored Group Life Insurance Program

- **Up to \$1,000,000 coverage available\***
- **Members covered in combat**
- **Covered 24/365**
- **Most valid claims paid within 24 to 48 hours of receipt of proof of loss**
- **All military occupations covered**
- **Spouse and Children coverage available**
- **Coverage does not end and rates DO NOT go up just because you separate from the National Guard**
- **SSLI can be payroll deducted from drill check or AGR payroll**
- **All SSLI group plans cover members while serving in the Minnesota National Guard including deployment**

For coverage details including eligibility, benefits, rates, exclusions, limitations and renewal provisions please contact the plan administrator toll free at **800-633-8333**.

National Guard Association of Minnesota State Sponsored Life Insurance is provided under group life insurance policies issued to the Militia Insurance Trust (MIT) and the Uniformed Services Benefit Association (USBA). USBA Policies include their 10 Year, 15 Year & Level Term Life Plans. These policies are underwritten by New York Life Insurance Company.

Standard & Poor's (AA+), A.M. Best (A++), Moody's (Aaa) and Fitch (AAA) for financial strength. Source: Individual Third-Party Ratings Report (as of 9/12/19).

New York Life Insurance Company, 51 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010 Policy form GMR

\*Up to \$1,000,000 coverage available through all MIT SSLI plans.

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# McGough / NGAMN Academic Scholarships

One \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by McGough Construction Co., LLC

Two \$500 scholarships sponsored by NGAMN

**Request an application from [director@ngamn.org](mailto:director@ngamn.org). Application deadline: June 30, 2020**

## Topic: Selfless Service

The National Guard Association of Minnesota (NGAMN) Annual Scholarship Information Letter:

1. The NGAMN Executive Board has voted to continue the annual award of scholarships: One (1) \$1,000 McGough Construction Co., LLC sponsored scholarship and two (2) \$500 NGAMN sponsored scholarships.
2. This policy letter serves as the authorizing document for the identification, selection, and awarding of the scholarships. This letter also establishes the minimum guidelines for qualifying applicants and timelines for submission of application materials.
3. The following are approved categories of eligible applicants for the scholarship:
  - Any active member, retired life member, alumni life member, or spouse/child/grandchild of an active member or retired/alumni life member of NGAMN may apply to compete for a scholarship.
  - The top applicant (any category) will be awarded the \$1,000 McGough Construction Co., LLC scholarship.
  - One runner-up from the active member/retired/alumni life member category will be awarded a \$500 NGAMN scholarship.
  - One runner-up from the spouse/child/grandchild of active member/ retired/alumni life member category will be awarded a \$500 NGAMN scholarship.
4. The following minimum qualifications must be met to be eligible to receive the scholarships.
  - The applicant must be currently attending an accredited institution of higher learning ("college") and pursuing a program that will lead to a bachelor's degree, graduate degree, or post graduate degree.
  - The applicant must have a minimum of a 2.75 cumulative GPA to be eligible.
  - The applicant must be attending college at least 6 semester credits/ hours (undergraduate degree) or 3 semester credit hours (graduate/post-graduate degree) each semester during the past 2 semesters.
5. The following documents must be provided to NGAMN Executive Director by email in combined PDF file not later than the annual due date listed above.
  - A copy of the applicant's transcripts from the college that the applicant is attending (official transcripts are not required).
  - Typewritten essay prepared by applicant (at least 1 page but not more than 2 pages, double-spaced, 10-point Times New Roman font with 1" margins.) addressing what the selected Army / Air Force value selected for the year and listed in item 10 below means to them personally and professionally.
  - A resume or biographical summary for the applicant.
6. The following submission timelines are in effect.
  - Each year submissions are required to be emailed to NGAMN Executive Director at the email address shown above no later than June 30th.
  - The application materials will be reviewed and voted on by voting members of the Executive Board in July and the recipients will be invited to the August Executive Board meeting for the presentation of the scholarship checks.
7. All annual scholarship awards will be paid directly to the applicant for use to offset the costs of pursuing a degree.
8. All decisions by the NGAMN Executive Board are final.
9. The voting members of the NGAMN Executive Board are the President, VP Army, and VP Air. Alternate voting members (in order) are the Secretary and Treasurer.
10. Each of the Army / Air Force values has been assigned a year for the essay topic.
  - **2020** - SELFLESS SERVICE
  - **2021** - HONOR
  - **2022** - INTEGRITY
11. Recipients of a scholarship are not eligible to apply again for a minimum of three years.



# 34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade

CPT Vincent Gonsior

The Soldiers of the 34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade have arrived in theater and have taken command from the 244th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade during a transfer of authority ceremony (TOA) that took place on January 2, 2020. By casing the colors of the 244th ECAB and by unfurling their own, the 34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade officially assumed the duties, responsibilities, and missions assigned to them as the Aviation Brigade in the region. On that same day, many of the Soldiers of the 34th ECAB earned their combat patch during a patching ceremony. The U.S. Army patching ceremony is a tradition that began in 1918 with the 81st Infantry Division, and it continues to this day

as a ceremony wherein the Army recognizes Soldiers who have served in a hostile area of operation declared by the Secretary of the Army.

For the Soldiers of the 34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade that are not currently deployed, much work is taking place in preparation for the Chinook Heavy Lift Company's rotation to the National Training Center in support of the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team taking place at Fort Irwin, California in July of 2020. The Chinook Heavy Lift Company is scheduled to deploy to the Middle East in the second quarter of 2021.



## Aeromedical team takes to the sky

U.S. Air Force Maj. Meghan Grout, 109th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, gives directions on loading a C-130 Hercules in St. Paul, Minn., Oct. 9, 2018. Grout is a flight nurse who is responsible for planning the mission and providing essential medical care to patients while being transported on an aircraft.



# 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team

Captain Chloe Carlson

The entire 1/34 ABCT team is focused on preparing for our rotation to the National Training Center (NTC) in Ft. Irwin, CA this summer. The last time 1st Brigade was a training audience at NTC was in 2016. This past January more than 300 leaders across the Brigade, to include enabler units' representatives from across the country, traveled to Ft. Irwin, CA for a Rotational Support Conference and Leadership Training Program which allowed us to continue our planning for this significant training exercise.

We've been busy at Camp Ripley, MN conducting winter gunnery. While this is an unusual time for us to conduct validation training, it's necessary for our Soldiers to be qualified for the next echelon of training in our respective fields prior to NTC. Winter gunnery has posed unique challenges, but we continue to press forward in order to accomplish the mission. In addition to training we are managing new equipment and system fielding efforts across the mission command, communications, and intelligence functions, to name a few.

Be sure to follow the "NGAMN National Guard Association of Minnesota" Facebook page, where you'll find current legislative news and event updates. We have an opening for the 1/34 ABCT Alternate Representative position on the NGAMN Board. If you or one of your Officers are interested please contact me to discuss further.

I hope you've marked your calendar for the next State Conference which will be April 24-26th in St. Cloud, MN. See the NGAMN website to register, and please renew your State and National membership-your active membership in this organization speaks volumes to the challenges and member-driven solutions that are advocated for on our behalf at both the state and national levels. Please consider renewing your membership prior to March 31st, because our state NGAMN chapter receives some rebate funding from NGAUS for "early bird" membership renewals prior to this date. These returned funds are a great bonus for our local mission in Minnesota for our Minnesota National Guard.

*Photos courtesy of Mr. Tony Housey - Camp Ripley Public Affairs*

# NGAUS Lifetime Membership Promotion

Offer expires April 26, 2020



## TRICARE For Technicians

Passing S.164 and H.R.613, which would authorize TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) eligibility for National Guard and Reserve service-members who are federal employees in their civilian capacity, including the more than 70,000 dual status military technicians.

## Allowing TSP Contributions Outside 401K Threshold

Amend the law to allow reserve component servicemembers to contribute the full \$18,500 annual contribution to each of their military TSP and civilian retirement accounts.

Increased NGAMN membership is important to the National Guard now more than ever. Your voice allows NGAUS to work for the equities important to the National Guard and its members, both Army and Air!

Here is a great opportunity for our officers to get a lifetime State and National NGAUS membership for a substantially reduced cost.

Currently, dues are \$1,000 for National and \$250 for State Lifetime Memberships. NGAMN is offering to subsidize \$250 to offset the National lifetime membership and waive the State membership fee of \$250. That would bring the overall cost down to \$750.

Please help to improve our membership numbers. If you don't have a lifetime State and National membership, consider getting one now and share this great opportunity with other officers for their consideration also.

To take advantage of this promotion, call NGAUS at 202-408-5880 and ask to participate. There are three options for you to choose:

- Pay the entire \$750 lifetime membership fee up front;
- Make three payments of \$250 due in 6-month intervals; or
- Make seven payments of \$100 and one \$50 payment over an 8-month span.

We all benefit from the great work our association is doing. Thanks for your consideration and strong voice in actively working to increase your respective organizations membership.

We sincerely appreciate your support in improving our membership.

Lt. Col. Lyle Rock  
President NGAMN



202-408-5880 | [www.ngaus.org](http://www.ngaus.org) | [membership@ngaus.org](mailto:membership@ngaus.org)

# NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATIONS OF MINNESOTA

NGAMN – 115th General Conference

MNGEA – 51st General Conference



## 24-26 April 2020

Holiday Inn & Suites

75 S 37th Avenue | St. Cloud, Minnesota

### Overview of Events



#### Friday, April 24

- 1200-2100 Registration. Check-In, Update Personal Information
- 1300-1700 MNGEA First Business session & Committee Breakouts
- 1600-1700 NGAMN Association Board Meeting
- 1700-0100 Hospitality Rooms Open (casual attire)
- 1800-1900 Alumni Dinner Social (Sport coat/tie optional)
- 1900-UTC Alumni Hosted Dinner (officer, enlisted, retirees, spouses, all are welcome)

#### Saturday, April 25

- 0730-0830 Registration
- 0800-0900 Continental Breakfast & Caucuses
- 0930-1100 Spouse Crafting and Light Brunch
- 0900-1245 Combined General Conference MNGEA Auxiliary Business meeting
- 1130-1200 Vendor Social & Lunch
- 1230 - Until Adjournment
- Combined General Conference (continued)
- Adjourn Business Meeting
- Retire the Colors

- 1700-1800 Combined Presidents' Reception (Invite Only)
- 1730-1830 Cocktail Hour
- 1830-1930 Banquet \*Uniform for the Banquet is Mess Dress/ASU or Service Dress\*
- 2000-2400 Hospitality Rooms Open

#### Sunday, April 26

- 0900-1000 Spiritual Service

All events at Holiday Inn & Suites  
75 South 37th Avenue, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301



# Joint NGAMN & MNGEA State Conference & Exhibition



## 24-26 April 2020

### Holiday Inn & Suites, St. Cloud MN

#### FRIDAY EVENING ALUMNI DINNER MENU CHOICES - Check your selection

Rank/Name:

- |   |            |  |
|---|------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 oz Center Cut Grilled Sirloin         | \$20.99 or | Meals include: Green Beans, Salad, Dinner Roll |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pan Seared Salmon with creamy dill sauce | \$16.99    |  |

Guest Name:

- |   |            |  |
|---|------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 oz Center Cut Grilled Sirloin         | \$20.99 or | Meals include: Green Beans, Salad, Dinner Roll |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pan Seared Salmon with creamy dill sauce | \$16.99    |  |

#### SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET MENU CHOICES - Check your selection

Rank/Name:

- |  |         |   |         |   |
|--|---------|---|---------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Salmon Dinner           | \$16.99 | <input type="checkbox"/> Stuffed Chicken Breast | \$16.99 | Meals include: California Medley, Salad, Roll |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Honey Roasted Pork Loin | \$15.99 |   |         |   |

Guest Name:

- |  |         |   |         |   |
|--|---------|---|---------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Salmon Dinner           | \$16.99 | <input type="checkbox"/> Stuffed Chicken Breast | \$16.99 | Meals include: California Medley, Salad, Roll |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Honey Roasted Pork Loin | \$15.99 |   |         |   |

- |  |         |  |
|--|---------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Business Meeting (includes breakfast buffet & box lunch) | \$23.98 | Choose: <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> Roast Beef |
|--|---------|--|

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Guest Craft Activity (includes light brunch) | \$53.99 |
|--|---------|

Check credit card type:  Master Card  Visa  Discover  Amex

Name on card:

Account number:

Exp. Date:

Security Code:

Billing address:

City / State / Zip:

Telephone: Work:

Home:

Email:

Unit Name:

Total to be charged:

Hotel Options: Blocks are under "National Guard Association of MN."

A reminder that you must be a current member to attend the conference, there are links for both Officers and Enlisted found at [www.ngamn.org/stateconference](http://www.ngamn.org/stateconference) to sign up.

Rooms are available until 26 MARCH 2020, see website for pricing & details. Call 320-253-9000 for reservations.

Submit registrations NLT 13 APRIL 2020 online at [www.ngamn.org/stateconference](http://www.ngamn.org/stateconference) or PRINT and mail to: NGAMN, PO Box 131766, St Paul, MN 55113-0020

# Executive Director

Carl Willis



## 142nd General Conference & Exhibition, Boston

**August 28 - 31, 2020**

The National Guard traces its roots to Massachusetts militiamen and, 384 years after the first muster in 1636, NGAUS is heading back to Boston to celebrate the Guard, connect with colleagues, learn and set the next year's NGAUS legislative agenda. The theme will be "The National Guard: Citizens, Warriors, Patriots."

Here is a sampling of what you have to look forward to:

### Governor's Reception - A "Taste" of New England

The Governor's Reception will be held at the dynamic outdoor event space called the Lawn on D. The Lawn on D is located adjacent to the Convention Center and will feature outdoor games, prime time entertainment and of course a Taste of New England food and beverage.

### Spouse Luncheon

Luncheon will be a harbor cruise on the Spirit of Boston. The Spirit of Boston is designed for fun and incredible harbor views. There is no better way to see the city than aboard a Spirit of Boston lunch cruise. Sights will include the Zakim Bunker Hill Bridge and the USS Constitution warship registrants.

### Golf Tournament 2020

The golf tournament will be held at the Granite Links Golf Course. This golf course is perched atop the famous Quincy Granite Quarries. Golfers will enjoy stunning views of the Boston skyline and harbor while golfing at the premier golf location near Boston. The course will offer the unique links style design with varying elevations. A treat for any golfer!

### Company Grade & Warrant Officer Mixer

The Company Grade/Warrant Officer Mixer will be at the Artist for Humanities EpiCenter. The Center is one of Boston's hottest event venues. The Artist For Humanities employs over 300 teens annually to work with professional artists and design mentors. The gallery will offer a unique and inspiring space for the Company Grade/Warrant Officer reception.

### TAG & Senior Leader Social Events

The TAG/Partners Reception will be at the John F Kennedy Presidential Library. The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum is located on a twelve-acre park, overlooking the sea and the city that President Kennedy loved. The TAG Spouse Reception will be at the luxurious Boston Harbor Hotel.

### Fun Run

For the Fun Run we will bus runners from the downtown hotels to historic Concord, MA. The Fun Run will be held on the legendary Battle Road National Historic trail. The trail turns through historic farming fields and revolutionary era homes and ends at the Old North Bridge where the country's first militia "fired the shot heard round the world".

Join us in Boston for the 142nd General Conference & Exhibition.

### Update your information for a chance to win a \$50 gift card!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit:  133AW  148FW  1ABCT  347RSG  34ECAB  84TC  Alumni  
 HQ34ID  JFHQ

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(If different from mailing)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Civilian Email: \_\_\_\_\_



#### Mail to:

NGAMN  
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# Membership Dues National Guard Association of Minnesota



PO Box 131766  
St. Paul, MN 55113-0020  
Phone: 763-229-3984  
[NGAMN.ORG](http://NGAMN.ORG)

**Active Annual Member**

Grade	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	O7	O8	WO1	CW2	CW3	CW4	CW5
State	\$15	\$15	\$20	\$30	\$35	\$35	\$40	\$40	\$15	\$15	\$20	\$30	\$30
National	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$130	\$130	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$80	\$80
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$55</b>	<b>\$55</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$110</b>	<b>\$115</b>	<b>\$115</b>	<b>\$170</b>	<b>\$170</b>	<b>\$55</b>	<b>\$55</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$110</b>	<b>\$110</b>

Amount Due: \_\_\_\_\_ (See table above)

- Newly Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers:** Free membership for a period of one year and any portion of the year in which they are appointed. In addition, new accessions from other services are given the same courtesy of a one year free membership.
- Associate Member:** NGAUS:\$45 – State: \$25
- Active Life NGAUS:** One lump sum payment of \$1,000, in four \$250 installments or ten \$100 installments and an **Active Life State Member:** One lump sum payment of \$250. Call NGAUS at 202-408-5880 if choosing installments.
- Alumni/Retired Officers:** NGAUS Life Member \$125 – State Life Member \$50 (Note, officers who have not “retired” and have elected to renew their service obligation with the guard will revert to annual membership while they are on active status)

To **Pay by Check:** Complete the information below and send the form with a check payable to NGAMN to address above.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City | State | Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_

To **Pay by Credit Card:** please go to [www.ngaus.org/membership](http://www.ngaus.org/membership).

**– PLEASE NOTE –**

**MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION ENCOMPASSES BOTH THE STATE AND NATIONAL DUES AS PER THE STATE ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS. YOU CANNOT BE A MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION WITHOUT BEING A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION. PLEASE CALCULATE YOUR DUES APPROPRIATELY.**



## National Guard Association of Minnesota

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F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 148th Fighter Wing fly in formation alongside the Michipicoten, a lake freighter, over Lake Superior.

## Calendar

NGAMN State conference

**April 24-26**

142nd General Conference  
& Exhibition, Boston

**August 28 - 31**