

THE VOICE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON
MAY 2024

STATE CONFERENCE RECAP

The 2024 NGAW State Conference on April 20 was a big success! Maj Gen (R) Don Dunbar, the retired TAG of the Wisconsin National Guard, gave us a wonderful presentation on the History of the National Guard. He explained that to truly understand who we are as the National Guard and where we're going, you definitely need to look at where we've come from and how our organization was formed. The National Guard is an amazing and unique entity, not just part of Big Army & Air. We are Citizen Soldiers who can and will respond appropriately and successfully. We are proficient and ready. We are noble and trustworthy. The National Guard is a National Treasure, and our story needs to be shared.



Our conference also featured fantastic presentations by Maj Gen Daugherty, BG Sellars, and BG Welsh, as well as Marcy Weldin from NGAUS. A few of our Corporate Partners joined us--[BLR Aerospace](#), [Helmets to Hardhats](#), and [Serket USA](#). NGAW genuinely appreciates the support of our Corporate Partners, our national associations, and the senior leaders from the Washington Military Department.



The new Director of Membership Tanya Ulsted and returning Director of Development Steve Vuleta were sworn in for the 2024-26 Board term. We handed out two scholarship awards, and we even had a raffle for a knife from our Corporate Partner [Gerber](#). We also honored our outgoing TAG Maj Gen Daugherty with a complimentary Retired Lifetime Membership so he no longer has to make those pesky recurring payments for an Annual Membership. Thank you to everyone who attended, and we look forward to seeing you again on May 17, 2025 for next year's conference.



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UPCOMING NATIONAL CONFERENCES



Both the EANGUS (18-21 Aug) and NGAUS (23-26 Aug) national conferences will be held in Detroit, MI this summer. The Motor City is calling, and we'd like to help *you* get there. The national conferences are valuable professional development opportunities that provide the best way to get



involved at the national level and have an impact not just on your career but also on the future of the National Guard. These events are open to current Guardsmen and retirees.

In an attempt to increase attendance, the National Guard Association of Michigan is offering big discounts on conference



registration this year! **For EANGUS, there is no conference registration fee**, but there is a \$100 per person fee that serves as a hotel deposit. **For NGAUS, registration is free to all currently serving Company Grade officers, Warrant Officer 1s and Chief Warrant Officer 2s and their spouses.** The cost is \$50 for currently serving Field Grade officers and their spouses and currently serving CWO 3-5, along with their spouses.

Contact our office if you're interested in attending this year!

SAVE THE DATE: 2024 INDUSTRY DAY

We're excited to announce that we've have set the dates for our upcoming Industry Day! Join us and our Corporate Partners on Thursday, Nov. 7 in the PCRC.



Do you run a Guard-owned business? We want you to join us at Industry Day! Contact our office for details.

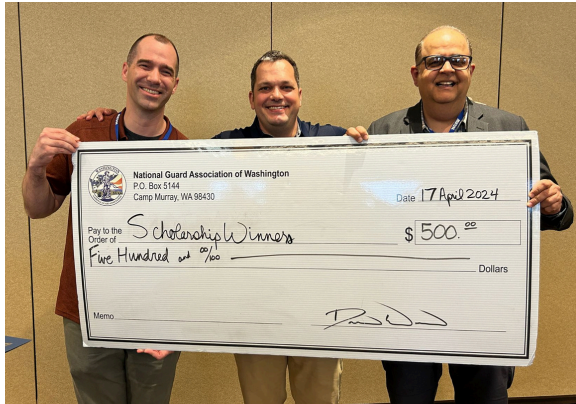


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MAY 2024

2024 SCHOLARSHIPS

This year we are excited to award over \$11,000 in scholarships to our members and their dependents! This is the largest total number of scholarships, as well as the largest total dollar amount we have ever awarded! Scholarship recipients this year come from all over the state and include members from both the Army and Air Force, spouses, and children. Thank you to all the outstanding applicants for the time and effort you put into your applications, and congratulations to those receiving awards!



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MAY 2024



CONGRATULATIONS



2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Dahlia Zepeda Aparicio	\$1000 NGAW /USAA Scholarship
Cameron Oppelt	\$800 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Nicole Woltman	\$800 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Jacqueline McFarling	\$800 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Philler Uriel Siy	\$500 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Zachary Cunningham	\$500 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Christopher Nehm	\$500 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Katherine Wigley	\$500 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Glenn Jones	\$500 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Charlotte Binkoski	\$500 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Adam Quinn	\$500 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Sameer Puri	\$500 NGAW Foundation Scholarship
Sasha Valente	\$800 NGAW Foundation Dependent Award
Grace McMahan	\$800 NGAW Foundation Dependent Award
Gavin Yates	\$800 NGAW Foundation Dependent Award
Kaitlin Elmore	\$500 NGAW Foundation Dependent Award
Kate Chong	\$500 NGAW Foundation Dependent Award
Regan Brewer	\$500 NGAW Foundation Dependent Award

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MAY 2024

LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOPS & CAPITOL SUMMIT

In February, NGAW had several members travel to Washington, DC for the EANGUS President's Workshop and the NGAUS Legislative Workshop. These folks were working hard FOR YOU, connecting with our WA lawmakers in DC, as well as representatives from the national associations. Workshops like these are incredible professional development opportunities available to NGAW members. Let us know if you'd be interested in attending one.



In March, Holly Hansen from the 141 Air Refueling Wing, was encouraged by her leadership to pursue attending the NGAUS Spring Capitol Summit. The event gives Company Grade officers from across the nation a peak behind the legislative curtain--showing them how the legislative process affects them and the Guard units in their states or territories. The event, which was held at the National Guard Memorial, the association's headquarters in Washington, D.C., featured speakers from the NGAUS legislative team, lawmakers and senior military leaders. Participants also visited Capitol Hill.

Hansen chose to attend the event after some research and realizing this would be something outside her wheelhouse that would provide her the opportunity to learn as much as she could and network with fellow CGOs. "The Capitol Summit was far more than I had expected! It was like drinking from a firehose of information," Hansen said. All the information was "given in the perfect order and in the most comprehensive manner. I learned so much about not only how our Congress works and the different processes, but also how NGAUS is working hard every day advocating for our Guardsmen."



The next NGAUS Capitol Summit is coming up in July, and NGAW is excited to send CW2 Kristin Retherford.

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MAY 2024

UPCOMING 2024 GOLF SCRAMBLE

Registration is now open for the 2024 NGAW Golf Scramble! Join us on the links of **Capitol City Golf Club** in Olympia on **Monday, August 12** for an 8am shotgun start. We'll follow a standard scramble format, with teams of 4, and Mulligans, string, and Caddy Packs will be available for purchase. Registration costs cover the price of golf, cart, range balls, and lunch.

Proceeds from the tournament fund our charitable NGAW Foundation and allow us to help WA Guard members with financial needs in education, emergency assistance, and family support. We raised over \$12,000 last year, and the goal this year is \$24,000! Help us help your fellow Guardsmen and their families.



Date: Monday, August 12th

Location: Capitol City Golf Club

5225 Yelm Highway SE,

Olympia, WA 98513

Cost: \$100/golfer



Not a golfer? Join us as a volunteer. Or even better, sponsor a hole or donate a raffle item!

For more information and to register, visit: <https://ngaw.org/events/golf/>

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MAY 2024

DO YOU HAVE A LIFETIME MEMEBRSHIP?

Is remembering to renew your NGAW membership each year a struggle? Do you wish there was a set-it-and-forget-it option? There is! NGAW has affordable lifetime membership options for both Enlisted and Officers.

These memberships are offered to both those currently serving in the WA National Guard, as well as retirees, and installment payment options are available. For more information contact ngaw@ngaw.org or visit: ngaw.org/membership-account/membershiplevels/.

Lifetime Member Benefits Include:

- Dedicated advocates in Olympia and on Capitol Hill fighting for your benefits
- Access to exclusive professional development, networking and educational opportunities
- Eligibility for member and dependent scholarships
- Insurance supplements designed for members of the National Guard
- The opportunity to serve on association committees and task forces that help drive the future of Guard advocacy
- A super cool commemorative NGAW insulated mug!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 18 Militia Ball
- June 1 81st Bde Raven Rendezvous
- July 28-31 NGAUS Capitol Summit
- Aug 12 NGAW Golf Tournament**
- Aug 18-21 EANGUS Conference
- Aug 23-26 NGAUS Conference
- Nov 7 NGAW Industry Day**



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WE NEED YOUR CIVILIAN EMAIL ADDRESS!

Please update your membership account with a **civilian email address** so that you can better view our messages.

THANK YOU CORPORATE PARTNERS

