

North Dakota Roughrider Association



Annual Conference 2024

22-23 March | West Fargo



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Editors

Brett R. Nelson
NGAND Executive Director

Chuck Votava
NDNGEA Executive Director

Digital Version

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**NORTH DAKOTA NATIONAL GUARD
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
P.O. BOX 5511
BISMARCK, ND 58506-5511**

*The Honorable Doug Burgum
North Dakota Governor*

*Major General Alan S. Dohrmann
The Adjutant General and
Director of Emergency Services*

27 February 2024

Greetings:

On behalf of the leadership from the North Dakota National Guard Officer and Enlisted Associations, we welcome you to the 2024 Roughrider Conference. Your attendance during this important weekend reflects your dedication to our Soldiers, Airmen, Civilian employees, and Families. It is events such as this that help us build readiness, recruit the next generation and retain the talent in our formations.

NGAUS and EANGUS both represent the interests of the National Guard at the federal level. Their priorities include the modernization of warfighting equipment, improving benefits for current and future members, and funding to support our efforts to build and maintain readiness. While federal level efforts are important, our state association's efforts are equally important. Priorities established this weekend will inform our legislative agenda for 2025. Past efforts have resulted in tax-free military income, new training facilities, increased funding for recruiting and retention programs, and a significant increase in State Active Duty pay. Your voice, your support, is making a difference.

As we have been recently reminded, the balance of power in the world can shift in an instant. Our future is unwritten, as such, we must continue to refine what our future requirements will be and be postured to innovate and modernize. We must be relentless in our pursuit of the equipment, funding, and authorities needed to defend our interests, deter any adversary, and, if necessary, destroy them on the battlefield.

Annually, members of our associations gather to discuss these critical issues and unify our voices behind the solutions that advance our priorities. It is equally important to relax, reconnect, and strengthen relationships, both old and new. Thank you for being here and supporting the North Dakota National Guard Officer and Enlisted Associations. Your participation in these events and other professional organizations show, in a tangible way, your commitment to the profession of arms.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alan S. Dohrmann", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

**ALAN S. DOHRMANN
Major General, ND National Guard
The Adjutant General**



Welcome to West Fargo and the Roughrider Conference! Your attendance, participation, and desire to serve are the foundation of our efforts at both the state and national levels. I thank each of you as active members, life members, retirees, and guests.

The National Guard Association of North Dakota (NGAND) stands to serve our officers and their families. Your loyalty and support help all members of the North Dakota National Guard by providing low-cost State Sponsored Life Insurance (SSLI), promoting professional development activities including the National Capitol Summit, giving back through college scholarships, and most importantly, advocating for benefits and equipment that will build a stronger National Guard moving forward.

I would like to extend a special thank you to our tremendous partners—the vendors who generously support our organization and make events like this conference possible. We are very fortunate to have the support of these organizations and their representatives. Take time to stop by each booth during our breaks, discover what they have to offer the National Guard, and most of all, thank them.

The Governor’s Military Ball has been moved to the Air Museum in May this year, which differs from past years. However, we are pleased to be able to offer free admission and pizza to Sky Zone for family members to enjoy the weekend while you take part in the Roughrider Conference. We are also excited to announce that the annual Roughrider Golf Tournament will be held at Hawktree Golf Course in Bismarck on September 27, 2024.

The 146th NGAUS General Conference will be hosted by the Michigan National Guard in Detroit over the weekend of August 23rd-26th. With strong attendance last year in Reno, we hope to build upon the current momentum by sending an even larger contingent of officers this year. This year’s conference fees will be FREE for CGOs and \$50 for FGOs! This is great news and will allow our association to send more officers than ever before to the national conference. The national conference is truly an eye-opening experience to see how our state and national associations work to support our Soldiers and Airmen.

Throughout the conference, enjoy the company of your fellow Guardsmen, ask questions, consider becoming a life member, and above all, have a great weekend.

Nick Hanson

Nicholas C. Hanson
Chairman, NGAND



Dear Family, Friends, Guests and Members,

On behalf of the North Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association, I would like to take the opportunity to welcome you to West Fargo ND, and the 2024 North Dakota Roughrider conference. We are excited to reconnect, renew and strengthen relationships, reenergize, and work to promote and protect the best interests of our Service Members and our Families. I thank and appreciate everyone taking time out of busy schedules to give something back to an organization that has done so much for our Enlisted Airmen and Soldiers. If this is your first conference, welcome! I encourage you to get involved, ask questions, and make your thoughts heard. For those joining us at the Rough Rider Conference again, welcome back, and thank you for your continuing support. Every voice is important, and we cannot do this without you!

It has been a time of success and change for EANGUS and our Service Members. This year saw the passing of several pieces of legislation that were favorable to our Guardsmen. Current legislative priorities include improving Reserve Component medical readiness & TRICARE expansion, civilian licenses and certificates given for military training, tax incentives to employers who hire members of the National Guard and Reserves and providing additional state benefits such as tuition waivers for dependents, free vehicle registration, and retirement kickers for those who serve beyond 20 years. These and many other issues are promoted by the Enlisted Association at the Federal and State legislatures to ensure our Enlisted Personnel have the benefits and entitlements they have earned and deserve. Now, more than ever, is the time for Enlisted Members to show support through joining a professional organization such as ours. During this conference, we ask you to assist in identifying the priorities and needs for Enlisted Personnel and their Families for the coming years. I encourage everyone to participate fully in the business of the Association and take the opportunity to network with other professionals.

Our organization has a strong history of success, brought about by people listening to our unified voice. We must build on our past achievements and move forward as an organization to meet the needs of our service members. Achieving this requires creating a balance of energized Junior Enlisted, experienced and dynamic Senior Enlisted, and knowledgeable Retirees whose combined voice will lead to future success for our Association and our Service Members. As we conduct business this weekend, please take the opportunity to share your stories of success with others and enlist the future faces of our Association.

Again, enjoy your stay and have a great Conference!

SFC Steven Trautman

President, NDNGEA



ESGR was established by the Department of Defense in 1972 as a volunteer agency under the DOD with the vision of “Creating a culture where all American employers support and value the military service of their Guard and Reserve employees.”

Delton Steele, State Chair

ND ESGR Office: 701-333-2202



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Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States

Executive Officers of EANGUS are elected to two-year terms of office by majority vote of the delegates at the General Conference of the Association.

President:

MSgt (Ret) Daniel Reilly

Vice President:

CSM (Ret) Robert Sweeney

Secretary:

SFC Mireya Cruz

Treasurer:

MSgt (Ret) Stephen Hagan

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North Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association (NDNGEA)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2023-2024

PRESIDENT	Steven Trautman (Army)
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DIRECTORS for AIR	Jamie Fankl and Amber Josephson
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RETIREE DIRECTOR	Tim Wolf (Army)
EX-OFFICIO	CSM Jason Magnuson (SEL) CMSgt Levi Heller (State CMD Chief) CSM Eric Binstock (ND State CSM)

ENLISTED ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

There are two types of scholarships available. The CSM Virgil R. Williams and the Patriot Scholarships are paid by EANGUS directly to the school the selectee is attending. The second type of scholarships are presented by specific universities that EANGUS has partnered with. The links below will guide you to the applications you will need to submit for each scholarship. The tabs below provide details of each scholarship along with the requirements. If at any time you have questions, please contact scholarship@eangus.org and someone will respond to your inquiry or request for assistance.

Requirements to apply:

1. EANGUS Membership Number (required for application)
2. Transcripts (HS, College, CLEP, etc.) (***IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO UPLOAD TRANSCRIPTS, SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION AND THEN EMAIL THEM TO: scholarship@eangus.org***)
3. On-line application (with transcripts uploaded)
4. Deadline to apply is **1 April 2024** (unless listed otherwise)

****Additional information may be required for specific schools****

For more information please visit: <https://eangus.org/scholarship-information/>

History of the Auxiliary

On August 30, 1973 (at the 2nd EANGUS Conference) 44 ladies representing 16 states met in Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa, to discuss the possibility of forming a National Auxiliary to EANGUS. Following much discussion, it was voted to form a National Auxiliary. Temporary officers were elected. The following year was spent working on a constitution and by-laws.



The organization meeting of the EANGUS Auxiliary met October 1, 1974 in the Gull Room of the Biloxi-Sheraton Motel in Biloxi, Mississippi. The acting temporary president (Mary McKamey of Louisiana) conducted the business sessions. The Constitution and By-laws Chairman presented the constitution and by-laws which were accepted. Officers were elected for 1974-1976. Area Directors were elected by their respective areas. Doris Williams of Mississippi was elected the first president.

At the Fourth Annual Conference in Colorado (1977), the membership voted to start a scholarship fund with the proceeds from a raffle. The Scholarship Committee set the requirements that an applicant must be the son, daughter, or spouse of an EANGUS Auxiliary member and must have a letter of endorsement from their state Auxiliary president.

On March 3, 1978, the Executive Board of EANGUS Auxiliary approved an emblem for the Auxiliary. It shows the Minuteman and Colonial Lady standing side by side with the name of the organization encircling them.



“Award given to someone who is recognized by the contribution of an individual who has given back to not only their respective association, but has put in the time and effort to better both organizations, therefore impacting the lives of Guardsmen, both Officer and Enlisted.”

Winners

2015 – SGM (Ret) Roger Johnson –Posthumously

2016 – MG (Ret) David Sprynczynatyk

2017 – Col Christopher Domitrovich

2018 – MSG (Ret) Carroll E. Quam

2019 – CPT (Ret) Randy Fuss

2020 – Maj Gen (Ret) Michael Haugen

2021 – SMSgt (Ret) Chuck Kasin

2022 – SFC Chuck Votava



The National Guard Association of North Dakota received its third consecutive 100% membership award at the 2023 NGAUS Conference held in Reno Nevada from August 18-21, 2023.



EANGUS

Who We Are

Committees

There are several types of committees involved in the efforts of **EANGUS**:

Standing Committees - Appointed by President and approved by Executive Council with the number of committee members determined by President.

General and Special Conference Committees - Credentials and Rules Committee. Not more than five members of the Executive Council. Appointed by President and Approved by Executive Council.

Other Appointments - Appointed by President and approved by Executive Council.

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) was formally organized in 1972 with the goal of increasing the voice of enlisted persons in the National Guard. As such, EANGUS is a non-profit organization dedicated to the principles of providing an adequate national defense and promoting the status, welfare, and professionalism of the men and women of the Army and Air National Guard by supporting legislation that provides adequate staffing, pay, benefits, entitlements, equipment, and installations for the National Guard.

Beginning with twenty-three states, EANGUS now represents all 50 states, Guam, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia, and has an association comprised of those who serve the National Guard on national tour. With a constituency base of over 414,000 soldiers and airmen, their families, as well as thousands of retired members, and headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, a stone's throw from Washington DC, EANGUS maintains a full-time staff to represent your interests to the Pentagon and on Capitol Hill.

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) has established the EANGUS "We Care For America" Foundation Inc. (WCFA). WCFA provides Scholarships, Awards, Patriotism Awareness, Veterans Against Drugs Program and the National Guard Soldier and Airmen Emergency Relief Fund.



Future Events: Save the Date

53rd Annual EANGUS Conference

Huntington Place – Detroit, Michigan
18 – 21 August 2024



4th Annual Roughrider Golf Tournament

Friday, Sept 27, 2024

Hawktree Golf Course, Bismarck, ND



Roughrider Conferences

March 21-22, 2025

Radisson Hotel, Bismarck

March 20-21, 2026

DoubleTree by Hilton, West Fargo



NGAUS Conferences



146th General Conference

Aug 23-26, 2024 in Detroit

Hosted by the Michigan National Guard

147th General Conference

Aug 22-25, 2025 in Milwaukee

Hosted by the Wisconsin National Guard

148th General Conference

Aug 28-31, 2026 in Indianapolis

Hosted by the Indiana National Guard

149th General Conference

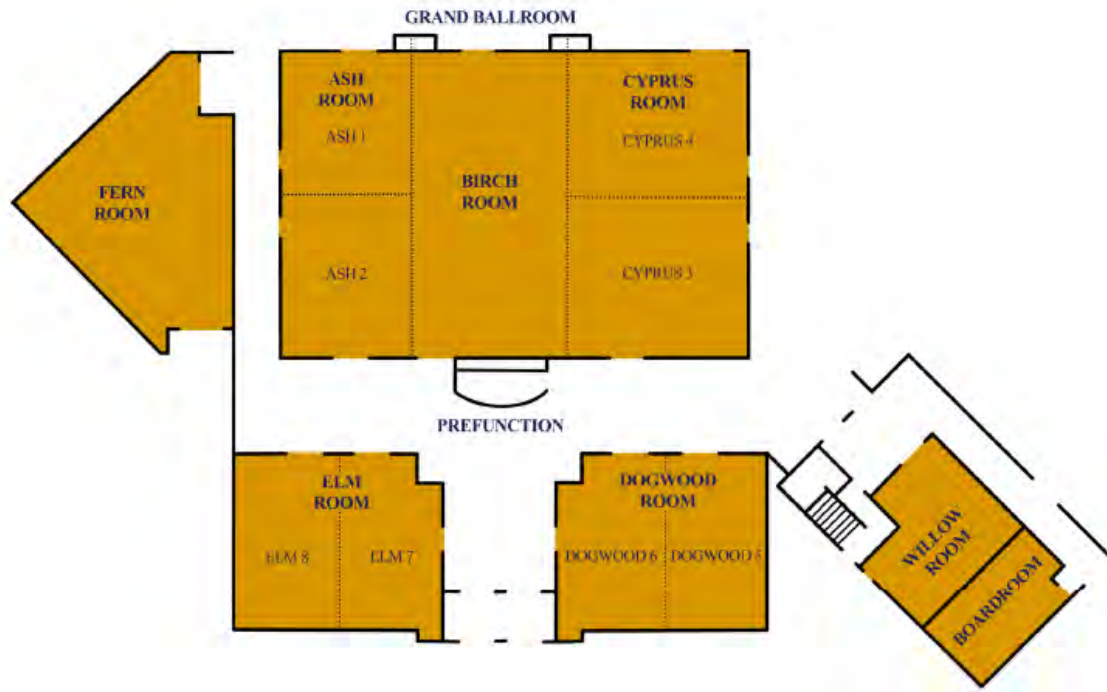
Aug 27-30, 2027 in Salt Lake City

Hosted by the Utah National Guard

DoubleTree by Hilton – West Fargo

EVENT CENTER

The West Fargo Conference Center



Team North Dakota represents at the 145th NGAUS General Conference

Team North Dakota represents at the 145th NGAUS General Conference & Exhibition held August 18-21 in Reno, Nevada. We're looking forward to bringing another great group of friends to the 146th NGAUS Conference, which promises to be one of the best in years. The Michigan National Guard will host the 54 States & Territories in Detroit from August 23-26, 2024.



2024 Roughrider Conference Agenda

Friday – 22 Mar

- 1400-1700 Conference and Vendor Set-Up
- 1700-1830 Association Board Meetings
- 1830-2345 Friends of the Roughrider Association Social
- Military Attendees, Retirees, Corporate Partners & Guests

Saturday – 23 Mar

- 0730-0830 Registration / Refreshments and Vendor Visit
- 0830-0845 Welcome: Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance
- 0845-0900 Update: Congressman Kelly Armstrong
- 0900-0915 Video Update: Senator Kevin Cramer
Video Update: Senator John Hoeven
- 0915-0945 EANGUS Update: Bob Sweeney, Vice President
NGAUS Update: JC Cardinale, Legislative Affairs Manager
- 0950-1030 TAG / Legislative Update: MG Alan Dohrmann & LTC Jay Sheldon
- 1045-1130 Keynote Address: Lt. Governor Tammy Miller
- 1130-1245 Lunch: Vendor Awards & Scholarships
- 1300-1430 General Session Breakouts for Associations
- 1430-1500 Break / Corporate Partner Visits
- 1500-1600 General Session Breakouts for Associations (if required)
- 1600-1615 Door & Grand Prize Drawings



Save the Date:
2025 Roughrider Conference
Radisson Hotel
Bismarck 21-22 March



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The Grand Lodge Of North Dakota
Welcome To Our Home - Come In And Visit

*North Dakota Masons -
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SUPPORTING YOU, BECAUSE WE ARE YOU

Since the 1860's, many U.S. Soldiers in North Dakota were Freemasons. They started masonic lodges in Dakota Territory at Fort Burford and Fort Pembina. In 1898, the First Regiment, United States Volunteers of North Dakota embarked for the Philippines. Many of those men were freemasons, who brought the tenants of freemasonry to that country. Lt. Col. Treumann, Major White, Major Fraine, and Lt. Col. Gilbert C. Grafton—whose names we all know—were freemasons there. What they started there, later became a national organization called the National Sojourners.

From Medal of Honor Recipients to Adjutants General, Freemasonry is an integral part of the North Dakota National Guard.

Today, the North Dakota Masonic Foundation is a 501c3 that has supported many charitable organizations. We've supported the North Dakota Military Museum project, Veterans Cemetery in Fargo, Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library, George Washington Masonic National Memorial, and many more.

For more information on freemasonry, feel free to go to beafreemason.org or ndmasons.com. You can also contact Lt. Daniel Haugen with the Highway Patrol at dhaugen@nd-masons.com.

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Keynote Address

Lt. Governor Tammy Miller



Tammy J. Miller was sworn in as the 39th lieutenant governor of North Dakota on Jan. 3, 2023.

A native of Brocket, N.D., Miller graduated from high school in Lakota. She earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and a Master of Business Administration degree from Minnesota State University Moorhead. Miller is a certified public accountant and early in her career spent eight years in public accounting.

Miller served as chief operating officer in the Governor's Office from April 2020 through December 2022, working with cabinet agencies to enhance citizen focus, drive innovation and improve the delivery of government services. She previously served as CEO of Fargo-based Border States, the sixth-largest electrical distributor in North America. Miller joined the employee-owned company in 1991 as the accounting manager and served in a variety of roles including corporate controller, vice president of finance, executive vice president, general manager for the southwest region and president. Under Miller's leadership, Border States grew from under \$500 million in annual sales to nearly \$2.5 billion.

In 2019, Miller was selected as one of Prairie Business magazine's inaugural Leaders & Legacies, a recognition event that honored 10 of the region's most successful and noteworthy executives.

In 2013, Miller received the Trailblazer Award from the National Association of Electrical Distributors (NAED), recognizing outstanding and dedicated service to NAED, its Women in Industry group, and the electrical distribution industry.

In 2007 and 2008, Miller became the first woman to lead NAED as board chair in its 100-year history. In 2009, she received the YWCA Women of the Year in Business Award in Fargo.

Miller led MSUM's Major Gifts Initiative to fund scholarships and a new wellness center on campus. She has received two distinguished alumni awards and the prestigious L.B. Hartz Professional Achievement Award from her alma mater. Additionally, Miller received the inaugural Influential Leaders Award from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

Miller was a founding member of the Grand Farm steering committee. The Grand Farm Initiative is designed to inspire collaboration among businesses, organizations and researchers to develop the farm of the future and solve issues critical to farmers worldwide.

Miller and her husband, Craig Palmer, support various nonprofit organizations. Miller has chaired numerous fundraising events and capital campaigns for TNT Kid's Fitness & Gymnastics, Plains Art Museum, United Way of Cass-Clay and the YWCA Cass Clay.

As lieutenant governor, Miller serves as president of the state Senate and chairs the Capitol Grounds Planning Commission, North Dakota Trade Office, Task Force for Military Issues in North Dakota, Northern Plains Unmanned Systems Authority, State Investment Board, State Board of Equalization and Early Childhood Council.



EANGUS Membership

Why should you join today?

Your membership dues help EANGUS lobby for the following benefits for you:

- ⦿ **Pay!** We lobby for pay raises to reduce pay equity
- ⦿ **Money!** Hazardous duty pay was increased
- ⦿ **Benefits!** \$300 per weekend for IDT travel
- ⦿ **Education!** New GI Bill with stipends and benefits
- ⦿ **Affordability!** Held TRICARE fees at today's level instead of 350% increase
- ⦿ **Healthcare!** Extended 5-year VA care eligibility
- ⦿ **Retirement!** Retirement points of 130 per year, up from 90
- ⦿ **Earlier Retirement!** Deployment time counts for earlier retirement

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141st MEB	MAJ Rachel Berg / MAJ Dennis Huffman
142nd Engineer Battalion	MAJ Jeff Steckler / CPT Amanda Tang
164th Engineering Battalion	CPT Justin Johnson / CPT Chris Spangler
68th Troop Command	MAJ Waylon Tomac / MAJ Danduran
1-112th AVN	MAJ Josh Yri
131st MP Battallion	MAJ Justin Huber
ARNG Med Det	CPT Matthew Winters
164th RTI, Camp Grafton Training Center	MAJ Brett J. Nelson
188th Air Defense Artillery	CPT Josh Roller
119th Wing Staff and Air NDHQ	Lt Col Ed Crary
119th Operations Group	Maj Ryan Bergh
119th Mission Support Group	Maj Greg Goodman
119th Wing Medical Group	Capt Samantha Nuenthel
119th Intel Surveillance & Recon. Group	Maj Kimbely Nelson
Retired Army Guard Officers	BG (Ret) Anderson / CPT (Ret) Fuss
Retired Air Guard Officer	Maj (Ret) Shaun Carlson
Resolutions - Army	MAJ Stan Brown
Resolutions - Air	Lt Col Lee Teigen

**NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF NORTH DAKOTA
PAST CHAIRS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
& PAST CONFERENCE LOCATIONS**

1994-95	Lt Col Terrence Thilmony	Minot
1995-96	LTC Gene Orson	Mandan
1996-97	Lt Col William Ziegler	Bismarck
1997-98	MAJ (Ret) Michael Starr	Grand Forks
1998-99	Lt Col Randall Herman	Minot
1999-00	COL (Ret) Ken Heitkamp	Jamestown
2000-01	Lt Col Scott Rising	Fargo
2001-02	LTC Jill Thomas	Bismarck
2002-03	Lt Col William Hejl	Bismarck
2003-04	COL Myron Lepp	Minot
2004-05	Lt Col Brent Ehrichs	Bismarck
2005-06	COL Robert Kilber	Fargo
2006-07	Col Patrick Martin	Bismarck
2007-08	MAJ Brian Keller	Fargo
2008-09	MAJ Sean Johnson	Bismarck
2009-10	Lt Col Nate Erstad	Fargo
2010-11	MAJ Patrick Flanagan	Bismarck
2011-12	Lt Col Greg McDonald	Fargo
2012-13	MAJ Patrick Flanagan	Bismarck
2013-14	LTC Jim Loegering	Fargo
2014-15	LTC Jim Loegering	Bismarck
2015-16	MAJ Jason McEvers	West Fargo
2016-17	CW2 Joshua Simmers	Bismarck
2017-18	Capt Roy Thomsen	West Fargo
2018-19	MAJ Stan Brown	Bismarck
2019-20	Maj Lee Teigen	West Fargo
2020-21	CPT David Stein	Virtual/Bismarck
2021-22	Capt Brett Nelson	West Fargo
2022-23	LTC Lucas Klettke	Bismarck
2023-24	Maj Nick Hanson	West Fargo

The National Guard Association of North Dakota State Sponsored Group Life Insurance Program

- **Over \$1,000,000 coverage available***
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- **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 North Dakota National Guard including deployment**

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

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 North Dakota State Sponsored Life Insurance is provided under group life insurance policies issued to the Militia Insurance Trust (MIT). The Guardian group life policy and the Uniformed Services Benefit Association (USBA) 10, 15 and 20 year level term life 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 11/17/23).

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

Thank You Bronze Level Partners!



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Outstanding Company Grade Officer – Air **Capt Mitch Mazaheri | 178th Attack Squadron**

Capt Mitch Mazaheri served as a pilot and deployed as a MQ-9 liaison officer supporting the George H.W. Bush Carrier Strike Group—the first USAF officer to act in this role. Capt Mazaheri enabled over 60 Air Tasking Order missions and over 600 combat support hours for Carrier Strike Group 10 and United States Naval Forces Europe. While deployed, Mitch pioneered and orchestrated exercises JACKPOT HOOLIGAN I and II which showcased the MQ-9's ability to expedite and complete the entire military kill-chain while integrating with five different Naval fighter and rotary aircraft. As a result of his efforts, Capt Mazaheri was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and further recognized by Lt Gen Loh, Director of the Air National Guard, stating, "1st Lt Mazaheri was instrumental in realizing the untapped capabilities of the MQ-9." Additionally, Mitch was hand-picked to conduct a Key Leader Engagement with the Deputy Commanding General of the Joint Special Operations Command—the only Company Grade Officer to do so. At the 119th Wing, Capt Mazaheri continuously volunteered for opportunities to leverage his weapons and tactics expertise in order to train new MQ-9 pilots, sensor operators, and intelligence personnel. Furthermore, Mitch established and sustained the Hooligan Retiree Appreciation Fund, which honors Hooligan accomplishments and dedication to service while increasing unit Esprit de Corps. Finally, 1st Lt Mazaheri served as the Mission Planning Cell Chief for two area-of-responsibility shifts. As the Chief, he briefed and trained over 100 MQ-9 aircrew members and intelligence personnel ensuring squadron readiness. Mitch's officership traits are inspiring to his peers as he continuously proves his significant value to the 119th Wing.



Outstanding Field Grade Officer – Air **Maj Kimberly Nelson | 176th Intelligence Squadron**

Maj Kimberly Nelson served as the Assistant Director of Operations for the 176th Intelligence Squadron. In her primary duty, she was responsible for and executed a 24/7, six-month operation in seamless coordination with the 603d Air Operations Center providing vital support for a EUCOM contingency response. As the mission lead for Operation ENDURING LOCATIONS, she spearheaded collaborative efforts with mission partners, enhancing the find, fix, and track process for 4,200 real-world targets. Additionally, Maj Nelson demonstrated her commitment by deploying with one-week's notice to US Army Garrison Wiesbaden for six weeks to fill a critical manning shortfall. In the role of liaison officer with Security Assistance Group-Ukraine (SAG-U), Kimberly acted as a critical node between distributed US Air Force targeting units and joint partners. During her deployment, she was recognized for outstanding performance by Lt Gen Aguto, Commander of SAG-U, and awarded the Air and Space Commendation Medal. Kimberly is active in the local community to include leading the Arthur American Legion Veteran's and Memorial Day events and volunteering for Great Plains Food Bank's Fill the Dome event. Kimberly serves as the 119th ISR Group's unit director for NGAND, where she has led unit morale events, chaired the Roughrider Scholarship Committee, and contributed significantly to the Association's 100% state membership status. Finally, she volunteered as an emcee for the Wing's Outstanding Airmen of the Year awards banquet, which recognized deserving members across the ND Air National Guard. Her actions reflect the core values of the Air Force and have significantly contributed to the success of the 119th Wing.



Outstanding Warrant Officer – Army

CW3 Lee Renner | CO A 1-112th AVN

CW3 Lee Renner volunteered and served as the 1-112 AV BN Unit Movement Officer and LUH-72 Lakota Pilot for a deployment to the SW Border Mission. Leading a coordination team with 342 Soldiers, 40 storage containers, 24 aircraft, and 37 rolling stock items, he switched airframes, logged over 300 safe flight hours, and detected 983 undocumented migrants. Renner's exceptional organizational and leadership skills earned him the Meritorious Service Medal. His voluntary commitment and adept handling of the deployment showcased his significant contribution to the 1-112 AV BN's success.



Outstanding Company Grade Officer – Army

CPT Amanda Tang | 815 EN CO

CPT Amanda Tang served as the Battalion's Anti-Terrorism Officer and Operations Security Officer, excelling in developing programs and measures for over 500 Soldiers at seven facilities. She earned the Emergency Service Ribbon for Operation Lone Star, demonstrated outstanding leadership as the Battalion Training Officer, and was promoted to Captain. CPT Tang volunteered as the NGAND CO-Director, achieving 3rd place in improved membership. Her career progression, including completing the Engineer Captain Career Course, showcased her dedication. As a Company Commander, she saved \$10M through logistical efforts and represented the NDARNG at the National Training Center. CPT Tang, a mother of two, prioritizes community involvement and gymnastics programs. Her exemplary leadership and commitment to mission readiness earned her the nomination for Company Grade Officer of the Year. She is recognized for mentoring Soldiers, promoting safety, and actively contributing to leadership conferences. CPT Tang's unique leadership qualities position her as a driving force for change and a standard-bearer in the organization.



Outstanding Field Grade Officer – Army

MAJ Ben Barille | HSC 141 MEB

MAJ Ben Barille has mentored and trained over 250 Soldiers in the CBRN Response Enterprise. Serving as the lead Project Officer for the 164 Engineer Battalion, he managed \$1.8M in funding, organized training exercises, and facilitated the successful movement of equipment across states. His detailed planning and collaboration with various partners earned the battalion a T rating in all assigned Mission Essential Tasks. MAJ Barille has demonstrated commitment and immersed himself in CBRN Response Enterprise principles. As a mentor and coach, he models mission command and servant leadership, fostering trust among teams. Active in his church, community, and Knights of Columbus, he volunteers with his wife for youth activities and his daughter's gymnastics events. MAJ Barille is the only Field Artillery Officer in the state of North Dakota. His passion for training on fire missions has led to success at Brigade Warfighters and unique opportunities for Soldiers in North Dakota and beyond. His dedication to developing leaders and responding to natural disasters underscores his outstanding service as a father, husband, and citizen Soldier.

***NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF NORTH DAKOTA
PAST OFFICERS OF THE YEAR***

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* Starting in 1993 NGAND began Field Grade and Company Grade Award Categories

1993	Lt Col Lawrence Woodbury 1Lt Ronald Solberg	LTC Eugene Lang CPT Kyle Eid
1994	Maj Robert Edlund Capt Scott Rising	CW4 Ralph Metcalf CPT Leslie Norhre
1995	Maj Robert Becklund Capt James Kelly	MAJ Arnold Strebe CPT David D. Isaak
1996	Col Albert Lerberg III 2Lt Tad Schauer	COL Dean Hildebrand CPT Judith Van Voorhis
1997	Lt Col Wesley Belter 1Lt Thomas Beynon	MAJ David Anderson CPT Giselle Wilz
1998	Maj James Maroney 1Lt Darrin Anderson	MAJ Jon Hanson CPT Jeff Nelson
1999	Maj Marshall Kjelvik Capt Bradley Derrig	LTC Robert Kilbur CPT Jackie Huber
2000	Lt Col Joan Bentz 1Lt Gregory McDonald	MAJ Michael Hall CPT Davina French
2001	Lt Col William Hejl 1Lt Craig Borgstrom	MAJ Shawn Ackre CPT Todd Helbling
2002	Maj Stacy Matter Capt Nathan Brenneman	MAJ Lannie Runck CPT Warren Pauling
2003	Lt Col Brent Ehrichs Capt Todd Branden	MAJ David Isaak CPT Brent Naslund
2004	Maj Kent Olson Capt Allen Albright	MAJ Lee Nordin CPT Benjamin Cleghorn
2005	Maj Todd Branden 2Lt Jennifer Silbernagel	MAJ Scott Fontaine CW2 Kathleen Mauch
2006	Lt Col Michael Nelson Capt Kyle Bakken	COL Gordan Leingang CW2 Jay Knopp
2007	Maj Gregory McDonald Capt Teresa McDonough	MAJ David Johnson CW2 Kevin Mehrer
2008	Lt Col John Dougherty Capt Ryan Rastedt	MAJ Robert Fugere CPT Paul Helton
2009	Lt Col John Flowers 1Lt Bobbette Bengs	LTC Bradley Bekkedahl CPT Ann Mutzenberger
2010	Maj Jerrad Krapp Capt Grant Larson	MAJ James Olson CPT Amber Monette
2011	Maj Mitch Johnson 1Lt Robert Davidson	MAJ Russ Wolf CPT Derek Kuntz
2012	Maj Matt Kiser Capt Brad Jernberg	MAJ Mark Topp CPT Matt Voeller
2013	Maj Kyle Ness Capt Nathan Lagred	MAJ Jodee Aubol CPT Lucas Klettke
2014	Maj Chad Vorderbruggen Capt Roy Thomsen	MAJ Robert Bohl CPT Chance Schaffner

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* Starting in 2015 NGAND added the Warrant Officer Award Category

2015	Maj Jackie Nord Capt Gregory Goodman	MAJ Daniel Murphy CPT Jay Sheldon CW3 Cody Hertz
2016	Lt Col Ryan Ayers Capt Jeffrey Hovdenes	MAJ Steven Bohl CPT Justin Gall CW3 Galen Roness
2017	Maj Lee Teigen 1st Lt Kali Lettenmaier	LTC Ralph Romans CPT Robert Meland CW3 Jammy Ryckman
2018	Maj Joshua Schochenmaier Capt Daniel Sly	LTC Patrick Flanagan CPT Kalli Swenson CW3 Kiley Kuntz
2019	Maj Robert Davidson Capt Brett Nelson	MAJ Nicolette Daschendorf CPT John Mazur CW3 Arnold Zins
2020	Maj Eric Mattson Capt Ryan Bergh	MAJ Robbie Hertz CPT Annie Gerhardt CW3 Steven Hoikkala
2021	Maj Nick Hanson Capt Tim Soderstrom	MAJ Waylon Tomac CPT Thomas Hansen CW5 Kiel Skager
2022	Lt Col Jeff Hovdenes Capt Jesse Moch	MAJ Lucas Klettke CPT Joseph Terveen W01 Richard Blumler
2023	Maj Dan Sly Capt Cody Chick	MAJ Alan Roehrich CPT Connor Kelley CW2 Michael Mahon



NGAUS

Meet the Team

Notable NGAUS Accomplishments:

- Early retirement credit for National Guard and Reserve service members under 12304b orders
- Access to TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) for federal employees who serve in the National Guard beginning in 2030, including dual-status technicians
- 1.3 billion for the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account (NGREA), includes: \$395 million for the Army National Guard; \$395 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 million for 4 C-130J Super Hercules aircraft for the Air National Guard
- \$100 million for the Army National Guard High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) modernization program
- \$75 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 million for the National Guard preventative mental health program

Col (Ret) Mike Hadley

Vice President, Government Affairs
202-408-5881
mike.hadley@ngaus.org

Marcy Weldin

Deputy Legislative Director
202-408-5884
marcy.weldin@ngaus.org

Julian Plamann

Legislative Affairs Manager, Joint
202-408-5899
julian.plamann@ngaus.org

Russ Read

Legislative Affairs Manager, Air
202-408-5897
russel.read@ngaus.org

Aubrey Powers

Legislative Analyst
aubrey.powers@ngaus.org
440-785-3328

Alec Gonzalez

Legislative Assistant
202-408-5898
alec.gonzalez@ngaus.org

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