



# THE ENLISTED *ECHO*

Summer 2022



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Working for Soldiers & Airmen  
at the Annual Conference

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\* = Voting Members

## Upcoming Events

### FUTURE STATE CONFERENCES

TBD 2023-Brookings, SD  
TBD 2024-Chamberlain, SD  
TBD 2025-Sioux Falls, SD (co-located)

### FUTURE NATIONAL CONFERENCES

August 7-10, 2022 - Little Rock, AR  
TBD 2023 - St. Paul/Minneapolis, MN  
TBD 2024—TBD, Michigan

### FUTURE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS

September 16, 2022— Deadwood, SD

### FUTURE BLACK HILLS VETERANS HONOR MARCH

September 17, 2022- Deadwood, SD

### NEXT ECHO DEADLINE

Fall 2022- Deadline for submissions is 15 October 2022

The ECHO is produced three times a year by the South Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association

Letters to the Editor, article requests, and other state association items should be forwarded to the ECHO Editor, Sarah Callies, at [sarah.callies@live.com](mailto:sarah.callies@live.com) or 8006 E Callies Place, Sioux Falls, SD 57110.

"The Enlisted ECHO" is published by and for members of the SDNGEA. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the United States Army or Air Force or the South Dakota National Guard, Army or Air.

Please send all e-mail changes to SDNGEA, Attn: Derek Jaeger, [djaeger44@gmail.com](mailto:djaeger44@gmail.com)

# From Your President



By MSgt Derek Jaeger

Just like that 2022 is over a quarter of the way done in what seems like a blink of an eye. I want to thank everyone for the votes and confidence in me to serve a second term as your President of the South Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association. I learned a great deal through my first term and look forward to serving you again for the upcoming year. With support from the members of the SDNGEA and the rest of the Executive Council, we plan on doing some things to bring back the pride and greatness that this Association once was.

In April, we held our 63rd Annual State Conference in Rapid City, SD. We got some good business discussed and had some great ideas on where to go with the SDNGEA. Additionally, we passed 12 resolutions which will be taken to the EANGUS National Conference in August and discussed with our state legislative delegates. While it did not make it during this past legislative session, we are continuing to push hard for 100% State Tuition Assistance. Additionally, we began discussion about potentially changing our logo. It was decided to bring it up to the members of the South Dakota National Guard members for their input. Be on the lookout for that in the coming months. While there was some great networking, camaraderie, and a successful business session, there was some things that really opened my eyes and pointed out things we need to work on as an Enlisted Association. First thing is that the attendance was a reflection about what is happening with our membership numbers, and that is one thing that really must change. I am challenging each unit to have representation at our 64th Annual State Conference in Brookings. I want units to take pride in being a part of the Enlisted Association and obtaining that 100% membership. As CSM Couser put it, "We need to be strong and proud, so that we do not lose our voice when it comes to matters that impact our South Dakota National Guard and their families." Secondly, we need to continue to talk about what the Enlisted Association is and does for guardsmen and their families.

Upcoming yet this year we have the 51st Annual EANGUS National Conference in Little Rock, AR on 7 to 10 August and the Black Hills Veterans March and Marathon in Deadwood on 17 September. We are always looking for help with the Veterans March, so if you or any one you know is interested please let me know. It is a great way to spend a day in the beautiful Black Hills.

There is a lot of work to be done, but with the people we have in place and the resources available to the members of the SDNGEA and to the SD National Guard, we will regrow this Association and restore the pride in being a member of the South Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association. If you have any questions or comments, you can reach me at [djaeger44@gmail.com](mailto:djaeger44@gmail.com). Thank you for your support and hard work as a member of the South Dakota National Guard and the South Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association.

## From Your 2nd Vice President, SSG Tabitha Carr

This year's state conference in Rapid City was a success and I want to thank everyone who planned it. I am looking forward to serving another year as the 2nd vice and am looking to propose some changes that I think will better benefit our organization. First, I want to remove the committee members at large positions as I feel those positions make the membership process more confusing. Instead of BN reps working through them to the membership chair, units will work with BN's who will work directly to membership chair. I do not plan to entirely eliminate those positions, I would like to re-assign them to better benefit our organization, some ideas have been: a sponsorship chair (this position would be responsible for talking to businesses to become a corporate sponsor, which can ensure dues don't have to be raised, we can create our own scholarship fund, help fund conferences...etc). A mentorship chair (someone who can really take the time to guide and assist new executive council members to be successful in their new position. A marketing position (I would like this person to send out monthly "did you know's" or up to date pieces on what the SDNGEA has been doing to get out to members on a quick little flyer). If anyone has any ideas or thoughts on those listed above or ideas on more positions that could benefit our organization, please let me know.

The second item I want to get approved at our next state conference is to set up a \$3000 scholarship that is JUST for South Dakota Enlisted Association members and their dependents. There is a lot of work that will go into getting this funded and approved, which can't be done until after the next state conference, but we are looking at adding it in the future. In the meantime, we will be adding a \$1000 SDNGEA scholarship for the coming year so keep an eye out for that.

The next item I want to discuss is the 2024 state conference. I will be helping Courtney Tyrrell plan that conference in Chamberlain. We have already started working on ideas, but I would love some opinions to make the experience better than ever. If children were allowed to come to the banquet on one of the evenings and it was family appropriate, but still really fun, would you be more inclined to attend the conference and bring family or not? If we do a family friendly night and leave the second night for adults only while the kids get to have their own, fun special event would that interest you or would you prefer both nights to be kids free, or both nights kids included? Please send me your thoughts and get this out to your Soldiers, I want opinions!! My email is [tabitha.a.carr4.mil@army.mil](mailto:tabitha.a.carr4.mil@army.mil)

I am really looking forward to these next few years and hope that we can grow once more to what we were almost 10 years ago. If anyone is interested in attending the National Conference in Little Rock, AR 7-10 August, let me know, we would love to see you there!

### Note from Shelley Reeder, Historian:

*I'm looking for the location of any of the historical data for the Association that you may have knowledge of. If you have any historical data or know where it is located, please contact me at [shell\\_reeder@yahoo.com](mailto:shell_reeder@yahoo.com). Also, if you have any fun items that you think should be included in the historical data, please don't hesitate to send it to me. These are your historical binders and I want to make sure everyone gets a voice in this.*

**PAST PRESIDENTS:** *I'm working on the Past Presidents' Book and would like your input for this. If you have a brief bio or can prepare one, please forward the same to me. Currently there are only obituaries from our Past Presidents and I think we can do better than that. I also have photos that were in some of the binders, but if you have a specific photo you'd like included, send it to me so I can ensure your page reflects you.*

*Lastly, I would like to begin a new binder of special projects that we have done as an Association. If you have articles, pictures or information, please get it to me.*

## 2022 SDNGEA Resolutions

### **SD Resolution 2022-01-Implementation of Maternity Leave Benefits**

*Description:* Section 603 of the 2021 NDAA authorized 12 drill periods to be paid for maternity leave but additional guidance is needed to implement. *Business Case:* Army Directive 2022-06 dated 22 April 2022 provided necessary guidance for the Army components to implement paid maternity leave. The Air Force is hopefully following suit but we would like it to be expedited. *Proposal:* Provide necessary guidance to implement maternity leave benefits as authorized in the 2021 NDAA section 603 in regards to 12 paid drill periods.

### **SD Resolution 2022-02-ANG Federal Tuition Assistance**

*Description:* The ANG ran a pilot program to test the National Guard Federal Tuition Assistance Program, however it was not rolled out due to funding. *Business Case:* The ARNG has enjoyed this benefit and we would like the ANG to also have this opportunity. With civilian education continuing to have increasing importance for promotions and leadership opportunities, we believe that it is very important to provide additional resources for Airmen to continue their civilian education. *Proposal:* Fund federal tuition assistance for the ANG.

### **SD Resolution 2022-03-Total Force Policy**

*Description:* We believe that we need to support Directing the Department of Defense to conduct a study and publish a total force policy. This would give both the Reserve forces and the National Guard a clear path forward in their operational training. *Business Case:* The DoD lacks a current, written, or relevant Total Force Policy. Section 1101 of NDAA 1991 states, "The Department of Defense has not adequately implemented the Total Force Policy since 1973." One could argue that the 1991 NDAA statement is still true over thirty years later. Secretary Melvin Laird initiated the Total Force policy concept in August 1970, over a half-century ago. Six subsequent Secretaries of Defense have issued a notable policy on Active Component (AC) and Reserve Component (RC) Integration. Secretary Gates signed out the last policy in January 2007 principally on limiting mobilizations to 12 months and resetting mobilization to dwell time clocks. *Proposal:* Support Directing the Department of Defense to conduct a study and publish a total force policy.

### **SD Resolution 2022-04-National Guard Cyber security Support Act**

*Description:* We believe that we need to urge Congress to pass and appropriate funds for HR 2982 and S. 70, which will modify title 32 U.S. Code § 502(f) to allow governors to authorize cyber missions and other training. *Business Case:* Cyber threats on critical infrastructure are a vulnerability in each state that implicate severe national security risks. National Guard Cyber teams are trained and ready to assess cyber vulnerability and protect networks from cyber-attacks. DoD previously used policy memorandums to guide the use of National Guard personnel and equipment to assist state and local governments in preventing critical infrastructure. Still, these policies are insufficient to meet the current threat. *Proposal:* Urge Congress to pass and appropriate funds for HR 2982 and S. 70, which will modify title 32 U.S. Code § 502(f) to allow governors to authorize cyber missions and other training.

### **SD Resolution 2022-05-Tax Laws and Policies to establish a tax credit for employers**

*Description:* Update Tax Laws and Policies to establish a tax credit for employers who hire National Guard and Reserve members and retain them through periods of deployment. *Business Case:* Guard and Reserve service members continue to experience problems maintaining employment because of the demands for meeting the increased operational support provided to active duty. While employers have tried to support national security, it would be naïve to think they are not encountering their problems during these times. Companies are absorbing the cost of replacing service members with temporary employees or increasing overtime to fill the vacancy of mobilizations. *Proposal:* Provide tax benefits to employers who hire National Guard and Reserve members and retain them through periods of deployment.

### **SD Resolution 2022-06-Amend Title 26 USC §62(a)(2)(E) to decrease the distance for the above-the-line deduction for travel expenses**

*Description:* It is time to amend the tax code to change the above-the-line deductions for Guard and Reserve members who travel more than 50 miles from their residence. *Business Case:* Currently, the law only allows the deduction when performing military duty 100 miles from their home. This change would bring the Guard and Reserve in line with comparable 50-mile criteria for other deductions such as moving expenses and funeral honors. One might say that this is a change that should have occurred ten years ago when the 2005 Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission

## 2022 SDNGEA Resolutions Continued

recommended a total of 182 closures or realignment recommendations. History has shown that BRAC implementations result in fewer installations, increasing the distance Guard and Reserve members must travel to perform duty. *Proposal:* Update the distance for above-the-line deduction for travel expenses.

### **SD Resolution 2022-07-TSP Contribution Limits**

*Description:* We believe that we need to urge Congress to exempt Title 26 USC 401(k) Guard and Reserve employee and government contribution limits from the new “blended retirement” plan. *Business Case:* Under the new blended retirement program, some Guard and Reserve members will be forced to surrender some of their civilian retirement if they want to contribute to their military retirement because of contribution limits set by the IRS. Many individuals work in civilian jobs with 401k retirement programs when not in military service. For example, while members could split the \$18,000 (2015) limit between the two places of employment, they would be undercutting their retirement pensions in both their civilian and military retirement plans. EANGUS met with senior leaders from the Pentagon, and they expressed that it was not their intent to reduce retirement benefits for Guard and Reserve through tax law. EANGUS believes this was an unintended consequence due to being unfamiliar with Title 26. *Proposal:* Urge Congress to exempt Title 26 USC 401(k) Guard and Reserve employee and government contribution limits from the new “blended retirement” plan.

### **SD Resolution 2022-08-Tax Penalties**

*Description:* We believe that we need to urge Congress to update IRS Revenue Procedure 2016-47 to allow Guard and Reserve members on military deployment to qualify for a waiver of the 60-day rollover requirement. *Business Case:* Of the eleven conditions specified by the IRS as acceptable reasons to request a penalty waiver for exceeding the 60-day rollover requirement, none allow for a release in the event of a military deployment. Some of the conditions the IRS does consider valid to justify a release include the taxpayer losing the check, if a taxpayer’s family member died or was seriously ill, and even if the taxpayer was incarcerated. EANGUS believes that a taxpayer who is a military member on deployment should be afforded at least the same consideration as a taxpayer in jail, who faced a postal error, or who dealt with a family illness. IRS Revenue Procedure 2016-47 “... guides waivers of the 60-day rollover requirement contained in §§ 402(c)(3) and 408(d)(3)” in Title 26. The complete list of valid conditions can be found at (<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/rp-16-47.pdf>) *Proposal:* We believe that we need to urge Congress to update IRS Revenue Procedure 2016-47 to allow Guard and Reserve members on military deployment to qualify for a waiver of the 60-day rollover requirement.

### **SD Resolution 2022-09-Spouse Employment**

*Description:* We believe that we need to urge Congress to create a target group for uniformed services spouses under the Work Opportunity Tax Credits to drive down the unemployment rate while incentivizing businesses with a much-needed tax benefit. 26 U.S.C. § 51(d)(1) *Business Case:* Since the Reserve and National Guard are considered local military forces, many believe that spouses could not have the same problem with employment as active-duty spouses. However, that is not the case according to the 2017 Military One Source spouse survey that shows a higher unemployment rate for Reserve and National Guard U.S. Army E1-E4s, minority and service members with no college\some college. Because of reductions in military strength for the Reserve Component, many more people are moving for promotion opportunities. *Proposal:* We believe that we need to urge Congress to create a target group for uniformed services spouses under the Work Opportunity Tax Credits to drive down the unemployment rate while incentivizing businesses with a much-needed tax benefit. 26 U.S.C. § 51(d)(1)

### **SD Resolution 2022-10-Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account**

*Description:* We believe that we need to urge Congress and the Administration to encourage the Department of Defense to offer FSAs to the uniformed service Reserve Component performing inactive and active duty. *Business Case:* Unlike most active-duty families, the opportunity for Reserve Component members to use daycare on installations that offers reduced tuition is almost nonexistent. Offering an FSA would provide them with relief to high daycare costs and is portable for use with off-installation facilities. This is a no-cost, no-share benefit that DoD could provide to Active and Reserve families. *Proposal:* We believe that we need to urge Congress and the Administration to encourage the Department of Defense to offer FSAs to the uniformed service Reserve Component performing inactive and active duty.

# 63rd Annual Conference Minutes

22-23 April 2022 Ramkota Hotel, Rapid City, SD

**Joint Call to Order** NGASD President Cody Becker & SDNGEA President Derek Jaeger

**Posting of Colors** OCS Students

**National Anthem** Tamra Simes

**Invocation/Memorial Service** Chaplain Stimes

**Introduction of Special Guests** President Jaeger

The Adjutant General MG Jeffrey Marlette, Assistant Adjutant General BG Pat Pardy, Chief of Staff COL Scott Petrack, Position and Rank Ken Schoenfelder, State Senior Leader CSM Pat Couser, Position MG Retired Ray Carpenter, NAGUS Chief of Staff COL Retired Paul Drake, EANGUS Area V Army Representative MSG Nate Hedin

**Introduction of Sponsors** President Becket

USAA, Keystone Mortgage, Columbia State University, Waldorf University, Pioneer Bank, Family Programs Support Team Financial Support Team, ESGR, VA Black Hills Health Coordinator and Military to VA Social Worker and Patient Advocate

**Representative of Senator Michael Rounds** Mike Beckett

Topics discussed included: Full-time National Guard manning issues, Technician Bonuses, Tricare for Federal Employees, Tricare rates for grey area retirees, concurrent receipt offset, MOMS Act, SAD Reimbursement, and Military Construction.

**Representative of Senator John Thune** Jesse Uing

Topics discussed included: National Security and Defense, Second Amendment, Inflation, Energy Independence for America, Protection of the Southwest Border, and VA commission recommendation to build new Black Hills VA Hospital in Rapid City while transitioning Hot Springs and Sturgis.

**Representative of Congressman Dusty Johnson** Andrew Christianson

Also discussed topics included: South Dakota National Guards' awards, Military Pay Raises, GI Bill Eligibility, and Defense Spending.

**NAGUS Chief of Staff COL(R) Paul Drake**

Discussed sharing the accomplishments of these professional organizations with others in order to increase membership.

Additional topics discussed included: Emergency funding to help Guard members in times of need, Changes to our Insurance Program, Scholarships,

News and Publications, Professional Development Opportunities in Washington DC, Advocating for Guard Readiness and Quality of Life, Parity with the Active Component – resources and benefits, DD 214 vs NGB 22 for Guard members, Suicide Prevention, and NAGUS Think Tank.

**Adjutant General's Comments** MG Jeffrey Marlette

Thank you for the general body for attending the session and for what all of the Soldiers have done in the past year. Thank you for understanding the value of these organizations and dedicating your time to be here.

National Guard periods of history are always changing and we are currently changing with the international conflicts and the pandemic.

Number one priority remains taking care of Soldiers, Airmen, and their families. Times have been tough but the priority remains.

This past year we had a record number of suicides within the SDNG. We need everyone's help to prevent this from happening. As teammates we need to remain engaged in our force.

Sexual Assaults are still happening in our ranks and cannot be tolerated.

Thankful that we have a governor that understand the National Guard. Governor Kristi Noem is a strong advocate for the guard members.

Vaccine mandates have been tough but it was a direct order. The ANG was not able to pay drill pay for anyone who is not vaccinated starting 1 Jan and has not applied for an exemption, and the ARNG will follow suit on 1 July 2022.

Deployments are still happening and the SDNG has been in every combatant command, and this is not slowing down. Discussing what is the Guard's role



# 63rd Annual Conference Minutes Continued

with the Russian / Ukraine conflict, whether with equipment, manpower, or both.

Recognize the fact that the SDNG continues to support to civil authorities. Missions have included mass testing, vaccination support, civil disturbance, wildland fire, search and rescue. Continue to meet all federal requirements in addition to state support.

State Partnership with Suriname is in the best shape that it has ever been in.

Bills related to the SDNG include funding for new Readiness Center in Sioux Falls, addition to the Wagner Armory, possibly add on to the Brookings Armory, Renovation of the Camp Rapid BOQ, New Maintenance Shop in Watertown, Range Road Cold Storage, Drainage projects, additional land purchased near FMS Shop in Chamberlain.

100% State Tuition Assistance is in the work with the Governor and the SD Board of Regents, hopeful that we can get it into a bill during the next business session.

Tricare for all guard members is being pushed at the national level. Wyoming pushed their state legislator to ensure that their soldiers and airmen were covered by Tricare.

Our South Dakota National Guard museum needs updated and architects have been interviewed. Support is out there to help this happen but it is in its infancy.

AGR force reduction by 32 slots hurts.

Future challenges include having a timely federal budget, recruiting struggles, aging armories, equipment updates, and vaccine requirements.

Acknowledge the support, dedication and sacrifice from the employers and families.

## **Assistant Adjutant General (Army) BG Pat Pardy**

Major concern is that recruiting is not keeping up with attrition, not to mention some force structure growth.

This is a National issue as well and this has a lot of ramifications.

The military is becoming a family business; people who are joining our ranks are likely related to someone already enlisted. We need to all help fill the ranks with quality soldiers and airmen

## **Assistant Adjutant General (Air) LTC Sally Ketchum for BG Gregory Lair**

The SDANG continues to win national awards, most awarded in the National Guard, and has strong Fighter Aviation Heritage.

There will be some leadership changes with promotions and retirements.

End Strength is number one in the nation and has airmen from 20 states.

Vision and mission statements have changed verbiage.

Continue to deploy and support many missions.

Continue to support the community, airmen and family members with monthly talking points.

Excited for new buildings, updates, and new simulator building.

## **Break for Lunch 12:00-12:45**

## **Reconvened as SDNGEA at 12:45**

## **Introduction of Special Guests President Jaeger**

EANGUS Area V Army Representative MSG Nate Hedin, Area V Auxillary Treasurer Edna Steinberg, Past President Jerry Eisenbraun, State Senior Enlisted Leader CSM Patrick Couser, and Past President Don List

## **Roll Call Courtney Tyrrell**

Roll call of Executive Council was conducted with members present. Quorum was met.

## **Motion to Deviate from Agenda Tabitha Carr**

Tabitha Carr made a motion to deviate from the agenda and Don Kranz seconded. Motion Carried.

## **Approval of Minutes President Derek Jaeger**

Motion was made for approval of minutes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual SDNGEA Conference by Shelley Reeder and seconded by Helen Juelfs. Motion passed.

## **Guest Speaker - SDNG Psychological Health Program Kristi "Cricket" Palmer**

Heartfelt thanks was given for the SDNGEA's support of the Red Ribbon Week in the past. President Jaeger had the honor of helping to present to one of the winner at Brandon Valley Middle School Red Ribbon Week coloring contest.





# 63rd Annual Conference Minutes Continued

Red Ribbon Week started in 1985 and has a large local impact with our youth. She asked for our continued support with sharing the information to spread drug prevention information to our youth.

## Auxiliary Report President Kayleen Meyers

Membership is at 12 and 15 associate members and 9 life members. Please see Kaylie if you would like to sign up your spouse or if you would like to join as an associate member.

There were 6 scholarship applications but only 2 were eligible. Please encourage more students to apply.

## Area V Auxiliary Report Edna Steinberg

Edna oversees 9 states but only 2 have active auxiliary states. She also encouraged membership to help their organization.

## Scholarship Report Tabitha Carr

30 competitive applications but 8 were not eligible.

A board was compiled to review the applications and winners were selected.

2 Duke Corning \$1000: Matthew Lafave and Zoey Magor.

USAA \$1000: Connor Eimers

Malow \$500: Rebecca Hegaman

4 NGASD \$500 Scholarships: Tyson Lein, Olivia Reese, Levi Redlof, Reese Henry

Report filed as presented

## Nominations Report Nate Hedin

Derek Jaeger for President

Tabitha Carr for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice

Rick VandenHoek for Area V Committee Member At Large

Kayleigh Cihak for Treasure

Nominations will close at noon tomorrow

## Investment Committee Report Nate Hedin

Recommends leaving the CD in place in Watertown as well as starting an additional CD, based on interest rates increasing.

## By Laws Committee Report Nate Hedin

No recommended By Laws Changes were submitted for this year.

## Sponsorship Report Nate Hedin

Tracy Hague and Wyatt Resmon were both sponsored to attend this conference.

## Audit Report Wyatt Resmon

No significant errors were found, but encourages all to attend the committee meetings for more information.

## Preliminary Resolutions Report Courtney Tyrrell

4 resolutions were discussed by the committee and another resolution is being researched.

## Publications Report Sarah Callies

Feedback has been positive about the spring 2022 ECHO publication.

Hoping to better utilize social media platforms to share information.

Hoping to find more sponsors for advertisements and also print more copies to place in Armory's.

Deadline for Summer Echo will be 20 May 2022.

## Ways and Means Jerico Witte

Discussed ways to increase income, specifically an online store. This will be looked into as the startup costs could be detrimental unless another avenue can be found.

## Awards Ceremony American Legion State Commander Gary Watco

Senior Enlisted Leader, CSM Pat Couser thanked the American Legion for teaming up with the best Warrior and Airmen competitions.

1SG Taylor Sperl, SDARNG 1SG of the Year

SPC Connor Elrich, SDARNG Best Warrior

SSG Jordan Johnson, SDARNG NCO of the Year

SSgt Cooper Eliason, SDANG NCO of the Year

MSgt Colin Tobin, SDANG SNCO of the Year

SA Wyatt Resmon, SDANG Airmen of the Year

## 20 Year Certificate Prestation President Jaeger

SSG Bjorn Heinstejn, 1SG Cory Richert, and SFC Mark Poncelett were present and presented pin's by the Senior Enlisted Leader, CSM Pat Couser. We would



# 63rd Annual Conference Minutes Continued

like help in handing out the remaining certificates of the individuals that were not able to attend the conference.

## **BHVM Committee Report Josh Wermers**

230+ registered last year, slightly down from the previous year. The 110 mile endurance march continues to grow.

Thank you to CSM Couser and Chief xx for handing out coins at the finish line.

\$2250 donated – \$500 to helping hands, \$500 to BH Health Care, xxx, \$500 to Veterans Community Project, and xx didn't get his report and couldn't type fast enough

Registration is currently open.

## **Admin Notes President Jaeger**

Last call for Proxy Letters.

EANGUS will be hosting the first virtual career fair and more info will be shared when it comes available.

Shelly Reeder stepped up as our Historian so please let her know if you have any questions or documents for her.

MSG Hedin recognized the E-8 and E-9's in the room and thanked them for their support of this organization. This is the most Senior Enlisted that we have had present at a state conference in a very long time.

## **Recess of 1<sup>st</sup> business session at 1:48pm on April 22, 2022 President Jaeger**

## **Start of 2<sup>nd</sup> business session 10am on April 23, 2022 President Jaeger**

## **State Senior Enlisted Leader CSM Pat Couser**

Thanked everyone for attending this conference. Also, he encouraged everyone to spread the word to help this conference grow and share the knowledge gained from this organization.

He would like to meet with his E-8's and E-9's to see why our conference attendance and membership continues to decrease. As well as polling the junior enlisted to make sure that they know what the organization does for them.

Remarks were made about Best Warrior and Airmen competitions, as well as "This is my squad". These programs are bringing back some of the old time comradery that has slowly changed with technology. One big change that is coming is that there will no longer be a National Best Warrior Competition, instead they would like to have a National This is My Squad Competition. Financially, this is very

taxing and will have numerous other challenges, and because of this, SDARNG is still going to have a Best Warrior and NCO Competition. The Best Airman of the Year, and NCO, and 1SG Competition will stay the same in the SDANG.

CSM Couser also informed us that he will probably be retiring next year but he will still be at our conference and will continue to support this organization.

MSG Hedin asked a question about pushback that is sometimes received when members of our organization try to share information. CSM Couser stated that he is working to ensure that his E-8's and E-9's are educated to ensure that rules are being followed, but that it is certainly ok to talk about this organization. He also invited MSG Hedin to talk to the group when they meet next.

1SG(R) Reeder suggested that we challenge units to have the most participants at the next conference. This was something that happened in the past and was a healthy competition that supported this organization.

Bob Aiken and Neil Harris volunteered to attend SRP's to share information and CSM Couser supported them.

## **Additional Award Presentation President Jaeger**

MSG Hedin read about the Don and Marlys List award, and we were honored to present this award to Bruce and Kathy Anderson! They have been the cornerstone of this organization for so many years. Kathy is a past president, and Bruce spent over 25 years as our Executive Director. Their kids have been raised within this organization and the Anderson's are truly family to us all!

Don and Marlys List presented the award to Bruce and Kathy Anderson.

## **Time and Place Committee Report Tabitha Carr**



# 63rd Annual Conference Minutes Continued

2023 State Conference- Brookings, SD – POC Barb Boyer

2024 State Conference- Chamberlain, SD – POC Tabby Carr and Courtney Tyrrell

2025 State Conference, Co-located with Officers in Sioux Falls, SD

## Position Evaluations Committee Report Tabitha Carr

No changes will be made this year but she is compiling a list of ideas to better utilize our Executive Council.

Some ideas include eliminating Area Committee Members At Large and instead replace with positions such as a Mentorship Chairperson, a Sponsorship Chairperson, a Marketing Chairperson, and other ideas are welcome.

## Legislative Committee Report Josh Wermers

Committee met and discussed legislative priorities, as discussed in depth during the opening ceremonies of this conference.

Nate Hedin, Josh Wermers, Rick Vanden Hoeck, and Austin Pierce attended the Legislative Workshop in Washington DC this past February. They met with each congressmen, along with our EANGUS staff, and other states' Legislative Chairpersons.

## Membership Committee Report Helen Juelfs

1283, down 369 members from this time last year. We only obtained 48% membership of our state strength.

Only 3 units achieved 100% membership this year.

In addition to attending SRP's, an idea was also proposed to speak at the G1 Conference to brief the Readiness NCO's from across the state.

## Credential Report Helen Juelfs

Roll call of units was taken and recorded.

The following did not have attendance and did not get their votes:

## Awards Committee Report Jerico Witte

Updates to the SOP were recommended.

The committee is also looking for more ways to solicit more award nominations.

## Veterans Community Project LTC(R) Trent Bruce

This program started a couple years ago in the city of Sioux Falls and ground was broken this past spring. There will be 22 individual homes, 8 family homes, and a VCP Village Community Center.

Mark Solomon, one of the National Organizers of the Veterans Community Project, spoke more about the

project. A few combat vets got together and developed a plan to help veteran housing. There are now 40 full-time staff members and active projects in 6 cities across the nation, hoping to grow by another 8 cities in 2022. Over 3,000 communities have inquired about the organization.

An estimated 40,000 veterans are homeless and 1.5 million veterans live in poverty. Innovative tiny houses and trusted partnerships within the communities are their primary goals. They also help develop other skills to help these veterans succeed after their stay in the village. The average number of days a veterans stays in the village is 444 days and 85% of veterans transitioned to permanent housing.

Outreach Centers are also available to help with more than just housing. They also helped run COVID operations in Kansas City for homeless in the beginning of the pandemic when there were so many unknowns.

If you would like to get involved, learn more info, or make a donation please visit the website [www.vcp.org](http://www.vcp.org)

VCP for Sioux Falls is partnering with the military alliance and attempting to complement other charitable organizations and their processes. Trying to fill missing gaps for needs and not compete.

## USAA

## Marty Baker

A proud supporter of our organization presented gift card drawing to Don List.

## Pioneer Bank and Trust

## Chelsie Martin



# 63rd Annual Conference Minutes Continued

A proud sponsor of this conference donated Steak House gift certificates and winners were draw.

## Treasurers Report **Nate Hedin**

Checking balance \$63,xxx and savings balance \$50,xxx.

Profit and loss statement was also reviewed. Net income for last year was roughly \$19,000.

We did hire a professional tax accountant to help keep our books and we plan to keep this up in the future.

Motion to accept the report was made by Nate Hedin and seconded by Bob Aiken. Motion carried.

## Budget Committee Report **President Jaeger**

Each section of the proposed budget was reviewed by the body.

Motion to accept the report was made by Josh Wermers and seconded by Tabitha Carr. Motion carried.

## Gavel turned over to 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice **Derek Jaeger**

## President's Report **President Jaeger**

Even though this year was challenging for membership, President Jaeger thanked everyone for supporting him and the organization.

President Jaeger expressed his interest to run for President again.

## Gavel turned over to President **Tabitha Carr**

## Resolutions Report **Courtney Tyrrell**

There were 12 resolutions proposed by the committee. The resolutions were read to the body, discussed, and voted on.

A motion was made by Courtney Tyrrell to accept all of the resolutions as proposed by the committee and seconded by Jerry Eisenbraun. Motion Carried.

## Nominations Report and Voting on Executive Council **Nate Hedin**

Derek Jaeger for President, Jerico Witte and Don Kranz for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, Tabitha Carr and Charles Buttler for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, no one for Area I Committee Member at Large, no one for Area II Committee Member at Large, no one for Area III Committee Member at Large, no one for Area IV Committee Member at Large, Rick VandenHoek for Area V Committee Member at Large, Kayleigh Cihak for Treasure.

Dallas Vallery made a motion to cease nominations for President and to cast a unanimous ballet for Derek Jaeger, seconded by Don Kranz. Motion carried.

Jerico Witte and Don Kranz briefed the body on their desire to run for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Courtney Tyrrell made a motion to cease nominations and Tabitha Carr seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and Jerico Witte won.

Tabitha Carr and Charles Buttler briefed the body on their desire to run for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Charles Buttler withdrew his nomination. Josh Wermers made a motion to cease nominations for First Vice President and to cast a unanimous ballet for Tabitha Carr, seconded by Bob Aiken. Motion carried.

Don Kranz made a motion to cease nominations for Treasure and to cast a unanimous ballet for Kayleigh Cihak, seconded by Josh O'Dae. Motion carried.

Helen Juelfs made a motion to nominate Courtney Tyrrell for Area I Committee Member at Large. Shelly Reeder made a motion to cease nominations for Area I and to cast a unanimous ballet for Courtney Tyrrell, seconded by Don Kranz. Motion carried.

Seeing there was not a single person present for Area II, it will remain vacant.

No nominations for Area II,

Courtney Tyrrell nominated Don Kranz for area IV and seconded by Bruce Anderson. Sarah Callies made a



# 63rd Annual Conference Minutes Continued



motion to cease nominations for Area IV and to cast a unanimous ballot for Don Kranz, seconded by Shelly Reeder. Motion carried.

Shelley Reeder made a motion to cease nominations for Rick VandenHoek for Area V Committee Member at Large and seconded by Sarah Callies. Motion Carried.

### Young Hero's Report

#### Kelsey Lambert

This past year has been hard with the pandemic and there were no ceremonies held.

Currently there is one nominee and the committee is looking for more nominations.

## Old Business

### Support of Auxiliary

#### Josh Wermers

Josh Wermers made a motion to continue support of the SDNGEA Auxillary with a \$300 donation and Don Kranz seconded. Motion carried. Check was presented to Kaylie Meyers, SDNGEA Auxiliary President.

### Support of BH National Cemetery

#### Josh Wermers

Josh Wermers made a motion to continue support of the Black Hills National Cemetery Avenue of Flags with a \$500 donation and Bob Aiken seconded. Motion carried. Check was presented to Neil Harris.

### Support of the SDNG Museum

#### Josh Wermers

Josh Wermers made a motion to continue support of the SDNG Museum with a \$500 donation and Don Kranz seconded. Motion carried. Check will be presented at a later date.

## New Business

### Support of the Vietnam Era Veterans Neil Harris

Neil Harris asked if there was any Vietnam Era Veterans. Mike Birnbaum, Bob Aiken, Neil Harris, and Mike Reeder were presented lapel pins and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary memorabilia.

### New SDNGEA Logo President Jaeger

This past year the idea was presented to change our organization logo. The current logo is great, however the intricate detail make it unrecognizable when printed on small items, such as pins or logo polo shirts.

Two logo's were presented to the body and discussed. This will be voted on by the Executive Council at the next meeting.

It was suggested that we possibly simplify the current logo or put a challenge out in the ECHO, Distro A, and social media to have people design a new logo.

Leaving the current logo in place was also suggested. There was much support for leaving it because the members in attendance like it and there was worry about the cost associated with rebranding our organization.

### New Scholarship Proposal Tabitha Carr

Currently the NGASD has a specific scholarship and we would like to follow suit and have a scholarship that only members of the SDNGEA members and dependents are eligible for.

This is possibly an idea for the Ways and Means Committee to discuss and plan. It was suggested to make it a substantial amount, such as \$3000, in order to increase the enticement.

This proposal would have to be put into the president's budget and voted on by the body at the next conference.

The current scholarship program generated new members to our association and this addition could generate even more membership.

### Co-located Conference Changes with Officers Dean Steinberg

It was suggested that the Executive Council discuss the options of moving co-located with NGASD to every 5 years instead of every 3 years or possibly eliminating.

### Instillation of New Executive Council Josh Wermers

#### Adjournment President Jaeger

Motion to adjourn by Courtney Tyrrell and seconded by Shelley Reeder. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 1400.

Submitted by:

Courtney Tyrrell

SFC, SDARNG

Secretary

Approved by:

Derek Jaeger

MSgt, SDANG

President

# Executive Council Meeting Minutes

*April 21, 2022 - Ramkota, Rapid City, SD*

**Call to Order** Derek Jaeger

**Pledge of Allegiance** Derek Jaeger

**Motion to Deviate from Agenda** Tabitha Carr

Motion to deviate from the Agenda was made by Tabby Carr and Seconded by Helen Juelfs. Motion carried.

**Introduction of Special Guests** Derek Jaeger

Don and Marlys List, Wyatt Resmen and Tracy Hague sponsored attendees.

**Roll Call** Courtney Tyrrell

Roll call of Executive Council was conducted with members present. Quorum was met.

**Approval of Minutes** Derek Jaeger

The minutes from the last meeting are posted on the website and there was no discussion about them. A motion to accept them as posted was made by Courtney Tyrrell and seconded by Don Kranz. Motion carried.

**Insurance Report** Derek Jaeger

Insurance report 1112 current enrollees, balance \$74,000, and will pay SDNGEA \$15k when treasurer is available. President has report. Filed as presented.

**Area V Committee Member at Large Report** Kelsey Lambert

Area V report by Kelsey presented for Rick Vanden Hoek. Discussed the desire to be re-elected and goals for the next year.

**Membership Report** Helen Juelfs

Discussed that nationally we were one of the top states for new members but we are still needing to improve. Helen also either needs put on the bank account or to be given deposit slips as the bank will no longer let her make deposits. Filed as presented.

**Publications Report** Sarah Callies

Looking to start using the Instagram account and email account more.

Deadline for summer echo is 20 May. If you have articles or photographs that you would like included please send them to Sarah. Filed as presented.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Tax Preparation Assistance** Derek Jaeger

Previous motion to hire a tax representative by Kayleigh. Contact has been made to Northern Hills Tax and Accounting and estimated cost is \$250-300, but never to exceed \$660 based on our income and forms required.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Executive Council Vacancy** Derek Jaeger

Looking for additional committee members and to update current roster.

**Resolutions** Courtney Tyrrell

Committee meetings will be held at the State Conference and report will be presented at the State Conference.

**Nominations** Nathan Hedin

Election nominees President Derek, Treasurer Kayleigh, Area V Rick.

**Donation** Don & Marlys List

Don and Marlys List donated vintage lapel pins to be used however we see fit. Maybe put them on the silent auctions at the state and national conference. Don and Marlys thanked the association for the help navigating the National Conference in Albuquerque last year. They enjoy being able to attend the National Conferences, as they have been since 1972. They look forward to seeing everyone in Little Rock



# Executive Council Meeting Minutes Continued



at the next EANGUS National Conference.

### State & National Conference Update Josh Schaefer

There is raffle tickets for the National EANGUS Conference custom AR build at \$5 a piece. More info can be found on our FB page.

110+ registered for State Conference but expecting more. Agenda has been posted. Filed as presented.

### Executive Director Vacancy Bruce Anderson

Bruce Anderson expressed his intent to retire from the Executive Director position in the next 2 years. He would love to mentor the next individual and has submitted names to the president of potential candidates. He has over 25 years in this position and a wealth of knowledge to share.

Bruce Anderson made a motion to resign as the Executive Director and Helen Juelfs seconded the motion. Discussion was about declining this request and the budget and bonding. Additional roll call was



taken, 14 EC members were present at the time of the vote, a 2/3 vote would be 10 votes. Motion carried to accept Bruce Anderson’s resignation by unanimous vote.

Tabby Carr made a motion to approve the President’s appointment of Nate Hedin as the ED. Motion carried to accept Nate Hedin’s appointment by unanimous vote.

### Future State Conferences Derek Jaeger

2023 – Brookings – Barb Boyer

2024 – Chamberlain – Tabitha Carr and Courtney Tyrrell

### Future National Conferences Derek Jaeger

7-10 Aug 2022 – Little Rock, AR

2023 – Rochester, MN

2024 – TBD (Detroit, MI or Indianapolis, IN)

### ADJOURNMENT

The date and time of the next Executive Council Meeting will be at BHVM registration location in Deadwood, SD on 16 September 2022 at 1600 hours.

With nothing further to discuss, Sarah Callies motioned for adjournment and Josh O’Dae seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1748 hours.

**Keystone Treatment Center offers rehab programs in South Dakota for adolescents & adults who would benefit from detoxification, residential addiction treatment, outpatient care, and more.**

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19th Annual

September 14-17, 2022

# BLACK HILLS VETERANS MARCH AND MARATHON



*The Black Hills Veterans March and Marathon is an annual trek through the beautiful terrain of the Black Hills of South Dakota. Beginning in the morning, this event occurs along the Mickelson Trail and travels through historic Black Hills sites, ending in exciting Deadwood, South Dakota. This march and marathon pays tribute to the many sacrifices that this nation's veterans have made in the past and continue to make today. All proceeds are used to directly support veterans.*

## EVENTS INCLUDED

110-Mile Endurance  
26.2 Mile Walk/Run/Relay  
16-Mile Walk/Run/Relay

## DIVISIONS

Military Team or Solo  
Civilian Team or Solo  
Heavy Pack Challenge



REGISTER **NOW!**

<https://blackhillsveteranmarch.org/>