



THE ENLISTED *ECHO*

Fall/Winter 2022



President Derek Jaeger
djaeger44@gmail.com

sdngea.com
blackhillsveteranmarch.org



19th Annual Black Hills Veteran March and Marathon

2022-2023 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
President *	Derek Jaeger	MSgt	djaeger44@gmail.com derek.jaeger.2@us.af.mil	W: 605-988-5826 C: 605-237-9284
1st Vice President *	Jerico Witte	SFC	jerico.r.witte.mil@army.mil witte1239@yahoo.com	W: 605-882-9324 C: 605-360-3775
2nd Vice President *	Tabitha Carr	SSG	tabitha.a.carr4.mil@army.mil	C: 605-350-1786
Past President *	Nate Hedin	MSG (Ret)	nathanjhedin@gmail.com	C: 605-645-2861
Treasurer *	Kayleigh Cihak	SGT	Kayleigh.e.cihak2.mil@army.mil	C: 605-490-2747
Secretary	Rorie Gregor	SFC	rorie.i.gregor.mil@army.mil	C: 605-881-6736
Executive Director	Nate Hedin	MSG (Ret)	nathanjhedin@gmail.com	C: 605-645-2861
Committee Member at Large				
Area 1 *	Courtney Tyrell	SFC	courtneytotton@yahoo.com	C: 605-730-0654
Area 2 *	<i>Vacant</i>			
Area 3 *	Tracey Hague			C: 605-871-9772
Area 4 *	Don Kranz	SFC (Ret)	donkranz305@gmail.com	C: 605-610-7107
			rick.vandenhoeck.1@us.af.mil	W: 605-988-5671
Area 5 *	Rick VandenHoek	CMSgt	wepsman69@gmail.com	C: 605-321-6263
Squadron Representatives				
FW *	Sarah Callies	MSgt	sarah.callies@live.com	C: 605-941-1548
MSG *	Kelsey Lambert	TSgt	kelsey.lambert@us.af.mil	W: 605-988-5956
MXG *	Michael Rollag	SMSgt	michael.rollag.1@us.af.mil	W: 605-988-5891
MDG	<i>Vacant</i>			
OG	Randall Hotchkin	MSgt	randall.hotchkin.1@us.af.mil	W: 605-988-5864
Battalion Representatives				
JFHQ *	Karen Tucker	SSG	katucker88@gmail.com	C: 605-641-4478
HQ 196th RTI *	Josh O'Dea	SSG	joshua.d.odea2.mil@army.mil	C: 605-499-9851
109th RSG *	Joshua Schaefer	MSG	joshua.j.schaefer.mil@army.mil	C: 605-390-6614
152nd CSSB *	Meagan Krahn	SFC	meagan.m.krahn.mil@army.mil	W: 605-357-2991
881st Trp Cmd *	<i>Vacant</i>			
196th MEB *	Sarah Henle	SPC	sarah.l.henle.mil@army.mil	C: 605-261-2302
1st Bn 147th FA *	Charles Butler	SSG	charles.j.butler18.mil@army.mil	W: 605-882-9325
153rd En Bn *	Libby Flemming	SFC	Elizabeth.l.flemming.mil@army.mil	C: 605-354-3515
109th En Bn *	<i>Vacant</i>			
R & R BN *	Louis Clement	SSG	louis.l.clement.mil@army.mil	C: 605-490-0663
Junior Enlisted - Air *	Chris Achen	SSgt	chris.achen@us.af.mil	C: 605-988-5829
Junior Enlisted - Army *	Casey Schlechter	SGT	casey.r.schlechter.mil@army.mil	C: 605-870-2161
Retired Air *	David Frock	CMSgt (Ret)	def59browns@yahoo.com or david.e.frock.civ@mail.mil	W: 605-737-6507 C: 605-359-2083
Retired Army *	Robert Aiken	CSM (Ret)	Robert.J.Aiken@mwarep.org	W: 605-772-4050
ECHO Editor	Sarah Callies	MSgt	sarah.callies@live.com	C: 605-941-1548
Historian	Shelley Reeder	1SG (Ret)	shell_reeder@yahoo.com	C: 605-280-1923
Legislative Officer	Josh Wermers	SFC	joshua.j.wermers.mil@army.mil	C: 605-786-2032
Membership Officer	Mark Jensen	SFC	mark.a.jensen22.mil@army.mil	C: 605-261-0231
Membership Officer	Helen Juelfs	SSG	helen.m.juelfs.mil@army.mil	W: 605-737-6103
Membership Rep - Air	Karl Hoskins	MSgt	karl.hoskins@us.af.mil	W: 605-988-5885
Parliamentarian	Ben Lamp	MSG (Ret)	benjamin.lamp@yahoo.com	C: 605-728-3358
Webmaster	Austin Pearce	SSG	austin.a.pearce.mil@army.mil	C: 936-499-6748
Auxiliary President	Kayleen Meyers	CIV	k_meyers04@hotmail.com	C: 605-940-5154
State Conference Liaison	Kayleigh Cihak	SGT	kayleigh.e.cihak2.mil@army.mil	C: 605-490-2747
2023 State Conference Chair	Barb Boyer	SFC	barbara.k.boyer.mil@army.mil	C: 605-592-2203
State SEL	Patrick Couser	CSM	patrick.e.couser.mil@army.mil	W: 605-737-6573
State CCM	Brett Cownie	CMSgt	brett.cownie.1@us.af.mil	

* = Voting Members

Upcoming Events

FUTURE STATE CONFERENCES

20-23 April 2023-Brookings, SD
TBD 2024-Chamberlain, SD
TBD 2025-Sioux Falls, SD (co-located)

FUTURE NATIONAL CONFERENCES

13-16 August 2023 - Rochester, MN
TBD 2024—Detroit, MI

FUTURE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS

February 2, 2023— Pierre, SD

FUTURE BLACK HILLS VETERANS HONOR MARCH

September 16, 2023- Deadwood, SD

NEXT ECHO DEADLINE

Spring 2023- Deadline for submissions is 15 February 2023

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.

"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

From Your President



By MSgt Derek Jaeger

In the blink of an eye, 2022 is nearly over. This has been a busy year for myself and the Enlisted Association, as a whole. From the State Conference in April to the 19th Annual Black Hills Veteran March and Marathon in September, there were many great accomplishments for your South Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association.

In August, I had the privilege to attend the 51st Annual EANGUS National Conference in Little Rock, AR. There were so many great things discussed and accomplished in the four days there.

From our state all 12 of our resolutions that we passed at our state conference in April passed at the national conference. These resolutions will now be researched and looked at by our EANGUS staff in Washington DC to see where they fit and how we can best bring them forward to Congress. Now, we all know how slow things move out there so bear with us as it is lengthy process, but rest assured your voices are being heard and we are and will continue to advocate and fight for the best benefits and resources for the Soldiers and Airmen of the South Dakota National Guard and their families. You can read more about the resolutions in this issue of the Echo, but if you have any questions about them reach out to myself or any of the other council members.

In September, we had the running of the 19th Annual Black Hills Veteran March and Marathon on the beautiful Mickelson Trail. This was by far the largest event yet with 376 registrants and volunteers! I want to give a big shout out to the entire planning committee, lead by Josh Wermers, for putting on such a fantastic and large event! It was great seeing so many familiar faces and getting to meet some new ones. I look forward to seeing what next year will bring for the 20th Annual Black Hills Veteran March.

In the next few months, we have a few events to look forward to. In February will be our winter executive council meeting held prior to the Military Dining Out in Pierre, SD. April 21 & 22, 2023 will be the 64th Annual State Conference in Brookings, SD. The theme is The Great American Cookout. This should be a great time! We will have an executive council meeting on 20 April, leading up to the conference.

In closing, 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 reinvigorate 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. Thank you for your support and hard work as a member of the South Dakota National Guard and the South Dakota National Guard

2022 EANGUS Resolutions

Here is a summary of the approved resolutions. The complete reports are found at [https://eangus.org/public-library/under Conferences, 2022—Little Rock, Committee Reports, Resolutions Committee](https://eangus.org/public-library/under-Conferences,2022—LittleRock,CommitteeReports,ResolutionsCommittee)

Resolution 2022-01-Implementation of Maternity Leave Benefits (Submitted by SD)

Description: Section 603 of the 2021 NDAA authorized 12 drill periods to be paid for maternity leave but additional guidance is needed to implement.

Resolution 2022-02-ANG Federal Tuition Assistance (Submitted by SD)

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.

Resolution 2022-03-Total Force Policy (Submitted by SD)

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.

Resolution 2022-04-National Guard Cyber security Support Act (Submitted by SD)

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.

Resolution 2022-05-Amend Title 26 USC §62(a)(2)(E) to decrease the distance for the above-the-line deduction for travel expenses (Submitted by SD)

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.

Resolution 2022-06-TSP Contribution Limits (Submitted by SD)

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.

Resolution 2022-07-Tax Penalties Waiver (Submitted by SD)

Description: Allow Guard and Reserve members on military deployment to qualify for a waiver of the 60-day rollover requirement.

Resolution 2022-08-Spouse Employment (Submitted by SD)

Description: Incentivizing businesses with a much-needed tax benefit. 26 U.S.C. § 51(d)(1)

Resolution 2022-09-Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (Submitted by SD)

Description: Offer FSAs to the unformed service Reserve Component performing inactive and active duty.

Resolution 2022-10-DOD Armed Services Fitness Center Initiative (Submitted by NY)

Description: Include Title 32 members and dependents to DOD Armed Services Fitness Center Initiative.

Resolution 2022-11-Amendment to EANGUS Resolution 21-07 (Submitted by UT)

Description: Title 32 full-time service is counted as creditable service for leave accrual and seniority as a federal civilian employee.

2022 EANGUS Resolutions Continued

Resolution 2022-12-NDAA Support for increasing AGR End Strength (Submitted by UT)

Description: NDAA Support for increasing AGR End Strength.

Resolution 2022-13-TRICARE for All (Submitted by MI)

Description: Providing TRICARE for all service members of the National Guard and Reserves at no cost to the service member.

Resolution 2022-14-Call for Fire Trainer Modernization (Submitted by MI)

Description: Modernization of the current Call for Fire Trainers across the Army and ARNG.

Resolution 2022-15-Limited Federal Retirement Points for non-federal service (Submitted by MI)

Description: Allowing a limited number of retirement points to be awarded for State Active Duty.

Resolution 2022-16-Language Change in Post 9/11 GI Bill (Submitted by OH)

Description: This is to allow BAH to be pro-rated for active-duty service during a semester.

Resolution 2022-17-Eliminate 5 Year Requirement for VA Health Care (Submitted by KS)

Description: Deployers since 2003 are only eligible to register for VA Health Care 5 Years after the qualifying service.

Resolution 2022-18-Child Care Assistance Program (Submitted by IN)

Description: Resolving National Guard Childcare Issues.

Resolution 2022-19-Support of the structure and equipment issues that are endorsed by the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the Adjutants General Association of the United States (AGAUS) (Submitted by EANGUS Resolutions Committee)

Description: EANGUS will continue to support the structure and equipment issues that are endorsed by the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the Adjutants General Association of the United States (AGAUS) that contribute to the accomplishment of the purposes and goals of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS).

Resolution 2022-20-EANGUS appreciation of Little Rock, Arkansas, the Arkansas Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States and Auxiliary (Submitted by EANGUS Resolutions Committee)

Description: Appreciation for the Hospitality and Efforts by the State of Arkansas, the City of Little Rock and the Arkansas Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States and Auxiliary.

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

**Call 24/7:
(888) 474-1139**



Executive Council Minutes

16 September 2022 at 1400 MST
VFW, Deadwood, SD

Call to Order **Derek Jaeger**

Pledge of Allegiance **Derek Jaeger**

Introduction of Special Guests **Derek Jaeger**

- Area V Director Nate Hedin, Past President Jerry Eisenbraun, Past President Kathy Anderson, Auxiliary Area V Director Edna Steinberg

Roll Call **Courtney Tyrrell**

- Roll call of Executive Council was conducted with the following members present: Derek Jaeger, Tabby Carr, Jerico Witte, Nate Hedin, Courtney Tyrrell, Rick VandenHoek, Kelsey Lambert, Michael Rollag, Rorie Gregor proxy for Karen Tucker, Tabby Carr proxy for Megan Krahn, Jerico Witte proxy for Charles Butler, Nate Hedin proxy for Kayleigh Cihak, Rick VandenHoek proxy for Sarah Callies, David Frock, Neil Harris proxy for Bob Aiken. 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 Tabby Carr and seconded by Bruce Anderson. Motion carried.

Treasure Report

- No official report.
- Two recent raffles at the AG Golf Tournament and Air Guard Fishing Tournament raised some additional funds for the organization. Filed as presented.

Membership Report Helen Juelfs

- Drop of 369 from last year. One unit has hit 100% and statewide we are at 48%. The membership forms have been updated and will be sent out to the Executive Council and SGM channels.
- The BHVMM committee has volunteered to pay the national portion of the dues (\$11) for anyone who signs up for a SDNGNEA membership during the BHVMM packet pickup on 16 Sep. Filed as presented.

Area V Committee Member At large Report
Rick Vanden Hoek

- Discussed the goals for the next year. Face to face interactions seem to be the best route to share information and will be the focus for this year's membership drive. Filed as presented.

Young Hero

Kelsey Lambert

- The committee would like to do more fundraising to improve the tokens for the young heroes. If anyone has any ideas or connections to resources, please let Kelsey know.
- Please continue to send nominations for Young Heroes. Filed as presented.

Publications Report Rick proxy for Sarah Callies

- Committee is continuing to look for volunteers to help with the publications.
- Deadline for Fall echo is 1 October. If you have articles or photographs that you would like included, please send them to Sarah. Filed as presented.

Combined Conference Discussion Edna Steinberg

- Discussion started in September of 2021 and current suggestion is that we only have a combined conference every 5 years.
- Neil Harris remembers the 1994 combined conference and even then, the SDNGEA seemed to get over shadowed and this has continued. The SDNGEA conferences are more business focused, while the NGASD conference seems to be more social focused. Neil was on the 2022 combined conference committee and has continued to ask for a follow-up meeting to go over finances and AAR



Executive Council Minutes Continued

but has not been able to make it happen. Nate Hedin reached out to the Executive Director of NGASD to help facilitate this meeting. Filed as presented.

BHMMM

Josh Wermers

- Largest event to date, 367 participants with volunteers.
- American Legion Auxiliary out of Spearfish will serve food at finish line.
- Veteran organizations that will be present to receive donations include the following: SD Veteran Service Animals, Final Salute Inc, Black Hills National Cemetery, and Black Hills Veterans Hospice.
- Looking for additional volunteers to help year-round with planning. Filed as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Council Vacancy Tabby Carr / Nate Hedin / Derek Jaeger

- Looking for additional committee members to fill voids in our Executive Council.
- Looking at changing some positions in the EC. One suggestion is to eliminate the Area Committee Members at Large and replace them with a marketing chairperson, Sponsorship chairperson, and refine some other positions. Suggestions due to Tabby Carr by 1 Nov. Filed as presented.

Tax and Accounting

Nate Hedin

- The business that has completed our taxes the past 2 years, Northern Hills Business and Tax, is willing to do all our books. They would come to the state conference to give a report and would send a paper



report for the other EC meetings. This would cost around \$100 per month but should eliminate IRS penalties.

- Changing the treasurer’s duties on the EC would be a by-law change. Much discussion about the duties of the treasurer and audit committee and the BHMMM. Proposal and additional information will be published in the ECHO prior to the next state conference.
- Suggestions should be sent to Nate Hedin by 1 Nov. David Frock volunteered to help and Neil Harris volunteered Bob Aiken to help as well. Filed as presented.

National Conference Update Derek Jaeger

- Resolutions can be found at EANGUS.org then go to library, conferences, 2022 Little Rock, Committee Reports, Resolutions Committee.
- One controversial by-laws change was regarding a free digital national membership, which will be pushed down to the states to manage how they see fit, if at all. The SDNGEA EC does not necessarily support this, we instead would like to have long-term members, and avoid short term fixes with long term tracking nightmares. This would be a by-law change with additional information to follow.
- Dues increase failed at committee during the national conference.
- Kelsey Lambert is now on the National EANGUS Fitness Committee.
- Legislative workshop in Washington DC will be quarterly now, two events in person and two virtual events. Next workshop in Washington DC is scheduled for 16-17 Nov 2022. Filed as presented.

Executive Council Minutes Continued

Virtual Career Fair

Nate Hedin

- EANGUS is putting on a virtual career fair and this has the potential to be a large benefit to our members. SDNGEA and EANGUS membership is not required. Please share with anyone you know that would benefit from this event. Filed as presented.

2023 Conference

Barb Boyer

- Wilbert Square Event Center is reserved. It is a newer venue with great meeting rooms, hospitality rooms, and ball room. Block of rooms is available at the Comfort Inn and Suites.
- Fundraising is starting and the theme of the conference is "The Great American Cookout". Looking into dueling pianos and a comedy improv for entertainment. Filed as presented

Future State Conferences

Derek Jaeger

- 20-22 April 2023 – Brookings – Barb Boyer
- 2024 – Chamberlain – Tabitha Carr and Courtney Tyrrell
- 2025 – Sioux Falls or Deadwood – Combined Conference

Future National Conferences

Derek Jaeger

- 2023 – Rochester, MN
- 2024 – Detroit, MI

ADJOURNMENT

The date and time of the next Executive Council Meeting will be at Legislative Dining Out in Pierre, SD on 2 February 2023 at 1400 hours.

With nothing further to discuss, Courtney Tyrrell motioned for adjournment and Rorie Gregor seconded.



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. 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.

Purpose:

The purpose of this organization shall be to perpetuate the National Guard; to hold all enlisted personnel of the South Dakota National Guard in proximity with each other; to promote and maintain adequate educational instruction which will endeavor to advance the status, welfare and professionalism of the enrolled members and to maintain adequate national security through the endeavors of the enlisted members of the South Dakota National Guard.



What is the Association working on?

- Increasing AGR End Strength
- GI Bill improvements like increasing eligibility for National Guard members
- Timely maternity leave benefit implementation
- Affordable Tricare for grey area retirees
- Tricare automatic re-enrollment after Active Duty service
- Expanding DoD Armed Service Fitness Center Initiatives to AGRs, Technicians, DSGs, and dependents
- Increasing the state tuition benefit to 100%
- Implementing federal tuition assistance for the ANG
- Amending tax code to allow for greater tax deductions for those traveling for military duty
- Allowing tax penalty waivers in cases of military deployments for the 60 day rollover requirement
- Increasing National Guard eligibility for VA Health Care
- National Guard Child Care Options

Membership matters when we vote at the national level.

Please go to our membership resources at the link below to join today!

<https://sdngea.com/membership-account/membership-levels/>

