

The Guard Post

VOLUME XXMMV • NUMBER 1 • MAY 2025

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION • 2825 WEST DUBLIN GRANVILLE RD, RM C119 • COLUMBUS, OH 43235



ONGA/ONGEA Events Weekend in Powell, OH... pgs 5-7



147th NGAUS Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin... pg 7



The President's Corner

MAJ Patrick M. Hernandez

Greetings to all of our amazing Soldiers and Airmen that make up the wonderfully diverse group that is our Ohio National Guard Association. I am so pleased to be reaching out to all of you as your President for this next term, and I hope we can work together to improve things across the board for everyone!

First things first, thank you to LTC Chris Ballard for his amazing work as the past President and I know we all wish him the best as he fills the post of first-past President. Secondly, I want to talk about my vision for the future of the ONGA.

Now I know you are all probably sick of hearing the word retention get thrown around, but I'm going to throw it out there! We need to get more members on board in ONGA, not because it's a requirement, but because I truly believe that ONGA and NGAUS make a huge difference in the lives of our Soldiers and Airmen every day. From the amazing work they have done in the past for promotion issues, and healthcare, to ensuring that our National Guard force is on par with our active-duty brothers and sisters, none of that would be possible without a strong membership base. We are currently working on some ideas to bolster our numbers, but please find someone that isn't a member and TELL YOUR STORY! Sometimes that's all it takes. Talk about all the great people, events, and opportunities ONGA and NGAUS have given you, and show them how to become a member.

Next let's talk about the NGAUS Conference! Milwaukee looks to be a great town, with a lot of fun activities lined up for members attending, as well as amazing opportunities to meet with peers from all 54 states and territories and really see what the future of our Army and Air Force has coming up. There are opportunities out there for stipends, and other cost saving measures, and if you have questions, please ask! It's a great event, and a wonderful time to get to know your fellow members as well.

Thank you for all that you do, and I look forward to seeing all of you in Milwaukee this August!

Bulletin Board

*Board of Directors/ Trustees/ Chairpersons Meetings**

1800 hours

8 July 2025

7 October 2025

Unit Representative Meetings

1800 hours

10 July 2025

9 October 2025

Joint Insurance Committee Meetings

1800 hours (Virtual)

26 June 2025

25 September 2025

147^h NGAUS Conference

22-25 August 2025, Milwaukee, WI

2026 Annual NGEDA Meeting

26-29 January 2026

Indianapolis, IN

ONGA · ONGEA State Conference Winter Dinner Dance

6-7 February 2026, Lewis Center, OH

Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center

**RENEW! 2025 NGAUS/
ONGA Membership**

See pg3

*Digital Life Membership Deal
\$500*

2025 Membership

NGAUS and ONGA members voted to change the annual dues structure for active annual members only. See below for the new rates.

Rank	NGAUS	ONGA	Totals
Company Grade Officers (01-03, W01-CW3)	\$40	\$20	\$60
Field Grade Officers (O4-O6, CW4, CW5)	\$80	\$25	\$105
Flag Officers (O7-O10)	\$130	\$30	\$160

Other categories of membership (no change):

ONGA Associate Member – \$10.00
 Retired Annual Member – \$15.00
 Retired Life Member – \$125.00 (one-time)
 Active Life Member – \$250.00 (one-time)

NGAUS Retired Annual Member – \$45.00
 Retired Life Member – \$125.00 (one-time)
 Digital Life Member – \$500.00 (one-time)*
 Active Life Member – \$1000.00 (one-time)*
 (Payment plans available)
 (Both Digital and Active Life memberships include ONGA Life Membership)

*Digital and Active Life can be purchased directly from NGAUS website, if using payment plan contact NGAUS at membership@ngaus.or or call 202-408-5880.

Annual Dues

ONGA annual dues for newly appointed officers are waived until the following year. NGAUS provides a one-time, annual membership to any officer, regardless of rank, upon their initial appointment to the National Guard.



Are you interested in becoming an insurance briefer for the Ohio National Guard Association, if so please email Scott Bailey at ongaexecutivedirector@ngaoh.org



The Guard Post

An official publication of the
Ohio National Guard Association

ONGA

2825 West Dublin Granville Rd
Rm C119

Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789

614-486-4186 phone

ongaexecutivedirector@ngaoh.org

www.ngaoh.org

MAJ Patrick Hernandez, *President*

CPT Brittany Downs, *1st Vice President*

MAJ Tim Gribble, *2nd Vice President*

COL Terry Chriszt, *Treasurer*

MAJ Troy Walker, *Secretary*

LT COL Scott Bailey (ret), *Executive Director*

MRS Monica Powers, *Insurance Director*

The Guard Post is published biannually by the Ohio National Guard Association. Letters, questions or items for publication may be sent to:

ONGA

The Guard Post

2825 West Dublin Granville Rd

Rm C119

Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789

www.ngaoh.org



Ohio National Guard Association



@OhioNGA



@ohionationalguardassociation

Moved? Moving? Retired?

Please update your information by scanning the QR code or email ongaexecutivedirector@ngaoh.org.





ONGA Leadership

2026 Leadership Grant Application

The ONGA Leadership Grant Program helps defray education costs for deserving individuals who are enrolled or plan to enroll in an institution of higher learning. Leadership grants will be awarded to active ONGA members (either officers or warrant officers) or dependents of active, life, retired, or deceased members of the Ohio National Guard Association. Leadership Grant recipients are ineligible for consideration in subsequent years. Leadership Grants will be awarded during the Ohio National Guard Association Annual Conference in Lewis Center, Ohio. The Leadership Grants are administered through the Leadership Grant Committee of the Ohio National Guard Association.

Instructions for Applicants: To complete the ONGA Leadership Grant Application, use the following checklist to complete your application packet:

- Current grade transcripts and class standing
- A copy of your SAT/ACT scores (optional) with local and national ranking (percentile) included
- A photograph suitable for publication
- A paper explaining why you should be selected for a grant. Be sure to address the first five items listed below. Your paper should be a maximum of two pages in length
- (Optional) A single, one-page recommendation from a teacher, counselor, employer, etc.

Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Grades
- Future plans
- Need
- Membership and leadership
- Honors and Awards
- Overall impression

Please note that your application must be postmarked no later than 31 December 2025.

Send to the following address by first class mail:

ONGA Executive Director
2825 W. Dublin Granville Rd., Suite C119
Columbus, OH 43235

You may call 614-486-4186 ext. 3 with questions or e-mail ongaexecutivedirector@ngaoh.org.

ONGA Leadership

- President* MAJ Patrick Hernandez
- First Vice President* CPT Brittany Downs
- Second Vice President* MAJ Tim Gribble
- Immediate Past President* LTC Chris Ballard
- Secretary* MAJ Troy Walker
- Treasurer* COL Terry Chriszt
- Trustee - TAG* MG John Harris
- Trustee - ATAG Air* MAJ GEN David Johnson
- Trustee - ATAG Army* BG Matt Woodruff
- Trustee - Field Grade Air* LT COL Alan "AK" Kline
- Trustee - Field Grade Army* COL Jon Stewart
- Trustee - Company Grade Air* 1ST LT Jerry Tulga
- Trustee - Company Grade Army* 2LT Steve Woytek
- Trustee - Warrant Officer* CW4 Steve Ahrens
- Trustee - Retired Air* LT COL Tom Calhoun (Ret)
- Trustee - Retired Army* MAJ Kathy Vannatta (Ret)
- Executive Director* LT COL Scott Bailey (Ret)
- Chair - Nominating Committee* Field Grade Trustees
- Chair - Insurance Committee* MAJ TONIA McCURDY (RET)
. CW3 Paul Pitzer (Ret)
- Chair - Finance Committee* VACANT
- Chair - Resolutions Committee* COL Andy Powers
. LTC Bryan Escbach
- Chair - Awards Committee* Field Grade Trustees
- Chair - Membership Committee* Company Grade Officers
- Chair - Strategic Planning* COL Andy Powers
- Chair - Corporate Relations* LT COL Tom Calhoun (Ret)
. CAPT Richard Green
- Chair - Legislative Committee* CAPT Richard Green
. 2LT Steve Woytek



2025 Joint ONGA/ONGEA Weekend

Special Thanks to Mrs. Susan Markley for her time and efforts on the Winter Dinner Dance!





2025 Joint ONGA/ONGEA Weekend





2025 Joint ONGA/ONGEA Weekend



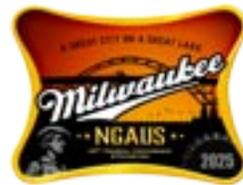


2025 Joint ONGA/ONGEA Weekend



147th General Conference & Exhibition

REGISTRATION... NOW OPEN!...



Digital registration forms can be found at <https://ngaoh.org/event/147thngaus-conference-exhibition/>

Please send complete registration forms to the ONGA Executive Director, Lt Col (Ret) Scott Bailey. You can email the registration form to ongalexecutivedirector@ngaoh.org or send by mail to:

ONGA Executive Director
2825 W. Dublin Granville Rd, Suite C119
Columbus, OH 43235

Once registration form is received, you will be contacted with the room block code for the OHIO Room Block. There are 60 rooms in our block and all rooms must be reserved by 30 June 2025.



National Guard Association of the United States
147th General Conference & Exhibition

August 22-25, 2025 | Milwaukee, Wisconsin

State Attendee Conference Registration Form



MEMBER REGISTRATION

For information about the conference and events, visit www.ngaus.org/conference.

Registration includes limited transportation, coffee breaks, professional development sessions, exhibit hall access, exhibit hall ribbon cutting, brunch, hospitality night, the Governor's Reception, the Spouses Luncheon, and the States Dinner.

Registration fee for all members, spouse, and additional guests is \$200 per person.

Please check as appropriate:

- Retiree Current TAG NGAUS Board of Directors Company Grade OPD/TDY
 Legion de Lafayette Former TAG State Partnership Program

Full Name Name on Badge
(Include Rank/Title/Prefix/Suffix if applicable)

NGAUS Member: Yes No NGAUS Member ID Number

Street Address or PO Box

City State Zip

Cell Phone Civilian E-mail

NGAUS will use email addresses to send out conference updates, special event invitations, etc.

ADDITIONAL GUEST REGISTRATION | Registration Fee \$200 Per Person

A new form must be completed if there are more than two additional guests.

1. Check one if applicable: Spouse Guest

Full Name Name on Badge
(Include Rank/Title/Prefix/Suffix if applicable)

Civilian E-mail NGAUS Member ID Number

2. Check one if applicable: Spouse Guest

Full Name Name on Badge
(Include Rank/Title/Prefix/Suffix if applicable)

Civilian E-mail NGAUS Member ID Number

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation Used for Travel to Conference: Plane Personal Operated Vehicle

FLIGHT INFORMATION (if applicable):

Arrival Date Arrival Time Departure Date Departure Time

Airline Name Airline Name

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Please note that the last day to book a room within a block is July 1, 2025.

Your state's hotel block is at: Room Rate:

Do you need lodging? Yes No Check-In Date Check-Out Date

Room Type Request: King Double Queen No Preference

CONFERENCE EVENTS

Check which of the following events you and/or your guest(s) will attend. **Please note some events are exclusive or have limited capacity.**

Shuttle transportation **between the airport and the hotel** is \$10 each way. Shuttles will run in a loop Aug. 21 from 10AM - 8PM, Aug. 22 from 11AM - 6PM, and Aug. 26 from 6AM - 1PM.

EVENT	ATTENDEES			DATE	EVENT FEE
	Primary	Guest 1	Guest 2		
Shuttle Service from MKE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Thur., Aug. 21	\$10 per person
Shuttle Service from MKE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri., Aug. 22	\$10 per person
NGAUS Golf Tournament - Morning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri., Aug. 22	\$130 per person
NGAUS Golf Tournament - Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri., Aug. 22	\$130 per person
Motorcycle Ride	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri., Aug. 22	\$35 per person
Sport Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri., Aug. 22	\$100 per person
Company Grade/Warrant Officer Mixer (01-03, W01-CW3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri., Aug. 22	Included
Senior Warrant Officer Mixer (CW4 & CW5)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri., Aug. 22	Included
5K Fun Run	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sat., Aug. 23	\$25 per person
Governor's Reception	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sat., Aug. 23	Included
Retired/Separated Caucus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sun., Aug. 24	\$5 per person Retired/Separated Only
Spouses Luncheon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sun., Aug. 24	Included
States Dinner <small>*Select ONLY if you plan to attend</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mon., Aug. 25	Included
Shuttle Service to MKE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tues., Aug. 26	\$10 per person

STATES DINNER - MEAL SELECTION

Primary	<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken	<input type="checkbox"/> Beef	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian
Guest 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken	<input type="checkbox"/> Beef	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian
Guest 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken	<input type="checkbox"/> Beef	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Please note any special requirements or dietary restrictions.

METHOD OF PAYMENT | Check or Credit Card

\$ Total Cost for Conference Registration Fees

\$ Total Cost of Additional Conference Events

\$ Other Fee (i.e. Assn. Hospitality Suite)

\$ TOTAL AMOUNT

Check Number

Make check payable to:

VISA MASTERCARD AMEX

Card Number

Exp. Date CCV Zip

SIGNATURE DATE

There will be a 3% administrative fee charged for all credit card payments.

REGISTRATION CANCELLATION POLICY

Refunds less a \$15.00 administrative fee will be granted for requests received in writing prior to **12:00 PM EST July 15, 2025**. Email cancellation requests to questions@american-tradeshow.com. All refunds will be processed after the conclusion of the conference. After **July 15, 2025**, all sales are final and no refunds will be processed.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT TO: ONGA 2825 W Dublin Granville Rd, Ste C119, Columbus, OH 43235



2025 Corporate Partnerships

PLATINUM:



GOLD:



SILVER:

ESS, Oshkosh Aerotech, Phantom Products,
Trellisware

BRONZE:

ADS, Anthem, Austin Lighthouse,
Buddy Covers, Bull-IT Box, EnerSys, Helmets to Hardhats,
MilSpin, MYHY, PTS Inc, Purdue Global, RCTAA,
R-n-R Promotions, Roger Bank, WGU



The Ohio National Guard Association
2825 West Dublin Granville Road, Rm C119
Columbus, Ohio 432356-2789

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
Paid
Columbus, Ohio
Permit No. 7839

2026 ONGA/ONGEA Conference / Winter Dinner Dance 6-7 February 2026 • Lewis Center OH



SAVE THE DATE!

Registration will be included in the October issue of the Guard Post
and online registration will open 1 November 2025.

