

EANGUS Auxiliary History 2019

The 48th Annual Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Conference and 46th EANGUS Auxiliary Conference was held August 4-7 at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines, Iowa where “20 Years Later, Bigger and Better!” and “Nothing Compares to Iowa” resonated with attendees.

Iowa, ranked the best state to thrive by *U.S. News and World Report* in 2018, and nicknamed the Hawkeye State, is a “great place for job-seekers, new business, and education” according to Governor Kim Reynolds. It has also been listed as one of the safest states in which to live. Iowa’s top exports are corn, tractors, and soybeans. Iowa has over 30,000,000 acres in farmland. Iowa is bordered on the east by the Mississippi River and on the west by the Missouri River and Big Sioux River; this makes Iowa the only U.S. state that has two parallel rivers defining its borders. The motto of the state is, “Our liberties we prize, and our rights we will maintain.”

The Iowa State Capitol’s 23-karat golden dome flanked by four smaller domes is a favorite of sightseers; the modified and refined Renaissance style building, built between 1871 and 1886, is one of the most prominent buildings in Des Moines and represents some of the nation’s finest examples of 19th century architecture. The Capitol houses the governor’s offices, legislature, and the old Supreme Court room. EANGUS Auxiliary Past Presidents were able to tour the Capitol on Saturday morning followed by brunch at the Americana Restaurant on Locust Street.

Golf outing on Friday and registration and silent auction check-in on Saturday preceded the Conference opening on Sunday.

Chapel, First Timers Welcome, Ribbon Cutting, and Joint Session along with Welcome Night at Pappajohn Sculpture Park were features on Sunday. The EANGUS Auxiliary First Timers who were welcomed were: Denise Garcia (NM); Rhonda J. Gorrell (NM); Guinn Osborn (AR); Kathy Kling (PA); Marlene Ayala (AZ); Theresa Toyama (HI); Kelli Toyoma (HI); and Nancy Working (TN). President Kennebeck addressed attendees at the Joint Session. The John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2019; the 4.4 acre Pappajohn Park, located within a major crossroads, features artwork by 24 of the world’s most celebrated artists.

Monday included EANGUS business sessions and committee meetings as well as EANGUS Auxiliary committee meetings and the EC Meeting. On Monday afternoon Vice President Margie Holcomb (VA) conducted State Presidents Training and Joan Gardiner, Marketing, Development, and Operations Director for EANGUS, presented Newsletter Training. The Junior Enlisted Night Out at the Iowa Taproom included food and fun games.

Business continued on Tuesday for EANGUS and the EANGUS Auxiliary President Angela Kennebeck called the EANGUS Auxiliary first general session to order. Guests during the two days were: Command Chief Master Sergeant (R) Dick Smith, USAA; Josie Quintana, USAA; MSG (Ret) VaTema M. Ivy, AFEV; Joan Gardiner, EANGUS; and Dean Kennebeck, EANGUS Vice President. USAA provided an Auxiliary Brunch on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 and Air Force Enlisted Village (AFEV) provided a Continental Breakfast on Wednesday, August 7, 2019. EANGUS Auxiliary Past Presidents in attendance were: Sara Hendricks (IA); Nancy McDowell (OH); Debra Campbell (OK); Sheila Bandy (KY); Vivian Taylor (MS); Judy Wood (AL); and Immediate Past President Connie Myers (MS). President Kennebeck introduced the Executive Council: Vice President Margie Holcomb (VA); Secretary Vivian Taylor (MS); Treasurer Jessica Lance-Root (AR); Immediate Past President Connie Myers (MS); Area II Directors Shelia Brookins (KY) and Barbara Sizemore (WV); Area III Director Pam Adams (AL); Area IV Director Judith Putman (KS); Area V Directors Cathy Berry (WI) and Edna Steinberg (SD); Area VI Directors Richard Bryant (NM) and Linda Lyon (WY); and Parliamentarian Sara Hendricks (IA). Roll call indicated forty-six (46) delegates, forty-seven (47) proxies; five (5) officers, eight (8) Area Directors, three (3) members, nine (9) guests, and four (4) associate members; these individuals represented twenty-two (22) states.

The **minutes** were approved as published in the Conference Book. The **balance sheet** showed a balance of eighty-three thousand eight hundred three dollars seventy cents (\$83,803.70) on May 31, 2019. The Finance Committee’s

audit of the financial records found the books to be in order. EANGUS Publications Chairman Andy Strauss presented the **Publications Awards** for the Auxiliary to: Category Six, State Auxiliary newsletter—1st place, *Dogwood Blossom* (Virginia Auxiliary) and 2nd place, *Mountaineer* (West Virginia Auxiliary); Category Seven, Area Auxiliary newsletter, *Cadence* (Area II). Committee reports were given by all Committee Chairmen with the exception of Family Affairs (chairman absent, no report) and Resolutions (no report). The total of **legislative** contacts was: fifty-nine (59) letters, four hundred thirty (430) emails, twenty-two (22) phone calls, one hundred eighteen (118) visits/social, and one hundred forty-two (142) responses reported by nine (9) states in four (4) areas. The **Lifetime Membership** Committee report indicated: eight hundred twenty three (823) life members; four hundred forty-three (443) active life members; one hundred sixteen (16) life members not reported by the states; two hundred forty (240) deceased life members; twenty-four (24) ineligible life members (included divorced, non-Guard spouse, and requests for removal); eleven (11) members in the class of 2018; ten (10) members in the class of 2019 through August 6, 2019; and eleven (11) life members were reported deceased since the 2018 Conference. Twenty-seven (27) states submitted membership for 2019; the **membership comparison** showed a total membership of eight hundred forty-eight (848), a net decrease of forty-seven (47) and three hundred forty-six (346) associate members, a net increase of fifteen (15). Through June 2019 there were fifty-five (55) national life associate members.

Area Directors elected for a two-year term were: Area II, Barbara Sizemore (WV); Area III, Stella Cameron (SC); Area IV, Trayce Young (AR); Area V, Cora Sower (WI); and Area VI, Richard Bryant (NM). **Scholarships** were awarded to: Kylee J. Eubank, Mississippi, three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00), USAA scholarship; Lauren Barnett, Mississippi, two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00); Heather Yenchesky, Wisconsin, one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00); Ashlyn Casey, Wisconsin, one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00); and Jackson Daughdrill, Mississippi, one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00). The **All Areas Hospitality Night** was held at the Camp Dodge Pool Pavilion on Tuesday evening. The 34th Army Band provided entertainment and state pins were traded.

The EANGUS Auxiliary presented a **philanthropic** donation of one thousand eight hundred thirty-five dollars (\$1,835.00) to *Paws and Effect*. The following **Awards** were presented: President's Award, Dean Kennebeck (IA); Torch Award, Roxanna "Roxie" Barwick (WI); Outstanding Area Director's Award, Richard Bryant (NM); Distinguished Service Award, Debra Campbell (OK). Outstanding States Awards: 1-25 members, New Mexico; 26-75 members, Pennsylvania; 76+ plus members, Mississippi. **Membership Increase Certificates**: largest percentage increase in **total members** for 1-25 members, *West Virginia* and for 26-75 members, *Pennsylvania*; largest percentage increase in **lifetime members** for 1-25 members was a tie between *Tennessee* and *West Virginia*, for 26-75 members the award went to *South Carolina* and for 76+ members it was *Mississippi*; largest percentage increase in **associate members** for 1-25 members, *West Virginia*, for 26-75 members it was *New Mexico*, and for 76+ members the award went to *Mississippi*; and for the largest number of **new lifetime associate members** *Kansas* received the certificate.

Ways and Means totals and donations included: Auxiliary Pins, eighty-five dollars (\$85.00); Silent Auction, five thousand one hundred thirty-three (\$5,133.00); USAA, two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) and AFEV, one thousand seven hundred eight dollars (\$1,708.00) for Auxiliary meal functions; phone fine, twenty-five dollars (\$25.00); sixty dollars (\$60.00) in donations at silent auction; one hundred dollars (\$100.00) from Alaska.

Nominations Chairman Sondra Monastra (OH) **installed newly-elected Area Directors** in a ceremony that required participation from all officers and attendees in keeping with the motto of Teamwork, Family, and Side by Side, We Stand with Pride. The following **members were memorialized** in the service conducted by Chaplain Shelia Brookins:

- ✓ Patricia "Patty" Joan Kaul (KS)
- ✓ Patricia "Pat" Ann Hollingsworth (MS)
- ✓ Yvonne E. Creaser (WI)
- ✓ Betty Jane Caranci (OH)
- ✓ Shirley Fritz (MO), former annual member
- ✓ Sherry (Curren) Blackwell (SD)
- ✓ Phyllis Jeanette (Westbrook) Arnold (AR)
- ✓ Doris Jean (Brandt) Haas (SD)
- ✓ Elizabeth Annie "Beth" (Varner) Johnson (WA)

- ✓ Shirley Enke, Charter Member (MO)
- ✓ Juaneta P. (Phillips) McLaughlin (VA)

Doorprizes were distributed and President Angela Kennebeck adjourned the EANGUS Auxiliary business meeting at 11:27 a.m. on Wednesday, August 7, 2019.

Conference concluded after business on Wednesday with the All States Banquet and Awards Program. EANGUS Auxiliary President Kennebeck presented the EANGUS Auxiliary Meritorious Service Award to Richard Bryant (NM) and the EANGUS Auxiliary Spouse of the Year Award to Dean Kennebeck (IA). Six (6) CSM Virgil R. Williams scholarships were presented to the following undergraduates: Bailey Danton (LA); Megan Davis (WY); Nathan Jahnig (SD); SrA Victoria Mook (VA); Dana Summers (WV); Lia Suntherland (GA). Patriot scholarship recipients were undergraduates: SrA Nathan Fish (CT); Kristen Martin (AR); SrA Trevor Sik (SD); Dylan Singleton (TN); and Julia Soukup (SD). The Command Sergeant Majors Advisory Council scholarship recipient was undergraduate SGT Jake Hurley (IA). American Intercontinental University scholarships were presented to three (3) undergraduates: Jodi Stenberg (ND); SrA Isaac McMillan (HI); and SFC (Ret) Sharon Roberts (UT). SSgt Mackenzie Vincent, undergraduate (MT) and SSgt Mariah Moody, graduate (NM) received the two (2) American Public University scholarships. Colorado Technical University presented scholarships to undergraduate MSgt Edward Schmitt (WI) and doctorate candidate CMSgt (Ret) Ritchie Stiller (NC). Undergraduate SPC Joshua Allen (AZ) and graduate Amanda Brown-Harvey (OK) received the Grand Canyon University scholarships. Grantham University scholarships were presented to undergraduates TSgt Bradley Smith (WY) and Camilla Walton (UT). The three (3) University of Phoenix scholarships went to graduate students SFC Ethan Dodd (NE), Corrine Hash (SC), and Kimberly Rothenberg (NV).

Last updated August 26, 2019