



2024 Conference Committee Report

8 March 2024

1. We attended two conferences this past year, the 145<sup>th</sup> NGAUS General Conference and Exhibition from August 18 to 21, 2023, in Reno Nevada, and the National Guard Executive Directors Association (NGEDA) Conference from January 16 to 19 in Detroit Michigan.

a. From 18 to 21 August 2023, 16 NJ members, spouses and friends ranging from TAG to 2LTs attended the NGAUS conference.

b. The new Chief of Staff of the Army, General Randy George, presented his priorities

(1). WARFIGHTING and shifting training to lethality, fighting more cohesively at the battalion, brigade and division, army combat power.

(2). Delivering ready combat formations.

(3). Continuous transformation, Change the Acquisition process, while reducing complexity and becoming more austere, lean and mobile.

(4). Strengthen the profession of Arms with discipline and standards in our multi compo army, while Investing and improving the industrial base.)

c. Maj. Gen. Donald P. Dunbar, TAG Wisconsin, discussed the formation and transformation of the Militias. Our ability to recognize December 13, 1636, as the organization date of the oldest Army National Guard units is based in law. The Militia Act of May 8, 1792, permitted militia units organized before the May 8, 1792, to retain their "customary privileges." This provision of the militia act was perpetuated by the Militia Act of 1903, the National Defense Act of 1916, and by subsequent law.

d. We perused the trade show finding capabilities for requirements we did not even know we had.

2. In January 2024, members of the board traveled by car to Detroit for the National Guard Executive Directors Association (NGEDA) conference. Our mission during each year's NGEDA Conference is to set up for the annual National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) conference that is attended by over 4,000 members of the 54 State Associations. This year, the host state will be waiving the \$180 fee for all company grade officers and their spouses!

3. The next NGAUS conference, their 146<sup>th</sup>, is set for Aug 23 to 26, 2024, in Detroit, a city known for its historic contributions to American music, sports and the U.S. auto industry. Meetings and the exhibition are set for Huntington Place, the 16th largest convention center in the United States and one of the nation's busiest. Among the planned social events is a Caribbean Carnival on Belle Isle, an island in the Detroit River near downtown, that will serve as the combined Company Grade/Field Grade/Warrant Officer Mixer on Aug. 23rd. Bring a passport if you want to cross over to Canada. The NGANJ contingent will have rooms in the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, and will share a hospitality suite with the Military Association of New York. NGANJ plans to car pool to Detroit to be able to bring more members.

For more NGAUS Conference Detroit updates and information over the next few months, go to:

<https://www.ngaus.org/magazine/next-ngaus-0>

4. Building on our successful Joint Officer and Enlisted Associations Conference From 28-30 October 2022, we again have partnered with the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of New Jersey for this conference 8-10 March 2024, in Atlantic City, New Jersey at the Sheraton Atlantic City Convention Center Hotel.

5. The next joint conference is in the planning stages and will be set for Long Branch NJ, at the Ocean place from 7 to 9 March 2025. Room rates will be at the per diem rate for Long Branch.

6. The next NGAUS conferences will be:

- a. 147<sup>th</sup> General Conference & Exhibition, Milwaukee | Aug. 22 to 25, 2025
- b. 148<sup>th</sup> General Conference & Exhibition, Indianapolis | Aug. 28 to 31, 2026
- c. 149<sup>th</sup> General Conference & Exhibition, Salt Lake City | Aug. 27 to 30, 2027

7. Find more information at <https://cv7.280.myftpupload.com/main-events/>



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