

At the creation of the ANG NCOAGA in July 1968 at the graduation of class 68-B the mission agreed upon was "To serve the home unit and the community in which we lived." - 106 Chapters were formed of givers not takers...Col. Morrissey

# THE GRADUATE

Issue 177

September 2022





## Greetings From The President...

Welcome to the members of this organization. I am Doug Schulz, CMSgt (ret) from Nebraska /South Dakota. For those of you who have been in our association for a long time I am familiar to you. I was the national president from 2015 to 2019 and have been the president ex officio for the past three years. Prior to our general membership meeting which we held via zoom on Aug 13th, I found out that our President Alec Cawfield was not running for re-election and the 1st Vice President Eric Vickrey was also not planning on running for President. So, I decided to put my hat in the ring. No other members ran for this office, so I was elected by unanimous ballot. The following paragraph documents my various experience in this association.

I have held every Chapter office at my local unit until I retired from the ANG. My first position on the National Board of Directors was DAL- Ways and Means. Then I became the Treasurer for quite a few years, and then was off the board for a few years due to my job with the ANG. Once I retired, I became the Region 3 director and then became the 1st Vice President for a few years and then the President for four years.

I have seen many changes to our association; however, the biggest change has been the continued reduction of members and chapters. Despite the Board of Directors continued encouragement, local chapters are continuing to go inactive. I don't attribute this to our group dynamic, but I firmly believe it is primarily due to the constant requirement for unit members to mobilize in support of one major conflict after another. When I was the Chief of Aircraft Maintenance, we were either preparing for a major deployment, being deployed, or getting ready for another inspection. The biggest complaint that I heard from the guardsmen was that they didn't even have time to learn their jobs before they were getting deployed. It is no wonder that when the airmen come back from a deployment, the last thing they want to do is give up more of their time to an organization, whose primary goal is to encourage members to complete their PME. Believe me I understand completely. Another issue was the onset of COVID-19. During that period, life just seemed to come to a stop. Nobody went places, Air Guard units we only open to unit members and only for official business- and job-related events. The normal connections that members had to communicate about PME or being in our association completely ended. The members are the only ones that can remake those connections and make those plans. I have seen regrowth of the chapter in Birmingham which is very exciting.

I believe our association must move into the next phase of its life. We obviously don't have very many active chapters in the country, but we still seem to get scholarship applications for the all-important education dollars that we have continued to provide over all these years.

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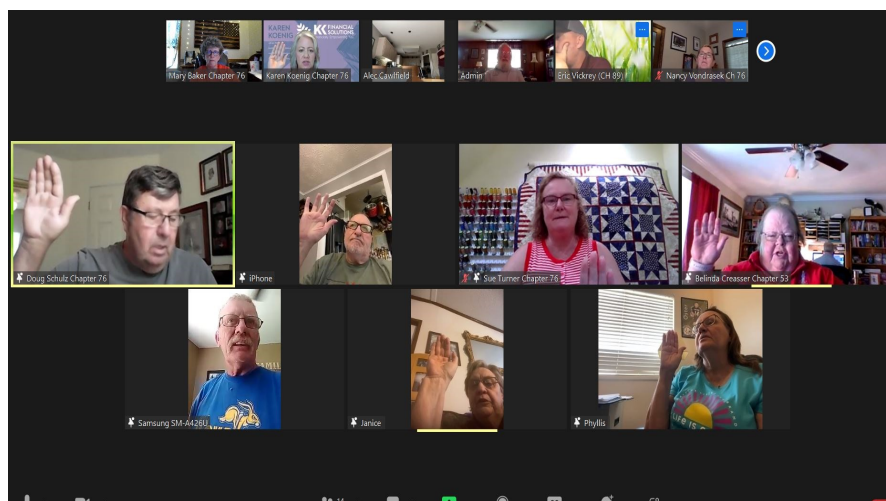
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And we were challenged by the Director of the ANG to move our organization into that direction. So, with your help, we hope to continue to offer the scholarships into the future. But we cannot do that without some of you providing us with some fund-raising ideas or corporate sponsorships. It is just as simple as talking with businesspeople that you meet, asking them if they are interested in contributing dollars to a nonprofit licensed organization, that provides scholarship dollars each year to a member of this organization and to dependents of members of this group. Annually the NCOAGA provides \$6400 to those individuals. We get those funds from membership dollars, fund raisers, and donations. If you have any questions about donations or wish to learn more about our fund raiser programs, you can contact our DAL - Ways and Means Director CMSgt (ret) Sue Turner at [sueturner@gardener.com](mailto:sueturner@gardener.com).

We have begun moving our organization into more of an alumni group with proposed changes to our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. We have completed the first reading of those changes and they are currently being reviewed by our attorney to ensure they comply with the laws governing our nonprofit group. In the future we will be scheduling another National Meeting via Zoom or an actual in person meeting to have the second reading of those changes and final vote to adopt them. We will be letting everyone know by Facebook and the NCOAGA website of the date and time for that meeting. I hope to see you there.

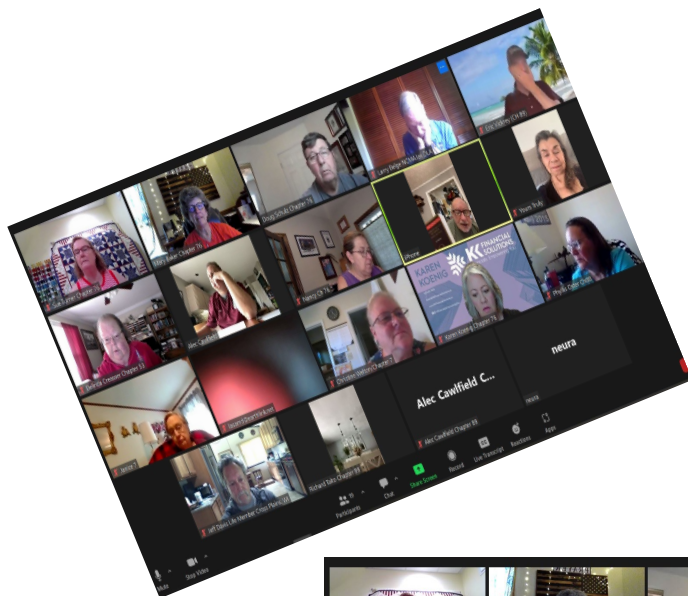
Another item at hand is the election of officers. We had election of officers at our national meeting on zoom where we elected most of the positions. We did not have anyone run for the office of 2nd vice president, or any of the regional directors. Currently our board of directors meet monthly on zoom but are planning to extend that to bi-monthly or even quarterly. Because our primary focus is on the perpetuation of this association and continuing our scholarship program, the demands on those positions are basically a few minutes of each month. If you are interested in helping guide this association into the future, please let me know that you are willing to join our leadership group. If you have any questions about accomplishing anything, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at [twins68521@yahoo.com](mailto:twins68521@yahoo.com).

Doug Schulz, CMSgt (ret)  
President NCOAGA  
[email-twins68521@yahoo.com](mailto:email-twins68521@yahoo.com)



Swearing in of the new officers (Foreground L-R) Doug Schulz (President), Lang Anderson (Parliamentarian), Sue Turner (DAL-Ways & Means), Belinda Creaser (Membership), Kevin Uthe (1st Vice President), Janice Richardson (Treasurer), Phyllis Oster (Secretary), Karen Koenig—Upper left (DAL-Graduate)

# Pictures of GMM52







As all our members know, each year for the last (forever) number of years Betty Fearn has made a quilt that was raffled off at our national seminar (meeting). Since Betty was no longer able to make a quilt for our association, our DAL- Ways and Means, CMSgt (ret) Sue Turner, has taken over the task of making a quilt for our association to raffle. I am sure it was always a labor of love for Betty and now I am hoping that it is the same for Sue.

Our association has always used the funds raised during the raffle for our scholarship program and this year was no exception. This year the raffle generated almost \$1000 from the tickets that your board of directors either sold or bought themselves.

In the past, the raffle was always completed at our national meeting but this year our meeting was held via zoom, so the logistics had to change a little bit. Each board member who took tickets had to send the sold tickets and monies to Sue Turner since she made the quilt, and it was only fair that she would draw the winning ticket.

As usual there was banter between all the board members that had purchased tickets, i.e., how many years had they purchased tickets but had not won it, etc., which also included me. Sue drew the winning ticket and it belonged to Karen Koenig, who was very happy and stated that the one that she had won previously was on her spare bed right now.

The plan was for Sue to send the quilt to Karen and that was the end of that event on our zoom. But unbeknownst to me Karen decided that since she already had a quilt she would give it to me and Carol, since we have been purchasing tickets since I joined the association. I was left speechless and so thankful to our very dear friend Karen.

This association has always created friendships that have lasted for a lifetime and ours is no different. Karen joined the association when she was enlisted, and we worked on planning the National Seminar in Omaha together. She has been on the Board of Directors for many years in various positions, and she has done an outstanding job creating our Graduate magazine after each of our national meetings. Karen, we are so blessed to have you as our friend and look forward to many more years working together on the Board of Directors!

## AIR NATIONAL GUARD NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER

### ACADEMY GRADUATE ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 1

#### SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

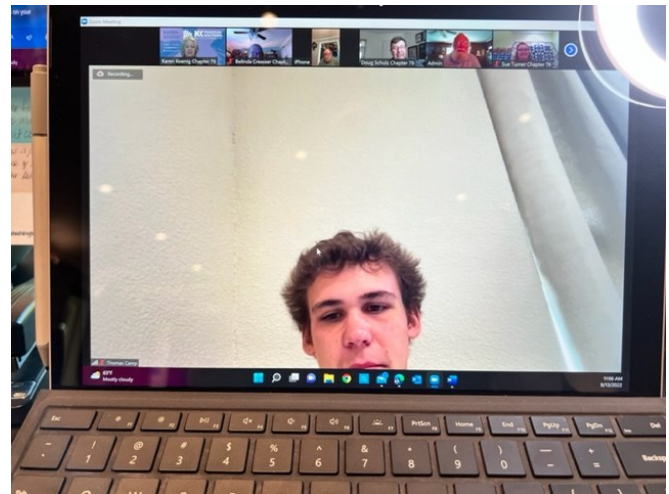


**13 AUGUST 2022**

<u>SCHOLARSHIP</u>	<u>AWARDEE</u>
<b>WILLIAM M. GOYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD</b>	Awardee: Zach Turner  Sponsor: CMSgt (Ret) Sue Turner, Chapter 76, Region East
<b>SENIOR DIVISION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD</b>	Awardee: Jade Heilman  Sponsor: MSgt (Ret) Anthony Heilman, Chapter 70, Region West
<b>USAA SENIOR DIVISION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD</b>	Awardee: Evan Schulz  Sponsor: CMSgt (Ret) Doug Schulz, Chapter 76, Region West
<b>MSGT BENNIE S. FRICK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD</b>	Awardee: Thomas Camp  Sponsor: CMSgt (Ret) Ned Seaman, Chapter 7, Region East
<b>JUNIOR DIVISION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD</b>	Awardee: Grace Niebuhr  Sponsor: CMSgt (Ret) Sharon Parriott, Chapter 47, Region West
<b>BETTY FEARN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD</b>	Awardee: SrA Bailee Kelch  Chapter 89, Region Central

8/14/2022

# Pictures of Scholarship Winners





## BETTY FEARN WINNER

Bailee Kelch

When starting this scholarship application, I looked for inspiration in my submission from last year. What I found in last year's paper surprised me. Lately, I have been feeling down on myself, feeling like I am not progressing or not doing enough in regards to preparing for my future. I often suffer from imposter syndrome, which is the feeling that you aren't good enough to be where you are, feeling like you don't deserve to be somewhere. But, looking at the changes and the progress that I have been able to make within the span of one year, I realized that I have achieved a lot more than I am giving myself credit for.

Last year, I talked about how I served as drill team captain in technical training, and how that helped me to become a better leader. I bring it up again, because this was my first major experience with leadership, and I still use the lessons I learned then, today. I led sixteen airmen over the course of several months to create a routine for a drill competition, leading us to a first place trophy. We had limited time, old, broken weapons, and limited resources to get a routine together, but we pulled together and pulled off a true underdog story. Having the opportunity to do this really impacted me as a leader. Those airmen taught me so much about leadership. That experience forced me to improve my organizational skills, be more confident in my decisions, and be willing to lead by listening and following.

As a Senior Airman, I was hungry and eager to be able to help other airmen as much as I could. I offered to be a point of contact for incoming airmen to help them with their out-processing for basic training and in-processing once they returned to the unit. I loved doing this and ensuring that airmen had seamless transitions back to the unit. However, earning Staff Sergeant has presented new challenges and opportunities for growth. I have been working to develop and implement new, engaging learning opportunities. This is helpful for everyone, as leadership can get a better metric of what areas can be improved on in addition to the education it provides for new or young airmen. It has been well-received so far, and I hope to continue to improve and expand on these camaraderie-building, job knowledge-improving activities as I continue in this role.

In basic training as well as technical training, I received honor graduate recognition. I was also the top performer in my squadron in basic training. Last year, I mentioned that my crew and myself were days away from competing in the Load Crew of the Year competition. I am proud to be able to say that we were successful in this competition, and earned the title for the 2021 year. I also received an Indiana Commendation Medal last year in recognition of my efforts supporting several TDYs, my performance in the load barn throughout the year, as well as my academic achievements. I am also in upgrade training to become a 7-level within my AFSC.

In regards to civilian accomplishments, I received an honors diploma in high school, as well as making the dean's list my first year at Ball State. I have since transferred to Purdue University, majoring in Aviation Management. I also have a minor in Organizational Leadership, and I intend to graduate in May of 2023. I also joined the Aviation Technology Student Council my first semester at Purdue, and got selected to serve as Secretary for the 2022-2023 school year. This past spring, I earned my private pilot license while taking 18 credit hours toward my degree. I also completed the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test, as well as the Test of Basic Aviation Skills. I am happy to be able to say that I have submitted my first application for a fighter pilot slot, and I am eager to continue applying as I finish my bachelor's degree.

This summer, I had the incredible opportunity to work as an intern at Textron Aviation, in



their Defense area. This work center produces and maintains T-6, AT-6, and Cessna Scorpion airplanes for the United States government as well as other countries. I specifically worked in aftermarket logistics for the T-6 program. I completed a successful rework of nearly 600 spares for the T-6 using engineering diagrams and illustrated parts catalogs. This involved looking at over 1,000 part numbers and their respective diagrams and parts lists. I had many learning experiences along the way, and learned a lot about the company and the airplane as I completed this project.

In the next year, I intend to work toward my instrument rating as a pilot, as well as complete my bachelor's degree. I hope to improve the School of Aviation and Transportation Technology at Purdue through my work as Secretary for the student council. I also intend to apply and interview for as many fighter squadrons as I can. In regards to my current AFSC, I hope to achieve my 7-level and continue my own development as well as bolster the development of my peers. I hope to be able to experience imposter syndrome less, and convince myself that I am where I belong. In the words of Michelle "Mace" Curran, former Thunderbird #5, "the key to progress in anything is just having the courage to start something when you're not ready, but just believing in yourself enough that you'll figure it out along the way." That quote has resonated with me since I first heard it, and I continue to remind myself of it daily to remind myself that I do belong and that I can achieve the success I desire.

If awarded this scholarship, I will use it to help acquire my instrument rating so that I can improve my piloting skills and become a better candidate for undergraduate pilot training. It would be helpful for me to be able to accomplish my goals and become the leader and role model that I aspire to be. My last two semesters will be rather full, with 21 credits in the fall and 18 in the spring, so fitting in flying, my student council duties, and a job is going to be an enormous feat. This scholarship would provide additional help so that I can achieve all of these things without having the added stress of worrying about money.

Zach Turner

Over the last few years, illegal immigration has been a hot topic of discussion within our country, and for good reasons. Lawmakers and the general public have been faced with a very real ethical dilemma. Do we allow people from across the globe to come into our country illegally seeking a better life for themselves and their families? In order to come up with a good answer to this question, we must take a deep dive into the issue and its driving factors. This is not a question that we can take lightly, and it is one that I believe will take true bipartisanship to solve.

Outside of the US, millions of people are struggling with horrid living conditions within third-world/underdeveloped countries. On top of this, many countries have corrupt political leadership which is oftentimes very unstable. This has left people with minimal job opportunities and an unsafe environment to raise a family. Over the years, they have become sick of this way of life and have begun looking for alternatives. The United States has emerged as a true economic power and has become a place of opportunity. Along with this, our country is a place that is built on individual liberties and the representation of the general public. This combination has proven to be very attractive to those looking for a better life. However, the process of legally immigrating to the United States can be very tricky. Some people are not willing to wait years to move to the US, so they resort to getting into the country illegally. This can be done in various ways, most commonly by crossing the United States southern border by way of land or water. This journey has proven to be very dangerous, with hundreds of people dying while attempting to illegally cross our southern borders.

Given how dangerous the journey is, there are many people who are motivated to truly work hard and chase the “American dream”. Pushing yourself through that amount of danger means nothing if you don’t make the most of your opportunity. These folks may even decide to push for legal citizenship, bringing themselves that much closer to the American dream. This will also likely lead to an easier path to citizenship for members of their family. These folks come to the US with good intentions and a great deal of motivation. These are the people who wind up being long-term residents, developing roots and becoming strong pieces of the American workforce. When looking at illegal immigration through this lens, it is easy to see the positives. Sadly, I feel many people fail to look at illegal immigration through an alternate lens.

When I think of national sovereignty, I think of a strong nation that prioritizes equality and justice. In many cases, I believe illegal immigration directly conflicts with the national sovereignty of our great country. First of all, illegal immigration brings an immense amount of crime, violence, and drugs into our country. Not all illegal immigrants are the perfect example I talked about earlier. Many illegal immigrants come from crime ridden backgrounds and continue those habits when they make it into the US. Many immigrants come from Central American countries where drug trafficking is king. Given this, our southern border has become a popular route for getting drugs into the US illegally. A large portion of drugs illegally smuggled into the US come across the southern border by way of illegal immigrants. In my eyes, this is opposite of “national sovereignty”.

Many illegal immigrants come to the US for financial reasons, as I stated earlier. When they eventually get here, they don’t have the money to pay for healthcare and other basic needs. Government policies have been put into place to help illegal immigrants with these issues, often using taxpayer money. When it comes to taxes, I find it hard to find the bright side in terms of illegal immigrants. Being from a community where illegal immigration is very com-



mon, I've learned that illegal immigrants often find ways to avoid paying taxes. It is extremely tough to regulate and keep track of illegal immigrants, meaning they can undermine the government in many different ways. Equality and justice are two big facets of national sovereignty, and a situation where one group must pay their dues while another can sneak by without doing the same does not sound very equal or just to me.

At the end of the day, it's easy to see why illegal immigration is such a highly debated issue. It's hard to deny the fact that many illegal immigrants are some of the hardest workers in our country. Plenty of industries within the US have workforces largely made up of illegal immigrants. Along with this, illegal immigrants often bring unique cultures which further add a positive element of diversity to our country. However, it is important to consider the negative impacts of illegal immigration. At the forefront of these issues is drug trafficking, which fuels an issue our government has been trying to combat for years. On top of drug problems, many violent crimes have been directly linked to illegal immigrants. Along with this, illegal immigrants are often not held to the same standards as US citizens as far as taxes go. In my opinion, illegal immigration has a negative impact on the national sovereignty of the US. I believe that some aspects of illegal immigration clearly undermine our values of justice and equality.

## BENNIE S. FRICK WINNER

Thomas Camp

Thank you for considering my application. I have been accepted to the University of Alabama in the College of Communication and Information Sciences as a News Media major. My hope is to continue on to earn a minor in Sports Media.

The University of Alabama will cost me and my family a total of just under \$52,000 per year. In addition, my twin sister will be attending Clemson University next year, and one of my stepsisters who is a sophomore in high school will also be going to college in two years. It means a lot to me that I could possibly earn the NCOAGA Scholarship to help pay for college expenses. I have worked hard this past year in order to earn money for college. Throughout the school year and over the past two summers, I have worked diligently about 20-30 hours per week to save money for college. My goal is to help pay for college and also save money so that I can focus on my studies during the first semester without having to feel the pressure to work. Earning this scholarship would help me towards that goal. It would also allow me time to participate in extracurricular activities such as internships and volunteer work related to my field if I didn't have to work as much during college. I believe these extra opportunities would help me learn more about my field and gain valuable experiences, which will make me a better employee in the future.

Five years from now when I leave college, I plan to use all the experience I've gained and the connections I have made at the University of Alabama (UA) to pursue a career in journalism. It doesn't matter where I start because I have seen local Charlotte sports reporters work their way up to the ACC Network and then onto ESPN. If I use what Alabama teaches me, then I have no doubt that I can accomplish my goals. Some of the opportunities that UA has to offer are internships for students that want to work on live news sets, like the WVUA 23 TV station. The university is one of only two universities in the country to have their own newsroom that broadcasts daily to the public, and I feel like it would give me an advantage above others who are also applying to major media companies like NBC or CBS to enter with this type of experience. Along with their news station, UA also has a campus wide newspaper, called *Crimson and White*, in which the journalism students can write articles. They also have a program more focused on the sports at UA, called Crimson Tide Productions, and a sports radio network in the area called Tide 100.9. Some of the news internships that will be available to me at the university are with Snapchat, Google, and the White House. There are also sports internships available at ESPN and the Miami Dolphins. So, no matter the route I want to take in the news field; sports, or current events, I feel like Alabama will provide me with the tools, experience, and connections that I need. All these internships will help what I want to accomplish 10 years from now which would be to work at a major outlet like ESPN or NBC. Working at ESPN would be a dream come true for me.

Thank you once again for considering me for this scholarship.



Evan Schulz

I believe illegal immigration is bad for the country as people are coming in, not paying any taxes or anything that would be supporting the country and then taking jobs away from the people that are paying to be in the country and supporting the country. I also however believe that these people are coming to the country to get away from bad circumstances that these people were dealing with. They are coming to the country in hopes of freedom and another chance to start over, or to give their children a better chance. They are doing it in a bad way but for someone that has no other option, and nowhere else to go, they end up having no choice but to escape into the country. I believe the immigration laws are good as they can keep bad people out of the country and helps keep people that could damage our country out. However, I also believe that it keeps people that could be a benefit to our country out as there are people who would work and serve our country for freedom out of the country they are coming from. This would help our country prosper and grow, as if they are allowed into the country, they could be made to pay taxes for their work and make them pay a percentage of their salary back to the government as they are not a citizen of the country. These immigrants would work the jobs a lot of Americans don't want to do and until they become a citizen, they would pay a percentage of their income to the government. This money could go to food shortages, the military, government debt, and other things. This way the immigrants get the freedom from the country they are trying to leave, as well as opportunities for work, and opportunities for their family. As well as that the government would receive money from them as long as they are in the country and we know they are working. The way we would know they are working would be when they have to pay a percentage of their income, they would turn in a form that showed they were working. This would cut down some of the illegal immigration and also increase the countries workforce. The immigration laws could be changed in a way that lets immigrants that are willing to work and be under government supervision into the country while at the same time keeping the ones that aren't willing to work or could be a danger to the country out. This way the illegal immigration would decrease while increasing our workforce and helps provide the government with more money.

I don't believe we have lost national sovereignty; I think we have lost some control of what we can and can't do on a global standpoint. For instance, with the Russia and Ukraine war, because we are a part of NATO, we couldn't help Ukraine with our military power even if we wanted to unless NATO decided as a group that it was ok to use our forces there to help. But at the same time as a country, on a government standpoint we are independent, we create our own rules as a country and we are not being forced into any laws or changes to our government's foundation by outside force from another country. This is why I believe we haven't lost national sovereignty; in our own government and constitution we decide what happens as a country not an outside force dictating what we do. When it comes to globally, we can't just do whatever we want whenever we want because we are in groups like NATO but it also comes with protection as to keep other countries from attacking as we would be helped by the rest of NATO. I think as long as NATO and other groups don't try to control our government or the laws and how they are made in this country then we won't have lost our national sovereignty. I also believe that National Sovereignty doesn't mean complete isolation from other countries and being completely independent, I believe that the trade among nations and economic relationships are important for the country to keep as because of the relations we keep in good standings with other countries. National sovereignty to me doesn't mean complete isolation from other countries it means that in our own government we make the decisions and that other countries cannot have an effect on those decisions. However, when it comes to decisions that affect other countries then it is fine to be in groups like NATO that minimize violence between countries, as well as that I believe it is good to have economic relations with other countries, and that it doesn't affect our national sovereignty.

## SENIOR DIVISION WINNER

Jade Heilman

Immigration is a large part of the human condition. Before humans created settlements and societies, they were migrants who travelled around the world with the seasons, or with the herds they hunted for meat and furs. Once humans created societies and warring populations started fighting, invading each other, and preventing foreign enemies from entering the cities, illegal immigration came to be. Both legal and illegal immigration have been occurring for thousands of years. People flee from corrupt governments, war, rampant poverty, or other extreme conditions in order to make a better life for themselves and their descendants.

Immigrants travelled across the Atlantic Ocean from many European countries from the 1700s to the early 1900s because they felt that they would have a better chance to increase their quality of life than if they had stayed in their home country. People boarded ships illegally because they were unable to pay for a ticket across the ocean. Many of these illegal immigrants were not sent back across the ocean if the immigration officials at Ellis Island deemed them healthy, fit to work, and if they had some family in the United States that could vouch for them. However, if they were found to be sick with a contagious disease, they were either sent back across the ocean, or institutionalized on Ellis Island until they were considered healthy enough to finish their journey. Large populations of immigrants were from Italy and Ireland. Americans did not like these two ethnic groups for many reasons, but the main reasons were because many of them were catholic, had many children that became street children, and lived in poverty-stricken areas of New York City. After many decades, Americans realized that these immigrants posed no threat, so they turned other immigrant groups into “the other.”

During the two world wars many Germans and Japanese fled their home country and came to the United State illegally. They were treated like the enemy because of their ethnicity, not because of anything they had done. During the next few decades, Koreans, Vietnamese, Russians, and people from the middle east all had to face discrimination when they immigrated, whether legally or illegally when they fled their war-torn country for a better life in the United States. These days, many illegal immigrants are coming from Central and South America because if they were to stay in their home countries they would be killed by gangs or corrupt governments. Illegal immigrants would rather face the consequences of being caught by the United States government than face an uncertain future in their home country.

Legal Immigration and becoming a legal citizen can take many years, a lot of money, and is not always guaranteed. Spending years trying to become a legal citizen, only to be turned away and sent back to their home country can be very disheartening. This is part of the reason why so many choose to enter the United States illegally. I agree that there are too many illegal immigrants coming into the United States, and something needs to be done to stop this. Most illegal immigrants are just trying to make a better life for themselves, and their country of origin prevents them from doing that. Not all immigrants, legal or illegal, are good people, but a majority would be able to pass the vetting process and become legal citizens if they had the chance. Keeping detained illegal immigrants in detention camps indefinitely is not the answer to the illegal immigrant problem. Fixing the countries that these people are fleeing from is the only solution to stopping illegal immigration.

Immigrant quotas of developed countries brings into question the importance of national sovereignty, and whether foreign countries can dictate certain actions or laws of other countries. Sovereignty is defined as the ability of a nation to set its own laws, and to not have them imposed on by a foreign body. There are some in the United States that claim that we are losing our national sovereignty, but according to the definition, I do not think that the United States is



losing its national sovereignty. The country is still able to govern itself without outside interference by foreign powers. Individual states have a lot of control over what happens in their territory, and only have to answer to the federal government on national matters. I think that people who think we are losing our national sovereignty do not realize that, in such an interconnected world, we will have some foreign influences on our culture.

We are not an isolationist country, and the United States was built by a nation of immigrants. Much of our early and current culture is due to our immigrant ancestors who came to the United States for a better life. Our country has a lot of freedom compared to other first-world countries. Many European countries went into multiple lockdowns during the Covid-19 pandemic. The United States allowed the states to make their own decisions on what to do to protect their citizens. Many states did not have mask mandates, so they had a higher positive test rate than states who did have a strict mask mandate. People were able to make their own decisions as to whether they wanted to protect themselves and others by wearing a mask, or to tempt fate by not wearing a mask in crowded areas. Some people thought that being forced to wear a mask was pointless because they were healthy. What they do not realize is that masks were worn to protect those who were not healthy, and could die if they caught covid. Being forced to perform a selfless act was considered an infringement on personal freedom, which shows that some people do not care what happens to others.

Our level of freedom, compared to other developed countries, is nice to have up to a point. However, when people have too much freedom, they think they can get away with anything (storming the capital) without getting in trouble because “they are just exercising their freedom.” When people decide to push the boundaries of freedom, and learn the hard way that there are laws that they have to follow, they claim that our national sovereignty is being impinged upon. Without laws, there is chaos, but too many laws is authoritarian. A balance needs to be found between the two extremes. People are so sensitive these days, that if any small act affects their freedom, even a little, they will complain, possibly riot, and claim that the United States government is overstepping its boundaries. However, if people (women) want to control their body, they do not get a choice in some states because their personal freedom does not matter as much as an unborn fetus. This is especially important now because of the possible overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. People want their freedom, but they do not want others to have their freedom because it might interfere with their personal beliefs. It is very hypocritical of these people to complain about their personal bodily freedom is being taken from them because they have to wear masks, but are taking away women’s bodily freedom in the same way.

Everyone has their own opinions, which is part of being human, but when people refuse to listen to other people’s opinions, we can never have true peace. National sovereignty is important because each country has its own culture, but the world is so interconnected that everyone needs to start working together in order to save our world. Peace is more important than becoming isolationist because we want to keep our level of national sovereignty where it is now. Some developed countries have good ideas and laws that the United States could learn from, but we are blinded by our need of national sovereignty, like a security blanket, that we can’t see that if we were to incorporate some of these ideas, we could better the United States, and increase our quality of life.

## JUNIOR DIVISION WINNER Grace Niebuhr

### Covid's Effect on Education

With the introduction of the Covid-19 virus, also came a new wave of problems. A problem like this has never occurred during the lives of today's students. The children had to adapt to the effects of Covid, just like any adult. Children were sent home from school and waited in silence for two weeks, wondering what was to come of their education. Covid-19 affected education with great impact. Students, teachers, and parents alike were faced with hard decisions regarding education. As students were sent home, it was easier for older children to continue their education, but for younger children, more problems arose.

This is where the parents come in. In today's modern age, usually both parents are working, but when a young child is at home, they must come to a decision. Parents had to juggle both their jobs from home and the education of their young ones. Younger children also faced problems with getting proper education. Most school days were held via ZOOM or Google Classroom, which is not the same as being in person. Younger children did not have the same access to their teacher as they used to. Many children did not receive the proper education because their teacher was not there to guide them in person. Things around the child's home were easily able to distract them, and watching class via screen is not appealing for young eyes. As parents try to work, they are not able to always watch their children. Children did not receive the proper teachings they would have if they were in person.

Many of these problems were not as prevalent in older students, but still remained. Teenagers' eyes would continue to wander and not pay attention in class. Because this was a new experience for all, many teachers were not as prepared as they would have in a regular classroom. This led to easy access for students to cheat and find an "easier" way to complete their assignments. Not only did older students not receive the education that was poorly given to them, but there were many opportunities for them to disregard it entirely. This problem was no one's fault, for Covid-19 affected many mentally as well. Many students lacked motivation to even get on their class call.

Education took a hit for all students, but also the teachers. As mentioned before, no one had experienced something like this before in the modern day. Teachers had a small time to prepare and attempt to give their students the same education as a regular school day. Teachers had to adjust their lesson plans to still fit the school criteria and teach at a faster pace in order to reach the demanded amount of credits for their students. Teachers who taught younger students had to do their best to keep their attention and give them their right education. The early years of a child's education are the most critical, for they are learning the basic skills needed in order to advance in life. Many younger students were not able to obtain these skills because of the Covid-19 virus.

Education took a toll on everyone. Parents, teachers and children all faced difficulties when dealing with education. Everyone had to adapt to new practices and do their best to get the best education that they could. Covid-19 was not only a tragedy in the form of illness, but wiped out resources and access to education.

# Hall of Fame Presentation

At our National meeting in 2019, which was held in Kansas City, a Hall of Fame package was submitted for MSgt (ret) Jerry Rupp.

MSgt Rupp was the National Treasurer for many years and was instrumental in the Association's ability to build a stable financial base for the scholarship program that continues on. He kept meticulous records which ensured the association continued to prosper.

The Board of Directors reviewed and voted to approve the package and present it to the members who attended the meeting. Then, the members voted to approve the award and it was to be presented at the National Meeting in 2020.

Unfortunately Covid 19 prevented the Association from having a meeting in 2020 and also in 2021. Unfortunately, MSgt Rupp passed away in 2021 and never actually received the award in person.

Since the Board of Directors decided to have the National meeting via zoom in 2022, a plan was developed to meet the family of MSgt Rupp to present the award posthumously.

Mona Rupp, Dr Anthony Rupp, Christy Rupp, and Jerry's brother and spouse were in attendance to receive the award. Also in attendance were Kevin Uthe and Lori Hoop from the Sioux Falls, SD chapter, Robert and Nancy Vondrasek, Lang Anderson, and Doug and Carol Schulz from the Lincoln, Ne chapter. Above is one of the pictures taken after the presentation.

All members had a wonderful dinner prior to the presentation and in Association tradition, great conversation was had by all.

MSgt Rupp brought great credit upon himself and our Association. RIP my friend.



# In Memorium

NAME, REGION AND CHAPTER	DATE OF DEATH
<b>CHARTER MEMBER</b> , CMSGT WILLIAM J COONER REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 23	16 AUGUST 2015
CMSGT DAVID D HART REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 24	19 APRIL 2020
CMSGT WILLIAM J HEGEDUS REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 13	17 MARCH 2020
CMSGT WILLIAM H KOHLER REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 23	20 DECEMBER 2020
CMSGT LAWRENCE C MORRIS REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 37	16 OCTOBER 2016
CMSGT GARY A SCHEIRER REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 50	11 JANUARY 2022
<b>CHARTER MEMBER</b> , CMSGT DONALD A SCHOENIKE REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 46	9 SEPTEMBER 2013
CMSGT SALVATORE SIRIANO REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 50	31 MAY 2020
CMSGT ROGER A STOLEN REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 57	6 FEBRUARY 2022
<b>CHARTER MEMBER</b> , CMSGT JOHN T VAN ROO REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 5	11 MARCH 2022
CMSGT FERDINAND VEGA-SOSA REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 2	21 FEBRUARY 2021
CMSGT RICHARD L RYDMAN REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 10	6 JUNE 2022
SMSGT LARRY S BROOKS REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 76	26 SEPTEMBER 2021
<b>CHARTER MEMBER</b> , SMSGT ALEJANDRO ORTIZ-CANO REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 2	19 NOVEMBER 2010
SMSGT JIMMY D STEWART REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 4	8 MAY 2020
SMSGT FREDERICK G ZINGSHEIM REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 5	26 AUGUST 2020



# In Memorium

NAME, REGION AND CHAPTER	DATE OF DEATH
<b>CHARTER MEMBER</b> , MSGT CLAY FRUIT REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 17	17 OCT 2019
<b>CHARTER MEMBER</b> , MSGT GEROLD W HAAS REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 42	8 FEBRUARY 2017
MSGT DORIS L HAGAN REGION WESTERN / CHAPTEER 27	18 OCTOBER 2011
MSGT HENRY W KELLINGTON REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 37	26 NOVEMBER 2020
MSGT MARCO A LACAVA REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 53	8 SEPTEMBER 2020
MSGT CHARLES W MATNEY REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 23	10 OCT 2016
<b>CHARTER MEMBER</b> , MSGT PAUL H MIELKE REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 70	24 MARCH 2015
MSGT ROGER A MILLER REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 65	12 DECEMBER 2012
MSGT JEROME D RUPP REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 70	29 JUNE 2020
MSGT RICHARD C SISTARE REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 7	25 APRIL 2016
<b>CHARTER MEMBER</b> , MSGT LOYD A WALTERS REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 24	28 JULY 2019
MSGT GARY P WRUCK REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 5	7 NOVEMBER 2020
TSGT BARBARA G PETTICE REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 7	20 APRIL 2016
MRS BILLIE J LAUX MCGHEE TYSON AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE	24 MAY 2020

# Winners of the Auction

This year, in addition to the quilt sales, we also had an online auction to raise money for the scholarships. We raised \$1335!! Following are the prizes and winners of each item. Congratulations to all!

## **Phyllis Oster:**

\$50 Visa Card

Porcelain Doll

(2) \$50 Uber Gift Certificates

## **Jim Kennedy:**

\$400 Carnival Cruise Line Gift Card

## **Doug Schulz:**

(3) \$25 Minute Man Gift Card—Doug Schulz

## **Eric Vickrey:**

Pineapple Beach Club-Antigua Vacation

St. James Club & Villas—Antigua Vacation

## **Karen Koenig:**

St. James' Club Morgan Bay—St. Lucia Vacation

The Club Barbados Resort & Spa Vacation

## **Mary Baker:**

Hammock Cove - Antigua Vacation

Palm Island Resort & Spa—Grenadines Vacation

## 2022-2023 NCOAGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NCOAGChapter1@gmail.com

### PRESIDENT

CMSgt (Ret) Doug Schulz  
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#### VACANT

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E-Mail: langanderson1@gmail.com

### DIRECTOR, REGION WEST

#### VACANT

(AK, AZ, CA, GU, HI, ID, NV, OR, UT, WA, IA, MN, MT, NE, ND,  
SD, WY, CO, KS, NM, OK, TX)

### DIRECTOR, REGION CENTRAL

#### VACANT

(WI, IL, MI, IN, OH, KY, TN, LA, MS, AR, MO)

### DIRECTOR, REGION EAST

#### VACANT

(CT, DE, DC, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, AL, FL, GA,  
NC, PR, SC, VA, VI)

### PRESIDENT EX-OFFICIO

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Cell Phone: (260) 341-5750  
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PattonZero@hotmail.com,

### COMMANDANT, ENLISTED PME

CMSgt Shaun W. Withers  
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DSN: 266-3520 / Commercial: (865) 985-3520

### CHAIRMAN, PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL

#### VACANT

### LIAISON TO ANG DIRECTOR

CMSgt Maurice L. Williams  
NGB/CFC, Office of the ANG Command Chief  
Air National Guard Readiness Center  
3501 Fetchet Ave, Joint Base Andrews, MD 20762  
Work Phone: (240) 612-9468

8/14/2022 (pro)

17	<del>Anchorage, AK</del>	91	Dobbins AFB, GA	44	<del>South Portland, ME</del>	90	Reno, NV	83	Warrick, RI
102	<del>Eielson AFB, AK</del>	59	Savannah, GA	51	Alpena, MI	96	<del>Newburgh, NY</del>	19	<del>Eastover, SC</del>
68	Birmingham, AL	18	<del>Honolulu, HI</del>	58	<del>Battle Creek, MI</del>	79	<del>Niagara Falls, NY</del>	70	Sioux Falls, SD
52	<del>Dothan, AL</del>	53	Des Moines, IA	42	Detroit, MI	82	<del>Rome, NY</del>	1	Knoxville, TN
21	Montgomery, AL	56	<del>Fort Dodge, IA</del>	66	<del>Detroit, MI</del>	81	<del>Scotia, NY</del>	25	McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN
67	<del>Montgomery, AL</del>	57	Sioux City, IA	6	<del>Duluth, MN</del>	50	Syracuse, NY	77	<del>Memphis, TN</del>
35	<del>Fort Smith, AR</del>	38	<del>Boise, ID</del>	47	<del>St. Paul, MN</del>	13	Westhampton, NY	22	Nashville, TN
54	Little Rock AFB, AR	15	<del>Scott AFB, IL</del>	14	<del>Bridgeton, MO</del>	71	Columbus, OH	55	<del>Dallas, TX</del>
46	<del>Phoenix, AZ</del>	37	<del>Peoria, IL</del>	3	<del>Saint Louis, MO</del>	23	<del>Mansfield, OH</del>	20	<del>Houston, TX</del>
43	<del>Tucson, AZ</del>	75	Springfield, IL	12	<del>St. Joseph, MO</del>	32	<del>Springfield, OH</del>	48	<del>San Antonio, TX</del>
65	<del>Fresno, CA</del>	89	Fort Wayne, IN	103	Gulfport, MS	36	<del>Toledo, OH</del>	9	<del>Salt Lake City, UT</del>
101	<del>March AFB, CA</del>	80	<del>Terre Haute, IN</del>	24	Jackson, MS	8	<del>Oklahoma City, OK</del>	29	<del>Sandston, VA</del>
40	<del>Moffat FAF, CA</del>	69	<del>Topoka, KS</del>	84	<del>Meridian, MS</del>	30	<del>Tulsa, OK</del>	41	Winooski, VT
78	<del>Port Huacame, CA</del>	72	<del>Wichita, KS</del>	27	<del>Great Falls, MT</del>	93	<del>Klamath Falls, OR</del>	85	<del>Spokane, WA</del>
61	<del>Aurora, CO</del>	60	<del>Louisville, KY</del>	7	Charlotte, NC	10	<del>Portland, OR</del>	97	<del>Tacoma, WA</del>
28	<del>East Granby, CT</del>	39	New Orleans, LA	11	<del>Fargo, ND</del>	31	<del>Harrisburg, PA</del>	106	Camp Douglas, WI
62	<del>Washington, DC</del>	34	<del>Falmouth, MA</del>	76	Lincoln, NE	87	<del>Pittsburgh, PA</del>	5	<del>Madison, WI</del>
33	<del>New Castle, DE</del>	95	<del>Westfield, MA</del>	73	<del>Portsmouth, NH</del>	105	Willow Grove, PA	86	<del>Milwaukee, WI</del>
4	Jacksonville, FL	88	Andrews AFB, MD	64	<del>Atlantic City, NJ</del>	2	Carolina, PR	26	<del>Charleston, WV</del>
100	MacDill AFB, FL	94	<del>Middle River, MD</del>	92	<del>McGuire AFB, NJ</del>	99	North Kingstown, RI	45	<del>Martinsburg, WV</del>
104	Tyndall AFB, FL	74	<del>Ranger, ME</del>	63	<del>Albuquerque, NM</del>	98	North Smithfield, RI	16	<del>Cheyenne, WY</del>

ANG NCOAGA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ NEW MEMBERSHIP
☐ FRIEND OF THE ASSOCIATION
☐ MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
☐ ADDRESS CHANGE

**NOTE:** If this is a new membership, you **MUST** include a source document in the form of PME completion certificate(s) or VMPF document indicating type of PME and how completed. “Regular membership” is granted for in-residence PME and “Associate Membership” for correspondence PME. Membership *will not* be granted without the required documentation.

Name:

Rank:

Address:

City:

State:

9 Digit Zip code: -

Personal E-mail Address(es):

Chapter Number:

Unit:

Location:

TYPE OF PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION COMPLETED

(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

☐ Chief Leadership Course

☐ SNCOA (RESIDENCE)
☐ SNCOA (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)

☐ NCOA (RESIDENCE)
☐ NCOA (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)

☐ NCOLS (RESIDENCE)
☐ NCOLS (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)

☐ NCOPC (RESIDENCE)
☐ NCOPC (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)

☐ ALS (RESIDENCE)
☐ ALS (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)

☐ OTHER (RESIDENCE)
☐ OTHER (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)

☐ \$20 (One Year Membership)
☐ \$50 (Three Year Membership)
☐ \$250 (Life Membership)
☐ Life Payment Plan (\$50 Deposit + 4 Quarterly Payments of \$50)

RECRUITED BY:

THANK-YOU!

DAL - Membership use only:

Regular Member

Associate Member

Member ID #

MEMBERSHIP

CHAPTER ONE

AIR NATIONAL GUARD  
NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER  
ACADEMY GRADUATE ASSOCIATION  
a 501(C)3 Corporation

GOD  
HONOR  
COMMUNITY

ANG NCOAGA



**AIR NATIONAL GUARD  
PAST DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

As Director and in my previous capacities as Adjutant General and Group Commander, I found the role and benefits of the Air National Guard Noncommissioned Officer Academy Graduate Association to be invaluable in our effort to be successful citizens and airmen in today's America."

The Academy Graduate Association has made tremendous contributions to the overall success of the entire Air National Guard, its units and our enlisted force." "I will continue to rely on this organization's active role in fostering 'Esprit-de-Corps', pride, professionalism, and a sense of unity within our units and communities."

**ANG NCOAGA, CHAPTER ONE  
PAST PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

The Air National Guard Noncommissioned Officer Academy Graduate Association was founded in 1968 in order to support Air National Guard Commanders at every level of command. Since then, Association members have been actively involved in improving discipline, 'Esprit-de-Corps', and the quality of life for our local communities through countless projects.

Being a **Volunteer** is what distinguishes the men and women of the Air National Guard as unique. Our National Association members, along with many times their number of local-only members, are always volunteering.

Will you accept the invitation to again volunteer and join Chapter 1, Air National Guard Noncommissioned Officer Academy Graduate Association in helping to continue to meet the needs of your home unit, community, and America? Together, **WE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE** for America into the next century.

**ASSOCIATION OBJECTIVES**

The objective of this Association is to support commanders through the leadership, knowledge, and experience of its members as follows, but not limited to:

- ❖ Promote enlisted professional military education with a residence emphasis.
- ❖ Prepare enlisted members for enlisted professional military education with a residence emphasis.
- ❖ Support enlisted professional military education with a residence emphasis.
- ❖ Instill pride and esprit de corps through:
  - The Air Force core values,
  - Military customs and traditions, and

➢ Patriotism and community involvement.

**BUSINESS & INDUSTRY DAY**

Our Business & Industry Day program, held at sites selected by the Director, Air National Guard Bureau, hosts regional chapters and units along with local business, community, and educational leaders, allowing them to see and understand the mission of their *Hometown Air Guard*. This works to the benefit of many of our guests in helping them appreciate the contributions of the Air National Guard to our nation's defense and within our communities, while also making it possible for us to reach vastly larger numbers of our community leaders

**CIVIC ACTIVITIES**

Under civic activities, our members and chapters are actively involved in programs in their local communities and bases. Chapters promote programs for veterans, senior citizens, the handicapped, and children. It is our way of promoting our communities and making them better places to live in.

**OPERATION PATRIOTISM**

This program promotes patriotism through historic flag ceremonies and color guards. Thousands of miles and hundreds of man-hours are invested yearly by Association members promoting dedication to love of our country and Old Glory.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

Each year at the Annual General Membership Meeting, scholarship awards are presented to dependents of Association members. Cash awards are based on the student's written essay, academic achievement, and application. Scholarships are also available to Association members in good standing.

**ASSOCIATION AWARDS**

The Association recognizes those individuals and chapters who have excelled during the past year with awards at the Annual General Membership Meeting.

The highest single individual award is the Outstanding Graduate of the Year. This award is presented to a member graduate who has made significant contributions to local chapters and the total Air National Guard.

The Major General I. G. Brown Command Excellence Award is given annually to a commander, who provides extraordinary support to the enlisted corps.

**BE SQUARE SOCIETY**

The Be Square Society was formed to assist in perpetuating our Association. Individuals are encouraged to join by pledging \$250, \$500, \$1,000, or more through a "Living Will" or by direct gift. Pledges may be tax deductible as a result of approval of Public Charity under the Public Charity Status 509(a)(2) effective 25 Sep 07.

**PRIDE-THRU RECOGNITION**

The Pride-Thru-Recognition (PTR) program promotes the individual recognition of all members of the Air National Guard.

**TRAVEL LOG**

Members join for a nominal fee and with a little coordination stay in each other's homes or obtain information about the local area at no charge. Travel Log income also supports our Scholarship program.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Annually a local chapter/state hosts a reunion and advanced management training seminar. It is a great time to renew old friendships, develop new ones, and advance one's management techniques.

**"THE GRADUATE"**

Our web posted newsletter keeps members informed of what is happening within our local chapter, the Association, and the Professional Military Education community.

**ASSOCIATION FUNDING**

The Air National Guard Noncommissioned Officer Academy Graduate Association is self-funded. Local chapters determine their membership fee. Chapter One, the national chapter, assesses an annual membership fee.

**WORLD WIDE WEB ADDRESS**  
**www.ncoaga.com**

**WHERE TO SEND THIS APPLICATION WITH PME DOCUMENTATION, IF APPLICABLE:**

MSgt (Ret) Belinda R. Creasser  
Director-at-Large, Membership  
116 Centennial Drive  
Harvest AL 35749-8123

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

**"ANG NCOAGA CHAPTER ONE"**