

# —Mississippi Strong—

## Newsletter of the MS NG NCO Association Auxiliary

November-December 2020

**I**n this issue of the *Mississippi Strong* newsletter you will find: membership information; a list of the EANGUS Auxiliary scholarship recipients; seasonal highlights; and more. **PLEASE, PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP BY DECEMBER 15.** From all your Auxiliary Officers and Board Members, Happy Veterans Day, Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year! And, be sure you thank a military family this month. Send any information for the newsletter to Vivian via email at [vivtay7@aol.com](mailto:vivtay7@aol.com). Thanks, y'all!



Happy New Year  
2021



## EANGUS AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIPS

- One (1) **USAA** Auxiliary scholarship in the amount of \$3,000 (three thousand dollars)—recipient **Carter Jonathan Jahrig, South Dakota**
- One (1) **EANGUS** Auxiliary Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 (two thousand dollars)—recipient **Justin Ryan Benda, Minnesota**
- One (1) **EANGUS** Auxiliary Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500 (one thousand five hundred dollars)—recipient **Austyn Lauren Quiggle, New Mexico**
- Two (2) **EANGUS** Auxiliary Scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 (one thousand dollars) each—recipients **Lexy Anne McElroy, South Dakota** and **Morgan Renay Wade, Virginia**

*Mississippi's only 2020 applicant was ineligible as she had been awarded a scholarship in 2019; the EANGUS Auxiliary scholarships are one-time awards. Make your family aware of these scholarships!*



**Can we even count our blessings?!  
We all have so much for which to  
give thanks!!**

*Wishing you blessings as you celebrate  
Christmas!*



# November is Military Family Appreciation Month

*Express your thanks to the military families  
you know!*



# WE CARE for AMERICA

THE ENLISTED ASSOCIATION OF THE  
NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES

While the National Guard takes care of the citizens of America, the We Care for America Foundation  
takes care of our National Guard men and women, and their families.



Consider making a donation today to  
the EANGUS “*We Care for America*”  
Foundation, Inc.



## *Congratulations*

Connie Myers—EANGUS “Side by Side” Award recipient

Judith Putman, Area IV Auxiliary Director—EANGUS “The Pen Is Mightier  
Than the Musket” Award recipient

*Mississippi Strong* newsletter—Honorable Mention in Auxiliary State  
Newsletters category

# Congratulations

## Winners of the MS NG NCO ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY RAFFLE:

\$300.00 cash—Monise Durr

Hilton Hotel package—Bre’Aira Jones

MS NG NCO Association Auxiliary District IV Director  
Elaine Jackson sold both winning tickets.

Thanks to MS NG NCO Association Executive Director  
Ricky Myers for drawing the tickets.



**MS NG NCO ASSOCIATION  
AUXILIARY  
PAST PRESIDENTS**



1970-71—Dot Brown, deceased	1996-97—Suzie Stewart
1971-72—Doris Williams, deceased	1997-98—Barbara McCay
1972-73—Virginia Brown, deceased	1998-99—Shirley A. Ritter, deceased
1973-74—Agnes Tupman, deceased	1999-2000—Janet McCullum*
1974-75—Ruth Ann Crawford	2000-2001—Pearleen Pearce
1975-76—Dianne Sullivan	2001-2002—Phyllis Barranco, deceased
1976-77—Delores Ford, deceased	2002-2003—Karla Dickens
1977-78—Dot Dudley, deceased	2003-2004—Pat Burchfield
1978-79—Beverly Hurst	2004-2005—Christina Ammons
1979-80—Elwanda Keith	2005-2006—Gloria Cooley
1980-81—Billie Davis	2006-2007—Connie Myers
1981-82—Beverly Lee, deceased	2007-2008—Danna Davis
1982-83—Dot Brown, deceased	2008-2009—Florence Wright
1983-84—Judy Harris	2009-2010—Pat Bishop
1984-85—Ann Hart	2010-2011—Karen Solots
1985-86—Dot Pee, deceased	2011-2012—Pat Burchfield
1986-87—Paulette McLeod, deceased	2012-2013—Pat Burchfield
1987-88—Paula Carrigan	2013-2014—Cathy Adams
1988-90—Brooks Marr	2014-2015—Cathy Adams
1990-91—Ancia Lowery	2015-2016—Christina Thomas*
1991-92—Mildred Geary, deceased	2016-2017—Connie Myers
1992-93—Danna Davis	2017-2018—Connie Myers
1993-94—Doris J. Hoxie, deceased	2018-2019—Angelia Carnes
1994-95—Linda B. Bishop, deceased	2019-2020—Angelia Carnes
1995-96—Vivian D. Taylor	2020-2021—Connie Myers

\*unable to complete term





The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) wants to restrict Veterans from transferring their Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to their families. Join us in helping Congress protect Veterans' rights!

## Answer The Call

<https://eangus.org/legislative-calls-to-action-2/?vvsrsc=%2fCampaigns%2f70270%2fRespond>

### HELP PROTECT OUR RIGHT TO TRANSFER THE POST 9/11 GI BILL

The Department of Defense has indicated they wish to further limit and deny service members and veterans the right to transfer their education benefits to their families. The Post 9/11 GI Bill Transferability Entitlement Act (TEA Act) in the Senate and House has been introduced as a response to DoD's intention to limit education benefits, and will ensure that transferring education benefits becomes an entitlement for all military families. Please join us by reaching out to your Senator and member of Congress to vocalize your support for S. 2327 and HR. 5522, the Post 9/11 GI Bill Transferability Entitlement Act (TEA Act).

Letter (*Please add your own story about this issue to personalize your message*)

The Department of Defense has indicated they wish to further limit and deny service-members and veterans the right to transfer their education benefits to their families. The Post 9/11 GI Bill Transferability Entitlement Act (TEA Act) in the Senate and House has been introduced as a response to DoD's intention to limit education benefits, and will ensure that transferring education benefits becomes an entitlement for all military families.

I believe military families should have the ability to use their earned benefits as they see best, and I no longer want to see military families denied the benefits they were promised. I encourage you to support the TEA Act and fulfill your promise to protect veterans and their families.

### CHECK EANGUS—LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER—FOR CALL TO SUPPORT S.3731 & H.R. 6967

#### *Support Our National Guard Act*

EANGUS members, please contact your Congressional delegations and ask for co-sponsorship of H.R. 6967 and S. 3713. These bills would require the Secretary of Defense to provide to certain members of the National Guard serving on active service in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) the transitional health benefits provided to members of the Reserve Component separating from active duty. Representatives Joe Cunningham and Steven Palazzo introduced H.R. 6967 the, "Support our National Guard Act" to provide members of the National Guardsmen and their families with six months of TRICARE medical coverage following federal Title 32 active duty statuses. Senators Joe Manchin and Joni Ernst introduced its counterpart language, S. 3713.

*"Our National Guard men and women have been called upon, once again, by the nation's leadership to help combat the novel coronavirus pandemic in America. The risks are great; so are the hazards. By definition, Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay is a monetary incentive for volunteers who perform hazardous duty based upon the inherent dangers of that duty and the risks of physical injury. EANGUS agrees with Senator Joni Ernst that the duty our National Guard members are performing embodies that risk, and should receive Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay for COVID-19 response duty," said Sergeant Major (retired) Frank Yoakum, Executive Director of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO LET MS AUXILIARY LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN VIVIAN TAYLOR KNOW WHEN YOU HAVE RESPONDED TO CALLS TO ACTION AND WHEN YOU RECEIVE RESPONSES FROM LEGISLATORS. THANKS!!!**







Operation VetCare is here to help veterans, active duty soldiers, and military families who face special challenges as a result of their services in all branches of the US armed forces. Assistance varies on a case by case basis.

Operation VetCare is a project of The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) which is the official association of the National Guard. Because we represent every enlisted Guardsman, and because our board and staff are all current or former members of the Guard, we have decades of experience in knowing what people need when they face a crisis and how to help them.

For more information and an application go to [eangus.org](http://eangus.org) and find it under the Get Involved tab.

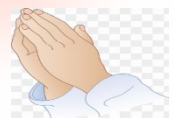
## Cares and Concerns

Sympathy is expressed to Kristi Collins and family on the death of her father in Joplin, Missouri in mid-August. Kristi was able to see him and spend a couple of days with him before he passed.

Sympathy to D.P. Scarborough and family at the death of his wife, Glenda.

Sympathy to the family of Pee Wee Knowles.

Get Well wishes to Jerry & Pat Burchfield, Paula Carrigan, Billie Davis, and Jerry Taylor.



## UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS - MISSISSIPPI

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

Republicans



Democrats



## 116th Congress

January 3, 2019- January 3, 2021

## Mississippi U.S. Senators



Senior Senator

Roger Wicker

The Honorable Roger Wicker  
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510  
(202) 224-6253  
Fax: (202) 228-0378  
email: <http://www.wicker.senate.gov>

## Tupelo Office

330 West Jefferson St  
Suite B  
Tupelo, MS 38804  
P.O. Box 3777  
Tupelo, MS 38803  
(662) 844-5010  
(662) 844-5030 Fax

## Jackson Office

U.S. Federal Courthouse  
501 East Court Street  
Suite 3-500  
Jackson, MS 39201  
(601) 965-4644  
(601) 965-4007 Fax  
(662) 844-5030 Fax



Junior Senator

Cindy Hyde-Smith

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith  
702 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510  
(202) 224-5054  
Fax: (202) 224-5321  
email: <http://hydesmith.senate.gov>

## Jackson Office

190 East Capitol Street, Suite 550  
Jackson, MS 39201  
(601) 965-4459  
(601) 965-4919 Fax

## Oxford Office

911 East Jackson Avenue, Suite 249  
Oxford, Mississippi 38655  
(662) 236-1018  
(662) 236-7618 Fax

## Gulf Coast Office

2012 15th Street, Suite 451  
Gulfport, MS 39501  
(228) 867-9710  
(228) 867-9789 Fax

## Hernando Office

321 Loshier Street  
PO Box 385  
Hernando, MS 38632  
(662) 429-1002  
(662) 429-6002 Fax

## Gulfport Office

2909 13th St  
3rd Floor, Suite 303  
Gulfport, MS 39501  
(228) 871-7017  
(228) 871-7196 Fax

## Mississippi District U.S. Representatives

1<sup>st</sup> District

Trent Kelly

Washington, D.C.  
The Honorable Trent Kelly  
1005 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4306  
(202) 225-3549 Fax  
<https://trentkelly.house.gov/>

Columbus Office  
318 North 7th St, Suite D  
Columbus, MS 39701  
(662) 327-0748  
(662) 328-5982 Fax

Hernando Office  
2565 Caffey St, #200  
P.O. Box 218  
Hernando, MS 38632  
(662) 449-3090  
(662) 449-4836 Fax

Eupora Office  
855 South Dunn St  
Eupora, MS 39744  
(662) 258-7240  
(662) 258-7240 Fax

Tupelo Office  
431 West Main St  
Tupelo, MS 38804  
(662) 841-8808  
(662) 841-8845 Fax

Farmington Office  
4135 County Rd 200  
Corinth, MS 38844  
(662) 687-1525  
(662) 841-8845 Fax



Washington, D.C.  
The Honorable **Bennie Thompson**  
2466 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-5876  
(202) 225-5898 Fax  
<http://benniethompson.house.gov/>

**Bolton Office**  
107 West Madison St  
Bolton, MS 39041  
(601) 866-9003  
(601) 866-9036 (Fax)  
(800) 355-9003 (In State)

**Greenville Office**  
910 Courthouse Ln  
Greenville, MS 38701  
(662) 335-9003  
(662) 334-1304 Fax

**Greenwood Office**  
728 Main St, Suite A  
Greenwood, MS 38930  
(662) 455-9003  
(662) 453-0118 Fax

**Jackson Office**  
3607 Medgar Evers Blvd  
Jackson, MS 39213  
(601) 946-9003  
(601)-982-5337 Fax

**Marks Office**  
P.O. Box 356  
263 East Main St  
Marks, MS 38646  
(662) 326-9003

**Mound Bayou City Hall**  
PO Box 679  
106 Green Ave, Suite 106  
Mound Bayou, MS 38762  
(662) 741-9003  
(662) 741-9002 Fax



Washington DC  
The Honorable **Michael Guest**  
230 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
<https://quest.house.gov>

**Starkville Office**  
600 Russell St. Suite 160  
Starkville, MS 39759  
Phone: (662) 324-0007

**Meridian Office**  
2214 5th Street  
Meridian, MS 39301  
Phone: (601) 693-6681

**Brookhaven Office**  
230 S Whitworth Ave  
Brookhaven, MS 39601  
*Call for Appointment*  
Phone: (601) 823-3400

**Brandon Office**  
308B East Government Street  
Brandon, MS 39042  
Phone: (769) 241-6120

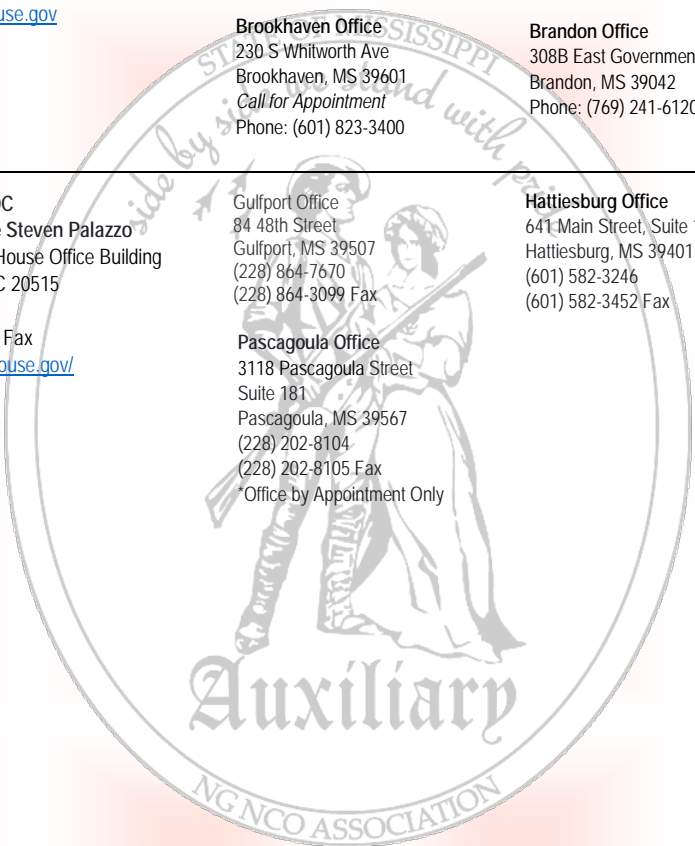


Washington, DC  
The Honorable **Steven Palazzo**  
2349 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5772  
(202) 225-7074 Fax  
<http://palazzo.house.gov/>

**Gulfport Office**  
84 48th Street  
Gulfport, MS 39507  
(228) 864-7670  
(228) 864-3099 Fax

**Hattiesburg Office**  
641 Main Street, Suite 142  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
(601) 582-3246  
(601) 582-3452 Fax

**Pascagoula Office**  
3118 Pascagoula Street  
Suite 181  
Pascagoula, MS 39567  
(228) 202-8104  
(228) 202-8105 Fax  
*\*Office by Appointment Only*



Iowa 2019  
 EANGUS & EANGUS Auxiliary  
 Conference Books  
 Available to Read  
 or Download at <https://eangusconference.org/>

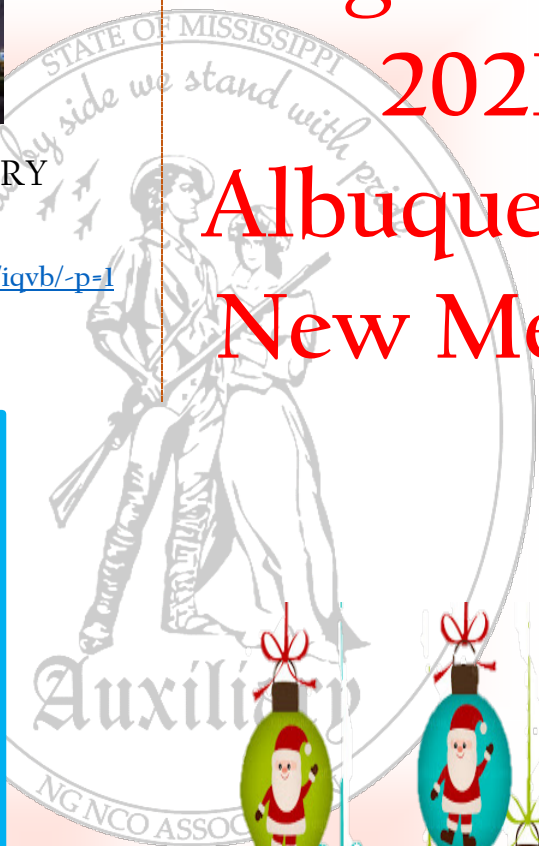


46th EANGUS AUXILIARY  
 Conference Book 2019  
<https://online.fliphtml5.com/papa/iqvb/-p-1>

# 50th EANGUS Conference August 8-11, 2021 Albuquerque, New Mexico



President Buchanan was the only U.S. President who was a Private. After the War of 1812 began, the British invaded Maryland in 1814. It was during this time that Buchanan enlisted in the Pennsylvania militia. He served barely a year as a Private. In 1814 Buchanan was also elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, thus beginning his political career.



## Different Classes of Membership for the Auxiliary

**Annual** Member—Your spouse must be a member of the MS NG NCO Association. In Mississippi the annual membership is \$13.00.

**Lifetime** Member—Your spouse must be a Lifetime member of the NCO Association and you must be a current annual member of the Auxiliary. The cost is figured on your age.

**Associate** Member—You do not have to have anyone in the Guard. This membership shows your support of the Guard, the NCO Association, and the Auxiliary. There are no voting privileges and you cannot hold an office. Cost is \$10.00 for Mississippi and EANGUS Auxiliary associate membership.

**Mississippi Auxiliary Associate Lifetime** Member—The rules are the same as for an Associate Member, except it is for Mississippi Auxiliary Lifetime only and there will be no more dues. Cost is \$100.00.

**EANGUS Auxiliary Associate Lifetime** Member—The rules are the same as for the Mississippi Auxiliary Associate Lifetime Member, except it is for the National Organization only and there will be no more dues. Cost is \$100.00.

Lifetime membership is good for both the Auxiliary and the individual. Please inquire if there is something you don't understand. Any Officer would be happy to help you!

🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉 **Newest Lifetime Member** 🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉

*Angelia H. Carnes*

MS Auxiliary #40, EANGUS Auxiliary #834

**MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY STATE LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Card Number assigned by MS Auxiliary Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name: Last                      First                      Middle                      Maiden

Street Address or Post Office Box

City    State    Zip Code

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work or cell)

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Army Guard \_\_\_\_\_ Air Guard \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name                                      Rank                                      Unit

EANGUS Auxiliary Lifetime Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Cost of Lifetime Membership:** An annual member may become a lifetime member by payment of a fee of **\$10.00** plus the annual dues that apply until the applicant reaches the age of **65**. This is a non-refundable payment. After the age of 65, no dues are required, only the \$10.00 fee. If the applicant is not a lifetime member of the EANGUS Auxiliary and does not become one, the applicant would have to continue to pay annual EANGUS Auxiliary dues.

Date application received by MS Auxiliary treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Date received by MS Auxiliary Executive Council \_\_\_\_\_

**LIFETIME DUES SCHEDULE**

<u>Current Age</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>	<u>Current Age</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>	<u>Current Age</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>
Age 65 or over	\$10.00	51	\$94.00	37	\$178.00
64	\$16.00	50	\$100.00	36	\$184.00
63	\$22.00	49	\$106.00	35	\$190.00
62	\$28.00	48	\$112.00	34	\$196.00
61	\$34.00	47	\$118.00	33	\$202.00
60	\$40.00	46	\$124.00	32	\$208.00
59	\$46.00	45	\$130.00	31	\$214.00
58	\$52.00	44	\$136.00	30	\$220.00
57	\$58.00	43	\$142.00	29	\$226.00
56	\$64.00	42	\$148.00	28	\$232.00
55	\$70.00	41	\$154.00	27	\$238.00
54	\$76.00	40	\$160.00	26	\$244.00
53	\$82.00	39	\$166.00	25	\$250.00
52	\$88.00	38	\$172.00	24	\$256.00



Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Auxiliary
SPOUSE MUST BE AN EANGUS LIFETIME MEMBER
APPLICANT MUST BE CURRENT STATE & EANGUS AUXILIARY MEMBER

LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2018--November

Date of Application

Name (Last) (First) (Middle) (Maiden name, please)

Mailing Address

City, State

Age Date of Birth State Affiliation State Verification

Spouse's Name Phone number

Email Address

Army Air Lifetime number assigned by EANGUS for Spouse:

COST OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP

An annual member may become a life member by payment of \$25.00 plus the annual dues which apply until the applicant reaches the age of 60. This is a nonrefundable payment. After age 60, no dues are required. Application must be accompanied by verification of eligibility from the treasurer of the state of which the applicant is an annual member.

Table with columns for Year of birth, Current Year, Life Membership Dues to age 60, Application Fee, and TOTAL. Includes the word 'Auxiliary' in a large font across the table.

A Life Member card number will be assigned by the LIFE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR.

Mail this application along with applicable dues to:
Vivian Taylor, LTM Chairperson, PO Box 101, Clara, MS 39324-0101

Date received by EANGUS Auxiliary Treasurer Amount \$

-- Side By Side We Stand With Pride --

November 2018

**MS NG NCO ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDAY: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE:(NCO) \_\_\_\_\_ RANK: \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT ASSIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ ARMY: \_\_\_\_\_ AIR: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Current Member of MS NG NCO Association YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse MS NG NCO Association Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_

Did Spouse join NCO Association On-Line? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK ONE BELOW – LEVEL CHECKED WILL INDICATE DUES**

NEW ANNUAL MEMBER  
\$13.00

RENEWAL MEMBER  
\$13.00

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
MS AUXILIARY ONLY  
\$5.00

ASSOCIATE MEMBER MS AUXILIARY AND EANGUS AUXILIARY \$10.00

LIFE MEMBER EANGUS  
(STATE ONLY) \$6.00

LIFE MEMBER STATE  
(EANGUS ONLY) \$9.00

LIFE MEMBER (BOTH  
STATE & EANGUS)

It is understood that by acceptance of this application and membership dues, I will be a member in good standing with the Mississippi National Noncommissioned Officers Association Auxiliary. I agree to abide by the rules and regulations as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Auxiliary and that violation of the same is cause for revocation of membership.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAIL APPLICATION TO:  
TREASURER PAT BURCHFIELD  
MS NG NCO ASSN. AUXILIARY  
2443 DOGWALK RD, TUTWILER, MS 38963

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
MS NG NCO ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY



MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY STATE ASSOCIATE LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name (Last) (First) (Middle) (Maiden)

Address (Street and/or P.O. Box) City State Zip Code

Phone Number (Home) (Work or Cell)

Email Address

Spouse

Your Birthday Anniversary

COST OF STATE LIFETIME ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: \$100.00

DATE SIGNATURE

Please mail this application along with application dues to:

Treasurer Pat Burchfield 2443 Dogwalk Road Tutwiler, MS 38963



Please Make Checks Payable To MS NG NCO ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY

ENLISTED BY

Individuals who support the objectives of the Auxiliary but do not otherwise qualify to join as annual or lifetime members, we invite you to join as a state associate lifetime member. Currently the Mississippi Auxiliary has fourteen (14) State Associate Lifetime Members. The Mississippi Auxiliary appreciates your support!



## EANGUS AUXILIARY LIFE NATIONAL ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Life National Associate Membership may be issued to individuals who support the objectives of the ENLISTED ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES (EANGUS) AUXILIARY but do not otherwise qualify for annual or lifetime membership. A national life associate member shall not be a voting delegate, eligible for scholarships, or qualified to hold office in the AUXILIARY. Dues are **\$100.00** (one hundred dollars). This is a onetime non-refundable payment.

### Request for Life National Associate Membership

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID \_\_\_\_\_  
(Member ID will be assigned)

State Auxiliary Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Corporation Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(If applicable)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Hard copy membership applications may be mailed with dues payment to current EANGUS Auxiliary Membership Chair, Judith Putman, 1234 Road 137, Emporia, KS 66801. Please allow 30 days for processing hard copy membership applications.

### Make check payable to EANGUS Auxiliary.

FREE email subscription to EANGUS Auxiliary news publication, *The Signal* (if email address is provided).

Check here for hard copy subscription to EANGUS Auxiliary news publication, *The Signal* at a cost of \$25.00 for 11 issues.

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The Mississippi Auxiliary currently has nine (9) EANGUS Auxiliary Life Associate Members; one is deceased.



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## **79 wreaths were sponsored in 2019**

**REMEMBER** Our Fallen U.S. Veterans.

**HONOR** Those who serve.

**TEACH** Your Children the value of freedom.

On Saturday, December 19, 2020 at 12:00 P.M., EANGUS We Care for America (DC0032P) will be helping Arlington National Cemetery to *Remember and Honor* our veterans by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes.

Please help us honor and remember as many fallen heroes as possible by sponsoring remembrance wreaths, volunteering on Wreaths Day, or inviting your family and friends to attend with you.

For every wreath sponsored, WCFA receives \$5 in donations.

Sponsorship deadline is **30 NOVEMBER**

<https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/47751>

**Group to Support: EANGUS We Care for America (DC0032P)**

### **What does it mean to sponsor a wreath?**

It means you will honor an American hero at one of more than 1200 locations nationwide this year on Wreaths Across America Day (default cemetery is Arlington but use the drop-down menu to select the location of your choice).



The Auxiliary is a strong voice to Congress which addresses the needs of the National Guard.

The Auxiliary is an organization which binds National Guard families by encouraging their involvement in the grass roots legislative effort.

The Auxiliary is an organization, through support of EANGUS, which maintains a continuing representation for Guard members in Washington, D.C.

The Auxiliary is an organization that has a scholarship program, both at the state and national levels, which helps with scholarships for members, spouses, children, and grandchildren.

The Auxiliary is an organization that sets state and national objectives and coordinates activities which help to accomplish those objectives.

The Auxiliary is an organization which stresses communication between its leaders and members. *Mississippi Strong*, the Mississippi Auxiliary newsletter, and *The Signal*, the EANGUS Auxiliary newsletter, are published to inform, educate, motivate, and inspire members.

The Auxiliary coordinates its overall activities through elected Officers and District Directors in the Mississippi Auxiliary and through elected Officers and Area Directors in the EANGUS Auxiliary.

The Auxiliary coordinates state and national activities in cooperation with the MS NG NCO Association Conference and the EANGUS Conference.

The Auxiliary works to respond to needs of its members.

The Auxiliary strives for better incentives to attract and retain members.

**WE NEED YOU AS A MEMBER. WON'T YOU JOIN TODAY?**





## Army National Guard National Best Warrior Winners for 2020

The Adjutant General of Mississippi, Major General Janson D. Boyles, is shown presenting certificates to the Best Warrior NCO of the year, SSG Mitchell Scofield (pictured on the right in left picture), and Best Warrior Soldier of the Year CPL Daniel D'Ippolitto (pictured on the left in right picture). Scofield is from the 154<sup>th</sup> Regional Training Institute at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center, Mississippi and D'Ippolitto is from the Arizona National Guard. Fourteen (14) Guardsmen from around the country competed in over twenty (20) events over a four-day period at Camp Shelby (days 1, 2, & 4) and Camp McCain (day 3). Scofield and D'Ippolitto represented the U.S. National Guard in the Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition. The 2021 ARNG National Best Warrior Competition will be held in Arizona and Tennessee will host the Competition in 2022.



## Army chief praises ‘amazing soldiers’ of the National Guard

From supporting communities across the country to deploying overseas, the National Guard has really made a difference, Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville said.

You have units around the world, you have units responding to wildfires, COVID, hurricanes, civil unrest, it’s just amazing what you’re doing,” McConville said. “When you were needed, you were there, and you should be very proud of that because we are.”

Speaking August 28 during the National Guard Association of the United States’ annual meeting, which was held virtually, McConville reinforced the importance of the National Guard.

He cited, as an example, the Minnesota National Guard’s 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, which recently completed a rotation at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California.

The soldiers—representing 20 states—were the first brigade to return to the National Training Center after the Army suspended training there because of the COVID-19 pandemic, said McConville, who visited the training center during the soldiers’ rotation.

“I ran into some amazing soldiers,” he said. “They’ve been through a lot this year. They’ve been through COVID, they’ve been through some of the civil unrest.”

But they packed up and shifted their focus to training for combat, he said, fulfilling the National Guard’s dual role of protecting “your neighbors and communities” and defending the nation.

He also said that the National Guard will be critical as the Army works to transform itself for the future.

“It’s really not about fighting the last fight better, it’s about winning the next fight,” he said, adding, “we recognize we must transform the Army now,” and the Guard will be right alongside the Regular Army and Army Reserve as that happens.

“The Army could absolutely not do what it does without the National Guard,” McConville said. I would say this year, it is even more true. You are critical to the transformation of the Army, and we are proud to serve, fight and win alongside you.”

—*AUSA Extra*  
September 3, 2020

## Endangered Gopher Tortoises released into the wild at Camp Shelby



The Nature Conservancy in Mississippi recently released 94 gopher tortoises into the wild at Camp Shelby as part of an initiative to restore populations of this threatened species. The tortoises have become a threatened species mainly due to the degradation of their habitat and the susceptibility that presents to predators. TNC collaborated with the Mississippi Military Department, U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Mississippi Natural Heritage Program, and Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks.

As part of the organization's larger Longleaf Pine efforts across southern Mississippi and much of the southeast, TNC is utilizing prescribed fire techniques to help conserve and restore the gopher tortoise habitat. The tortoises are being released into those portions of the Longleaf pine forest that have been restored and already contain colonies of adult tortoises.

The vast majority of these tortoises being released were reared in a controlled environment at Camp Shelby to encourage faster growth. When they reach a certain size, which is around two years of age they are less likely to be eaten by a predator and more likely to survive to adulthood.

Jim Lee, a biologist with The Nature Conservancy said, "In the past, we've released those animals at age two of being 'head started' and we've released so far 400 animals of that size class, and we've had relatively good success so far with 70% survivorship," Lee said. "We're going to release them with radio transmitters and see how well that they do. The thought is that we could potentially create a population which will be 250 adults if this is a successful method."

"This is one of the critical steps in fully restoring the longleaf pine forests in Mississippi. The role that this iconic species plays in the Longleaf forest cannot be overstated, because the gopher tortoise burrows alone provide habitat for over 370 different other species native to this forest. Hence the reason gopher tortoise is called a 'keystone' species for the longleaf ecosystem," said Alex Littlejohn, state director of The Nature Conservancy in Mississippi.

The Nature Conservancy has released more than 400 gopher tortoises into the wild and is making real progress in restoring the species and its habitat.

*Since 1965, The Nature Conservancy has been working to conserve lands and waters in Mississippi that have provided a sense of place and connection to our natural heritage for many generations. TNC has played a key role in protecting and restoring some of our most iconic landscapes, totaling over 150,000 acres across the state. Together, we are making a measurable, lasting difference in Mississippi.*

[www.nature.org/mississippi](http://www.nature.org/mississippi)

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## So much learning, fun at Lynn Meadows Discovery Center

By Elissa Fulton



As soon as you drive up to Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, you are met with an immediate welcome. Just a quick check-in at the registration center and you're on your way down a path of learning and fun.

The center is an arts and interactive educational children's museum in Gulfport.

The first stop down Kid's Street, sponsored by The Home Builders of Mississippi, features companies like Coast Electric, who have built small houses to demonstrate building with energy efficiency products. The Home Builders Association, Coast Electric and other companies sponsor this kid-size neighborhood to promote construction education. Just across the street in the neighborhood, there's a free library where kids can take a book and leave a book.

The museum is situated on just over seven acres which includes On The Green, a fantastic outdoor area beginning with a StoryWalk that displays a new story each month — fostering and supporting the importance of literacy. Once you've completed the StoryWalk, check out the fantastic views of the Gulf of Mexico with telescopes to view the barrier islands and local wildlife. A musical garden and weather station are also fun learning activities On The Green. Other outdoor activities include solar sunflowers for learning about sustainable energy sources, as well as a play-size bait shop and a treehouse village built in the tops of 100-year-old oak trees.

Inside the 15,000-square-foot, newly updated facility, you'll find many exhibits promoting art, communications, literacy, culinary arts and science. A play-size veterinary clinic, a kid's talk show, complete with its very own green screen, a grocery store, train depot, space shuttle and many more exhibits emphasize the many future career opportunities available to kids. With just a little imagination, a day at Lynn Meadows Discovery Center can educate a child in so many ways.

Lynn Meadows Discovery Center offers many activities for kids of all ages. The WINGS Performing Arts Program teaches acting, singing and dancing; as well as the Bear Cub Club for kids five and under. There are so many classes and camps to take part in year-round.

An interactive, educational experience has been the goal of Lynn Meadows Discovery Center since its opening in 1989. The nonprofit organization began when Carole Lynn Meadows lost her daughter, Lynn Meadows in a tragic accident. Lynn had been studying education at Ole Miss when she died in an automobile accident. Her mother, Carole Lynn Meadows and Rose Almond created this special place for children and named it Lynn Meadows Discovery Center as a tribute to Lynn who had a passion for children and education. The initial funding in 1991 came from the Gulfport Junior Auxiliary. Twenty-two years later, it has expanded from its humble beginnings in a 1915 schoolhouse to a recent renovation that added the WINGS Performing Arts Studio, the Viking Kitchen and the Café to the Stars. There are also other meeting rooms and pavilions, all available for event rental.

"We've really worked hard to make this a fun and safe environment for all of our visitors," said Sonja Gillis, director of marketing and public relations. "Learning is fundamental for young people and we strive to create a special learning atmosphere for them at Lynn Meadows Discovery Center."

Visit [lmdc.org](http://lmdc.org) to learn more about Lynn Meadows Discovery Center or for a list of upcoming events and COVID-19 precautions.

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