**2014 NGASD Conference Agenda**

**25-26 April 2014**

**Watertown, SD**

1st Business Session (ACU)

* Posting of Colors
  + Posting of the colors by Soldiers of the 1-147th FA BN.
* Pledge of Allegiance President Dressler
* Invocation/Memorial Service Chaplain Higgins
  + Four names were read during the memorial service: Justin Berger, Vincent Smith, Don Smith, and Larry Rafferty. Names are listed on page 36 of conference booklet.
* Welcome by the President President Dressler
  + President Dressler thanked the 1-147th for posting the colors.
  + He recognized six VIP’s in attendance.
  + President Dressler thanked CPT Wika and CPT Becker for hosting the conference this year.
* Introduction of the Conference Vendors President Dressler
  + President Dressler recognized the presence of twelve vendors and encouraged all Soldiers to stop by their booths during the breaks.
* Welcome by the Mayor of Watertown Steve Thorson
  + Encourage everyone to spend time and money in the Cit y of Watertown.
  + President Dressler presented a SDNG mug to the Mayor for his gracious hospitality by the City of Watertown.
* Legislative Update MAJ Norris
  + HB 1026: States interest in the Webster Armory
  + HB 1027: States interest in the Watertown Armory
  + HB 1060: National Guard license plate design debate
  + HB 1111: Vets Home in Hot Springs and the need for funding
  + HB 1150: Pledge of all in schools
  + HB 1159: Documentation requirements for Veterans license plate
  + HB 1165: Custody and visitation act for deployed Soldiers
  + HB 1185: Recommends allowing Veterans and family members of a resident the ability to obtain a non-resident waterfowl.
  + HR 3930: Creation of National Commission of the Army to stop personnel cuts.
  + Discussed SB 32, SB 61, and SB 171.
* SD Governor Address Governor Daugaard
  + Mentioned that he appreciates everything we do for the great state of South Dakota.
  + Discussed how to be a counselor and mentor our Soldiers in need.
  + Thanked us for our service while he has been in the office to learning more about emergency preparedness.
  + Discussed the affects of cuts in the South Dakota National Guard.
  + Discussed a group of Governors that is working to try to keep force structure.
  + Discussed the cost of the National Guard in relation to the Army.
* TAG MG Reisch
  + Thanked everyone for showing up.
  + Discussed his vision for the South Dakota Army National Guard.
  + Explained futures challenges we will be faced with:
    - Federal budget cuts
    - Identify permanent alert mission
    - Transition to the next generation of fighter jets
    - Armory Modernization
    - Operation Force vs. Strategic Force
    - Changes in force structure and how the cuts will impact our numbers in the state of South Dakota. SD will lose approximately 203 slots is we go down to 315,000 Soldiers.
    - We are relying on congress to look at the efficiency and cost of the guard compared to big armory.
  + Discussed the impact General Grass visits had on our state and Golden Coyote.
  + Currently only have one unit deployed – 1742nd Transportation Company.
  + The SDNG is making history daily by our continuous success and hard work.
  + Discussed the importance of taking care of our Soldiers.
  + Need to take sexual assault and suicides seriously and ensure they don’t happen within your ranks.
  + Recognize those around us for their continued success. We set the bar higher every day.
* ATAG Address Army BG Griese
  + SDNG is currently located in 22 different communities throughout the state.
  + Current end strength mission is 3230 and we were 3224 as of 23 April 2014.
  + Current redeployments of the 1978th Contracting Team, 129 MPAD, 235th MP Company, and the 152nd CSSB.
  + The 1742nd Transportation Company is the only element deployed at this time.
* ATAG Address Air BG Jamison
  + Received notification to participate in Red Flag Development.
  + Compliance and readiness inspection from 19-24 June 2014.
* Roll Call Secretary Trygstad
  + Roll call was conducted by Secretary Trygstad with 49 units in attendance.
* Approval of Minutes Secretary Trygstad
  + Motion was made by MAJ Yost to approve the minutes and seconded by the LTC Verchio.
* Treasurers Report/Proposed Budget Treasurer Miller
  + Proposed changes to the budget are:
    - GL 227 Corporate Sponsor Expense: Decrease in the amount paid out for the AG Golf Tourney. Change from $4,000 to $1,600 which is a delta of $2,400. This past year we paid out $1,200.
    - GL 308 Tax Prep Services: Increase due to the cost for this service from $300 to $250 which is a delta of $50.
    - GL 309 Website Development: Decrease in amount paid due to new website running. Change from $1,500 to $500 which is a delta of $1,000. The goal is to use PayPal on new website for dues in the future. $2.50 for $100 a person will pay for dues.
  + Treasurer Miller reminded everyone to let him know if they are making a deposit to the account. Need to get in contact with him before making a purchase because we are tax exempt.
  + Received $10,000 back from the insurance account. $5,000 for this year and $5,000 for last year.
  + Donated $500 to Sioux Falls VA and $500 to Ft. Meade VA which totals the $1,000 we had budgeted for hospice donations.
  + Proposed a motion be made at the General Session to remove the Ms. South Dakota expense and adding a line for the LT and Warrant of the Year.
  + Motion was made to approve the minutes by LTC Krebs and second by CPT Becker.
* Membership Report CW2 Borah
* 554 officers paid their dues
* The national goal is 103%. We currently have 29 officers that still need to pay their dues. Currently at 95% where we were sitting at 99% at this time last year.
* We need to let the membership chair know of upcoming retirements no later than 12 months from retirement if at all possible.
* Need to remind our retirees about the retired life insurance we have.
* We will receive $1,600 back if we meet the early bird requirements.
* Nominations – Preliminary Report MAJ Johnson
  + Nominations:
    - President: MAJ Siemonsma
    - 1st Vice: MAJ Heiser
    - 2nd Vice: MAJ Johnson, CPT Wika, CPT Nachtigall
    - Secretary: MAJ Trygstad
    - Treasurer: MAJ Miller
* Resolutions – Preliminary Report CPT Wika
  + Met on Thursday afternoon to discuss resolutions
  + Five board members in attendance
  + No state resolutions presented or available for review
  + Recommendation was made to support the national resolutions
* Time and Place Report CW5 Crown
  + 2015: Huron
  + 2016: Rapid City (Co-Located)
  + 2017: Deadwood
  + 2018: Brookings
  + 2019: Sioux Falls (Co-Located)
  + Discussed sending out a survey to see if there is interest in holding a conference in a location where a battalion HQ is not like Chamberlain, Yankton, and Aberdeen.
  + Possibly sending out a survey to determine whether or not April is the best month to have the conference. Survey will be placed on facebook page.
* Life Insurance Report Jerry Holz
  + Mr. Burr is now the new director for the insurance program.
  + New recruit program has not been effective and education on program needs to be increased.
  + Policy holders need to report any issues to Mr. Burr.
  + Contact Mr. Burr for any unit presentations.
* Museum Report & Awards Sonja Johnson
  + Completed a number of changes and improvements this past year.
  + Approximately 1,677 visitors this past year (March to March)
  + Closed since the end of February to install smoke detectors, new ceiling and grid in the north gallery.
  + LED lighting will save money in electricity.
  + Received 4 custom made display cases.
  + Currently open from 9-4 Monday through Friday.
  + New Museum director is MAJ Steve Siemonsma
* Presidents Report President Dressler
  + Membership continues to increase
  + Continuing to make new improvements to the website.
  + Conference attendance was 180 personnel
* Corporate Sponsorship Report MAJ Johnson
  + The number of corporate members is down from previous years.
  + Established 3 tier program which is what MAJ Johnson has been using to purpose to businesses.
  + Send out letters to about 60 different businesses.
  + Need 36 paying members to meet the goal
* Administrative Announcements President Dressler
* Retired Officers Committee Report
  + Eleven retirees in attendance at the breakfast
  + Discussed how to get local retirees from the Huron area to attend next year
  + Collect email address and phone numbers
* NGAUS AREA V MG David Sprynczyanyk
  + NGAUS is 54 states/associations coming together to do everything we can
  + Encouraged everyone to visit the NGAUS building
    - Paid for the building last year
    - 3 blocks from the capital
    - Worth 60-70 million
  + National Guard Association is one of the oldest associations that lobby to ensure we receive better equipment and training for our Soldiers.
  + MG(RET) Gus Hargett is the President of the Association
  + Priority of Association:
    - Grow Membership
    - Endow the National Guard Education Foundation
    - Work with Capitol Hill to get what we need
  + Discussed how we work with Capitol Hill:
    - Last year we had over 250 meetings on the hill
  + Discussed the affects of the 2013 sequestration and how the budget cuts are expected to affect us next year. 475 billion hit this next year. He also discussed the furlough that occurred in October 2013 affected our fulltime force.
  + We are a more ready force than they have been in the past.
  + Discussed proposed cuts in the Army and Air Guard
* Warrant Officers Committee Report CW4 Brett Anderson
  + BHVM Warrant Officer Team registration will be paid by association.
  + Recommendation was made to have a warrant officer booth at the enlisted conference. Mr. Toupal will be briefing and setting up the booth.
  + Mr. Anderson discussed the need for approximately $1,500 to cover expenses for a projected WOPD at the next state conference.
  + Proposed a by-law change to have the senior warrant officer for each branch be a member of the Warrant Officer Committee. Pros and cons for the change were discussed in front of the main body.
* Junior Officers Committee Report
  + Elected two new chairs: Army – 1LT Gilberti, 1LT Shaff, Air- CPT Franklin
  + Putting together a plan for training in Huron
* Executive Directors Report MAJ Stephen Sewell III
  + President Dressler explained that Steve Sewell will be taking over.
  + Registration forms is in booklet for the national conference
  + 22-25 August 2014 in Chicago, IL
  + Downtown Marriott is the hotel we secured this year.
  + MAJ Sewell presented the facebook page he created for the association
  + Pictures from conference can be posted on facebook site
  + Membership chair needs to know if you don’t receive the National Guard Magazine
* Sponsor Certificates of Appreciation
  + Certificates were handed out to the sponsors of the conference.
* Credentials Report
  + No report
* Next Year Conference Host (Huron)
  + 16-18 April 2014
  + Possible events: golf, bowling, paint and pour, and a spouse’s day.
  + Suggestions should be sent to MAJ Jason Thomson

* Constitution & By-Law Changes
  + No changes
* NEW Business - Budget 14-15
  + GL 227 Corporate Sponsor Expense: Decrease in the amount paid out for the AG Golf Tourney. Change from $4,000 to $2,000.
  + GL 308 Tax Prep Services: Increase due to the cost for this service from $300.
  + GL 309 Website Development: Decrease in amount paid due to new website running. Change from $1,500 to $500 which is a delta of $1,000.
  + Proposed a motion be made at the General Session to remove the Ms. South Dakota expense and adding a line for the LT and Warrant of the Year.
  + Motion was made to approve the minutes by LTC Verchio and second by MAJ Yost.
* Nominations/ Elections
  + President: MAJ Siemonsma
  + 1st Vice: MAJ Heiser
  + 2nd Vice: MAJ Johnson, CPT Wika, CPT Nachtigall
  + Secretary: MAJ Trygstad, 1LT Gilberti
  + Treasurer: MAJ Kevin Miller
* Recognition of outgoing NGASD Officers
  + CW4 Dressler was presented with a gift for his service as president of the association.
  + Presented a gavel and plaque for his dedication and time spent on the association
* 20 Year certificate Presentations
  + BG Jamison and BG Griese presented the certificates to those in attendance.
* Presidents Report
  + Membership in the association is increasing
  + New and improved website that will have PayPal capabilities
  + Attendance at conference was 180 people total
* Adjourn 2nd Business Session
  + Motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Submitted by: Approved by:

Rebecca Trygstad Steve Siemonsma

MAJ, SDARNG MAJ, SDARNG

Secretary President