



BEAR FAX



FALL 2018

Official Newsletter of the California Enlisted Association

FROM CAL-EANGUS President SSG Marsha Adams

Greetings fellow CAL EANGUS members,

Where has this year gone! Seems like yesterday we were celebrating a New Year and now summer is coming to an end. A lot has happened in the last eight months, from torrential rains that lead to massive mudslides and then to the largest wild fire in CA history. As you can see, the California National Guard has been very busy taking care of its own. And while some has been working out in the trenches, we have legislators that have been on Capitol Hill working just as hard. A very important bill that everyone should contact their delegation in Washington D.C. on is S.1086 and H.R.5121 which aims to remove the prohibition on TRICARE eligibility for members of the Selected Reserve who are enrolled or eligible to enroll in the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program. This would allow eligible federal employees to gain access to TRS regardless of their employment status.

Last month I was fortunate to attend the 47th Annual EANGUS Conference that was held August 12-15th in Charleston, West Virginia. And might I say how pleased I was of the participation by CA. We had 2 Airmen and 2 Soldiers attend the Professional Development sessions, 5 delegates on the floor and overall a total of 12 to attend. A few great speakers that graced our presence were LTG Timothy J. Kadavy, Dir. Army National Guard, CSM John F. Sampa, Army National Guard, Lt Gen L. Scott Rice, USAF, Dir. Air National Guard, CMSgt Ronald C. Anderson, Jr, Command Chief, Air National Guard and of course, the SEA CSM Christopher S. Kepner. The breakout sessions and hospitality events were outstanding and I highly encourage anyone who hasn't attended an Annual Conference to make plans now for next year in Iowa!

It has come that time a year for elections, and I just want to encourage you to either run or nominate someone you know that are interested in getting involved. There is so much to do in CA and we need willing and able bodies to get it done. Be that advocate you want to see and help shape the future for all those that will come after you. It is not too late to make a difference it just takes a voice and CAL EANGUS can give you that voice.

As you know, California is considered one of the TOP 3 states with over 17,000 drilling Soldiers and Airmen. So help me and the Board of Directors to have a greater impact on Capitol Hill when it comes to lobbying for what our guardsmen need and are entitled to. We need you to help educate all those that are not knowledgeable on what and who CAL EANGUS is or does. Let us step up and stand for what we believe and care about because if we don't, then who will?

As always, stay safe and thank you for all you do!

SSG Marsha Adams, CAL-EANGUS President

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DATES TO WATCH:

22 Sep 2018
Camp Roberts Museum Day
Sculpterra Winery, Paso
Robles, CA

5 October 2018
Swing For Chaplain's
Fund
Golf Tournament
Cordova Golf Course

5-6 October 2018
SMA Annual Conference
Okinawa Street Armory

6 October 2018
CAL-EANGUS State
Conference
Okinawa Armory, Sac-
ramento

WE WISH TO WELCOME ALL OUR NEW OR RETURNING MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED CAL-EANGUS OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS (APR-AUG 2018)

<u>195th Wing</u>	<u>144th FW</u>	<u>146th AW</u>	<u>JFHQ-CA</u>
TSgt Matthew Rubio	AB Luis Rodriguez	CMSgt Ronald Nester	SFC Erick Burgoslopez
TSgt Elizabeth Rowell	TSgt Adam Higareda	SrA Angel Knox	<u>1-18 CAV</u>
SrA Storm Daniels	MSgt Anthony Garza	A1C Rebecca Whip	PFC Omar Dawood
SMSgt Duncan Collier	A1C Erik Molen		
SSgt Tabatha Slaton (Life)	A1C Benjamin Johnston	<u>129th RQW</u>	<u>Unassigned</u>
TSgt Ondra Pyles		SrA Wonkyung Choi	SSG Daniel Elkins (Life)
MSgt Joshua Gruber	<u>163rd ATKW</u>	<u>40th ID</u>	MSG Barbara Clark
MSgt Joshua Baker (chg to Life)	MSgt Joseph Tabor	SFC Yolanda Duarte	
<u>CAARNG MED COM</u>	<u>315 EN VCC (-)</u>		<u>2668 TC (-)</u>
SPC Cody Abercrombie	SGT William Furlow		MSG Michael Howard (Life)
SPC Jhenn Dutcher (Life)			

MEMBERSHIP — Total as of 5 September 2018 = 601

Below is some basic information and comments regarding our current membership information .

Total Membership 31 Dec 2016	622
Total Membership 31 Dec 2017:	603
Total Membership 31 Aug 2018:	602

Coming Up: 8 Sep.-Briefing for TOP3 at Moffett FAF.

22 Sep.-CAL-EANGUS will be manning a booth at the Camp Roberts Museum Day at Sculpterra Winery in Paso Robles (12-4 P.M.)

We need everyone's help to maintain and grow. The larger the membership gets, the more we will be able to do for California enlisted guard members as well as at the national level. **Please, if your membership has expired, please go online to caleangus.org and renew today. If you are not sure, you can check on caleangus.org under the Membership tab, Member Directory. (If you input your name and it does not come up, you are expired)**

Please tell your fellow guard members about CAL-EANGUS. If there is anything we can do or provide just let us know, be it materials, an info table on UTA, or someone to speak to a group. You can contact any of the CAL-EANGUS board members. **Please, invite us to your units!** Thank You for your support!!

CONGRATULATIONS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

2018 has been a great year for scholarships for CAL-EANGUS members and family members. Three scholarships were won at the EANGUS level and we were able to give three cash scholarships to CAL-EANGUS members .

EANGUS Scholarship Winners:

PATRIOT SCHOLARSHIP (\$1000): ETHAN NOWASKI (dependent of CMSgt Rick Nowaski , 129th RQW)

Command Sergeants Major Advisory Council Scholarship (\$2000): NICOLE GARZA

(dependent of MSgt Anthony Garza, 144th FW)

University of Phoenix (Full Tuition): SrA ANGEL KNOX (146th AW)

CAL-EANGUS Scholarship Winners: Each receives \$1000.

We are very fortunate to be able to give three scholarships this year due to the generosity of donors including: USAA, Sergeants Major Assn, 40 ID Alumni Assn, and others.

SrA WONKYUNG CHOI (129th RQW)

MSgt OCTAVIO BUGARIN (129th RQW)

SPC BENJAMIN HAGEMANN (870th MP CO)

WELL DONE AND CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL!!!

Legislative Roll Call

EANGUS Legislative Call to Action 2018-2: TRICARE Reserve Select Expansion to Eligible Federal Employees

During the first session of the 115th Congress, Senator Hatch (R-UT) introduced [S. 1086](#) which aims to remove the prohibition on TRICARE eligibility for members of the Selected Reserve of a reserve component of the Armed Forces who are enrolled or eligible to enroll in the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP). In February, Representatives Kelly (R-MS) and Rosen (D-NV) introduced a House companion bill, [H.R. 5121](#).

Background:

The EANGUS National Office staff have long advocated for eligible federal employees to gain access to TRS regardless of their employment status. During the 2017 and 2018 Legislation Workshops, EANGUS members stormed Capitol Hill to advocate for the expansion of this important benefit.

Take Action:

The EANGUS National Office requests that members please take a few minutes out of your day to message your delegation in Washington, D.C. to become a co-sponsor of H.R. 5121 and S. 1086, and support the bill should it come to the floor.

Go to the link and send your message today:

<https://eangus.org/legislative-calls-to-action-2/>

Thank you for your support!!!

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California: AB2722 "Student financial aid: California Military Department GI Bill Award Program" is still sitting on the Governor Brown's desk waiting for signature.

Change of address or email: If you have changed addresses or your email address, please let us know. You can send any changes to tabers52@comcast.net or mail to CMSgt (Ret) Steven Taber, 14779 Echo Ridge Dr., Nevada City, CA 95959. We will be happy to update your records so you can remain in contact with EANGUS & CAL-EANGUS. Thank You

BEAR FAX Comments

If you have any comments regarding this edition of BEAR FAX or suggestions for future issues, please let us know. Comments can be sent to tabers52@comcast.net or posted on our Facebook page. We are on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/79407476234/>

47th EANGUS Conference - Charleston, West Virginia
11-14 August 2018



From Previous Page: 2018 EANGUS Conference (Left. to Right / Top to Bottom)

Area 7 Caucus ; First Timers Meeting; LTG Timothy J. Kadavy, Director Army National Guard, LTG Dantel Hokanson, Vice-Chief of the National Guard Bureau; Opening of Exhibit Hall by Auxiliary President and AG of West Virginia; NGB Senior Enlisted Leader; Bryan Birch at EANGUS Booth, One of 85 Exhibitors; Auxiliary Silent Auction; President's Luncheon with SSG Adams, President of CAL_EANGUS on left; Exhibit Hall; CSM John Sampa, CSM of the Army National Guard and CMSgt Ronald Anderson, CCM of the ANG (not pictured) at Army and Air breakouts; All Area Hospitality Night Event; Swearing in newly Elected Officers; Retiring the Colors & Memorial Book



Pictured above, Left to Right and Top to Bottom:

SPC Cody Abercrombie carrying California Flag during Parade of States; The four California Professional Development Soldiers/Airmen: MSgt Scott Weger, SrA Mayaly Macias, SPC Cody Abercrombie, and SPC Jennifer Dutcher; The Area 7 Island Contingent; California Table with SSG Marsha Adams, President CAL-EANGUS, MSG(Ret) Lorie Clayton, Area 7 Treasurer, MSgt (Ret) Donovan Jenks, ISG (Ret) Ken Wahl, and MSgt Josh Baker, Cal-EANGUS VP (others mentioned above); The remaining group shots are of Area VII Members consisting of Washington, Oregon, Alaska Hawaii and Guam. The last two shots are of MSgt Josh Baker accepting Scholarships for California Winners: Patriot Scholarship to ETHAN NOWASKI; The Command Sergeants Major Advisory Council Scholarship to NICOLE GARZA and the University of Phoenix Scholarship to ANGEL KNOX.

Photography/Layout by SGM(Ret) Andrew Strauss (Area 7 Army Director)



CALEANGUS Fall Conference



Saturday, October 6, 2018 0800-1430

Okinawa Armory, Sacramento

8450 Okinawa St, Sacramento, CA

Guest Speakers:

- MG Baldwin – The Adjutant General
- CMSgt James – Command Senior Enlisted Leader
- CMSgt Pyszka – State Command Chief, CAANG
- CSM Menard – Command Sergeant Major, CAARNG

Briefings conducted by:

- California Cadet Corps
- Family Programs Specialist



Register at: <https://caleangus.org/cal-eangus-conference/>

Election Nominations Are Due Once Again

HERE IS ANOTHER CHANCE TO HAVE A SAY IN WHAT THIS ORGANIZATION DOES.

Nominations will be accepted from now until 7 Oct 2018. Self-nomination is accepted.

The following Executive Board positions are open:

Secretary Term: 1 Jan 2019—31 Dec 2021

Members at Large: (one in each category)

Annual Term 1 Jan 2019—31 Dec 2020

Life Term 1 Jan 2019—31 Dec 2020

Ballots will be mailed out approximately 18 Oct 2018.

Send your nominations to tabers52@comcast.net.

USAA

Apply for the EANGUS USAA Rewards™ credit card available in both American Express® and Visa Signature®. The card that makes it easy for you to support EANGUS.

- With this card, you can help EANGUS continue its mission to provide a voice on Capitol Hill on enlisted National Guard issues.
- USAA Bank will make a contribution to EANGUS when you open an account, make eligible purchases and keep an active account.
- Your support helps EANGUS address issues affecting active and retired National Guard, their families and employers.

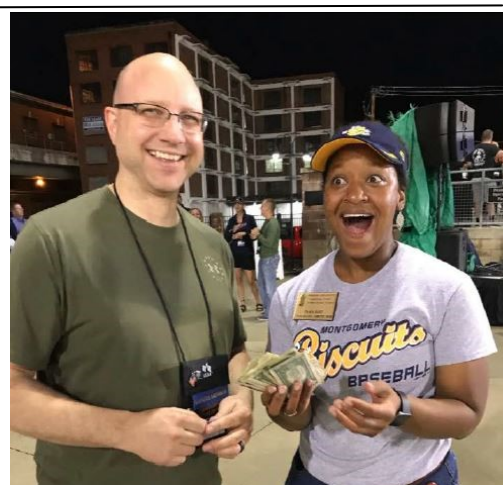
USAA is the [Exclusive Provider](#) of the Financial Services for EANGUS.

Your CAL-EANGUS Executive Board Members as of 1 Jan 2018

President	SSG Marsha D. Adams	gmon4life@aol.com
Vice-President	MSgt Josh Baker	joshjbaker@msn.com
Secretary	MSgt Sue Johnson	ssuejo@hotmail.com
Treasurer	CMSgt Debra Fordyce (Ret)	debrafordyce@comcast.net
Past President	CSM Harry J. Courtney (Ret)	HJC47@aol.com
Members at Large		
Annual	MSgt April Mosher (Ret)	april@soldbymosher.com
	TSgt Richard Sousa	richardasousa@yahoo.com
Life	1SG Ken Wahl (Ret)	kwahl1@sbcglobal.net
	MSgt Donovan Jenks (Ret)	Donovan.mil@icloud.com
Executive Director	CMSgt Steven W. Taber (Ret)	tabers52@comcast.net



CA group at EANGUS Banquet Night



MSgt Scott Weger, 147 CBCS, won the cash raffle sponsored by the Junior Enlisted during the Junior Enlisted night. MSgt Weger gave back his winnings of over \$1,000 to the Junior Enlisted to help fund scholarships.

FEDVIP is Coming: Get to Know Dental and Vision Plans Today

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program ends on Dec. 31, 2018. Beginning in 2019, dental and vision plans will be available through the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program. Now is a good time to become familiar with FEDVIP options. FEDVIP 2019 plans and rates will be online in the fall. But you can look at 2018 plans and rates now. [READ MORE](#)

https://tricare.mil/CoveredServices/BenefitUpdates/Archives/07_17_18_FEDVIP_Plans

LOOKING FOR A JOB???

Go to <http://eangus.org/career-center/>

And check out VETJOBS. The site averages 175,000 REAL jobs a day nationwide. VetJobs can also be reached at 877-VET-JOBS (877-838-5627). Free to veterans and their families.

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EANGUS

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