

Virginia National Guard Management Group

April 2020 | Issue #11

View this and previous newsletters on the [VNGMG website](https://vngmg.org/vngmg-newsletters/), at <https://vngmg.org/vngmg-newsletters/>

VNGMG Strategic Planning in Final Phase of Analysis



MG (VA) John D. Taylor, Retired
VNGMG Chairman

Your representatives on the Virginia National Guard Management Group (VNGMG) have approved the strategic plan for 2020 to 2023 to increase membership benefits and incentives to increase participation in our associations. Efforts included creation of a Vision and identifying Priorities and Goals. The major analytical efforts were in identifying Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT). The final Phase 4 identified short, medium, and long term Objectives and Tasks. Progress review will occur every six months at the quarterly meetings of the VNGMG Board

of Directors.

The just completed Phase 4 finalized the Objectives and Tasks with individuals identified for execution responsibilities with timelines for progress status and completion. This analysis explored the results of the SWOT analysis. One of the areas needing immediate attention was to update and reformat our website to make it more “user friendly” for the membership. Progress has been made and includes an “exciting” App based on membership inputs in the 2019 annual conference member survey. One of the other task areas assigned a committee for “opportunity exploration” based on membership involvement and inputs on “good ideas” to increase benefits and increase membership levels in the organizations that the VNGMG supports. Conference planning has been included in this area of analysis with an emphasis on conferences in 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Benefits of this strategic planning will include greater support of the organizations, increased benefits for members, and increased membership to make our organizations more viable in the future. With your assistance and involvement, we can move forward successfully into the future in a coordinated and integrated manner and become better organizations to serve our current and future members. Please encourage your friends in your units to join the associations.

Save the Date: 2021 Annual Conference

Dates: 23-25 April 2021

The VNGMG Annual Conference will take place at the [Norfolk Marriott Waterside](#), 23-25 April 2021.

We will have exhibits, opportunities for learning, and informational presentations. In addition, the committee is working on a **special surprise**.

For planning purposes, we have set 11-13 March 2022 for the subsequent conference.



Adjutant General COVID-19 Update

It has been nearly six weeks since Virginia declared a state of emergency and kicked off a multi-agency response to COVID-19. Virginia National Guard and Virginia Defense Force personnel immediately went to work assisting with operations, logistics and medical planning, and now we are starting to see an increase in missions directly supporting localities and state partner agencies.

Soldiers are delivering supplies and helping with [logistics at food pantries in the Fredericksburg area](#), as well as assisting with logistics at testing sites in the Roanoke and New River Valley areas. Soldiers and Airmen are working directly with the Virginia Department of Health to train on how we can help provide additional capacity and capabilities for testing efforts.

This is exactly what the National Guard is meant to do in our homeland defense mission. Our state and local partners count on us to help them fill gaps and help provide the support our fellow Virginians need. Our ability to do that effectively is more important than it has ever been.

This week we brought additional personnel on duty and postured them across the state to make sure we can quickly respond as needed. I thank everyone for the hard work that went into making that happen.

The impacts of COVID-19 continue to impact our planned training opportunities. We received official notification from U.S. Forces Command that the Staunton-based 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team will not conduct their scheduled summer 2020 rotation to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Since we



**Maj. Gen. Timothy P. Williams,
28th Adjutant General of Virginia**

operational planners are working on possible courses of action for annual training, and we will share more details once those plans are more finalized.

Soldiers of the 116th IBCT have spent countless hours training to prepare for JRTC, and it is incredibly unfortunate they will not conduct the rotation at one of the Army's premiere training locations. Even though the brigade will not conduct the rotation, the hard work and long hours resulted in a more ready unit.

Every Soldier in the brigade is more ready to conduct both their state and federal mission as a result of their train up for JRTC rotation, and I thank them for everything they did to be ready. We also

were not able to conduct in-person training in March and April and anticipated virtual drills in May and possibly June, the Soldiers of the 116th can't meet critical benchmarks required to be fully mission ready for the rotation.

We also need to fully focus on being ready for possible support missions to assist with Virginia's multi-agency response to the pandemic, and it is too early to tell what our mission requirements will be in June and July. Right now our

owe a special thanks to their families and employers for everything they did to support them along the way.

The support we get from our families, employers and communities is part of the entire team effort for everything we do in the Virginia National Guard. With their support, along with our Soldiers, Airmen and [VDF personnel](#) and [Virginia Department of Military Affairs](#) federal and [state workforce](#), we force can and will chart a course through the challenges of this pandemic and do everything possible to find a path to health, safety and mission accomplishment!

Thank our corporate partners for their generosity and support.



The State Sponsored Life Insurance (SSLI) program provides group term life insurance exclusively for actively serving members of the Army and Air National Guard organizations and their dependents. The program is derived from United States Public Law 93-289, May 24, 1974, to encourage persons to join and remain in the National Guard.

[Click here](#) to apply for coverage, or to enhance your existing coverage.



[Peduzzi Associates, Ltd. \(PAL\)](#) is widely recognized for distinguished public and private sector performance, problem-solving capabilities offering sound judgment and value-added service. PAL's strategy for assisting our clients incorporates a matrix approach using the entire PAL Team with its extensive talent, knowledge and experience to reach a client's objectives.

Exciting App!

The Virginia National Guard Management Group has an [app for Apple iOS](#). On your device, go to the Apple Store and search "VNGMG," or click this link: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/vngmg/id1497109948>

The app is particularly useful during the annual conference, providing event schedules and details. It provides a single point of reference for key information, as well as the quarterly newsletter.

Currently we only have an Apple version, with no projection for an Android version at this time.



Virginia National Guard COVID-19 FAQs

[Visit this site](#) to learn answer to many of the common questions you have about how the pandemic impacts the Virginia National Guard.

1. What is the Virginia National Guard currently doing in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?
2. Will Soldiers, Airmen or VDF members be required to come to drill?
3. What sort of things will National Guard members be doing for drill this month if they're not meeting in person?
4. How will this impact my unit's annual training plan? Is the 116th IBCT still going to JRTC?
5. If I get activated by the National Guard, what sort of missions will I be doing?
6. If I get activated by the National Guard and put on State Active Duty, when will I get paid?
7. I saw on the news that President Trump activated the National Guard. What does that mean?
8. How does the DoD travel restriction pertain to me as a member of the National Guard?
9. What resources are available for those needing financial assistance?
10. What resources are available to help our families?
11. Are classes at the Winchester STARBASE Academy and the Commonwealth Challenge Youth Academy continuing?
12. I'm a Title 32 or Title 5 technician; what sort of leave am I entitled to if me or a family member gets sick with COVID-19?
13. My CAC is expiring in the next 30 days. What can I do?

VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTERS



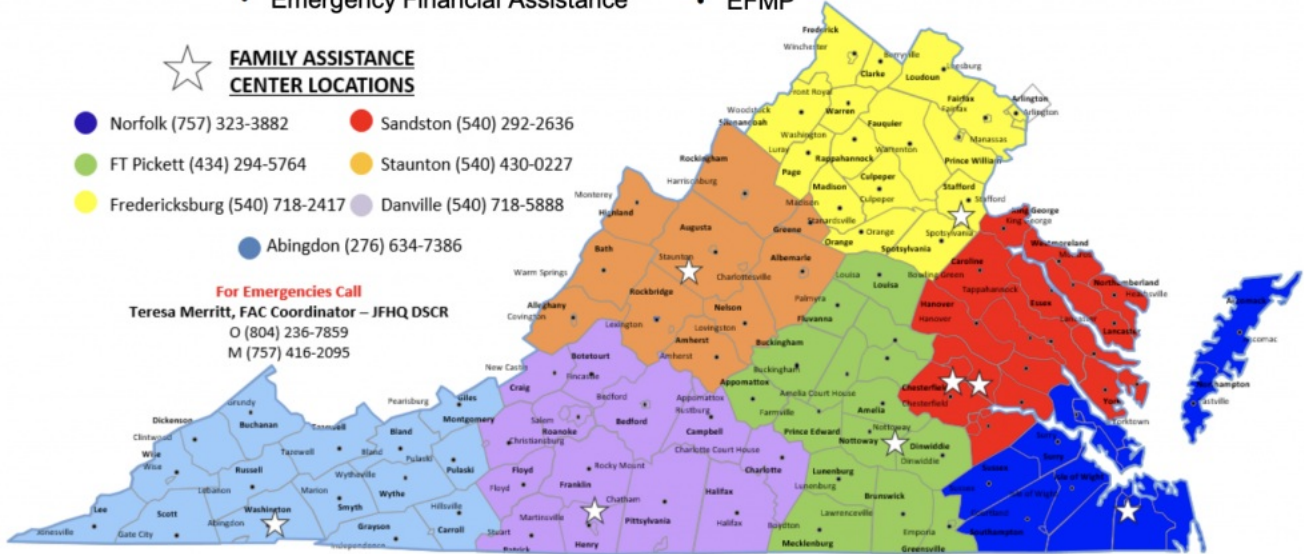
Virginia Family Assistance Centers are operational and taking calls. Please reach out if you are in need of any information or assistance. We are currently not offering any in person assistance due to ongoing COVID-19 concerns.

- Resource & Referral
- Tricare
- ID Cards / Deers
- Financial Assistance & Education
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Community Resources
- Crisis Intervention
- Legal Resource Referral
- Emergency Family Assistance
- EFMP

★ **FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTER LOCATIONS**

- Norfolk (757) 323-3882
- Sandston (540) 292-2636
- FT Pickett (434) 294-5764
- Staunton (540) 430-0227
- Fredericksburg (540) 718-2417
- Danville (540) 718-5888
- Abingdon (276) 634-7386

For Emergencies Call
Teresa Merritt, FAC Coordinator – JFHQ DSCR
 O (804) 236-7859
 M (757) 416-2095



Thank our corporate partners for their generosity and support.



Schneider Electric provides energy and automation digital solutions for efficiency and sustainability. We combined world-leading energy technologies, real-time automation, software, and services into integrated solutions for homes, buildings, data centers, infrastructures, and industries.



Conflict Kinetics (CK) has adapted proven pro-sports training methods to modern marksmanship in a virtual simulation environment. to dramatically improve performance. CK increases precise lethality and survivability by decreasing target engagement time and transition time. Our program reduces fratricide and collateral damage through development of the individual's neuromotor pathways and motor skills. CK trains thousands of warfighters, agents and law enforcement personnel each year.

Enlisted Association



Cliff White, President
Cheyenne Johnson,
1st Vice President (Membership)
Carl Holcomb,
2nd Vice President (Legislative)
Gavin McClung,
3rd Vice President (Financial)
Timothy White, Treasurer
Tanya Conrad, Secretary
Henry Motley, Financial Secretary
Arthur Morrill, Sergeant at Arms
Matt Ritchie, Executive Director
Jay Ellis, Administrator

EANGUS 2020 Conference

*****At this time, the EANGUS Conference has not cancelled.*****



Location: Little Rock, AR
Dates: 9-12 August 2020

Attendee Registration

\$150 – Until July 1, 2020. No refunds after 1 July.
\$200 – July 2, 2020, to Conference
\$225 – At the Conference

[Link to Conference Hotels](#)

Note: Links to external organizations and their programs are for informational purposes only, and does not constitute an official approval nor endorsement.

Note: Links to external organizations and their programs are for informational purposes only, and does not constitute an official approval nor endorsement.

142nd NGAUS Conference: A Virtual Experience

Due to concerns over the health and safety of attendees and participants, the NGAUS board of directors has accepted the host state's recommendation to **cancel** the 142nd General Conference & Exhibition set for Aug. 28-31, 2020, in Boston.

In its place, the association will conduct an **abbreviated virtual conference from Washington, D.C.** This will enable NGAUS members nationwide to still conduct important association business and hear from defense leaders.

By 1 June, expect to see details of how to participate in this event.



Virginia National Guard Association (VNGA)



New officers of the Virginia National Guard Association are:

- Capt. Jason Dodge, company-grade officer representative (left)
- Capt. Jonathan Patterson, vice president – Air National Guard (middle-left)
- Maj. Andrew Czaplicki, president (middle); Maj. Eric Johnson, vice president – Army National Guard (middle-right)
- Warrant Officer Blair Lionel, warrant officer representative (right).

The Virginia National Guard Association held its annual meeting Feb. 29, 2020, in Richmond, Va. during the 60th Annual Virginia National Guard Association Conference. During the meeting the annual reports by the president, secretary, treasurer, arrangements and bylaws were presented and accepted by the quorum of members in attendance. A new committee on exploring and supporting diversity was created. Additionally, the nomination committee led by Lt. Col. Michael Booker, chair and former VNGA president, presented nominees for the position of President, Vice President – Army National Guard, Vice President – Air National Guard, Company Grade Officer Representative and Warrant Officer Representative. All nominations were accepted and voted.

Maj. Andrew J. Czaplicki, the deputy commander assigned to the Richmond-based [34th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosives Enhanced Response Force Package \(CERF-P\)](#), was elected as president. Czaplicki has previously served the VNGA as the Chair of Advocacy, a unit representative and as a delegate to the National Guard Association of the United States' General Convention and Exhibition. Czaplicki holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from the [Virginia Military Institute](#) and a Master of Business Administration with project management cognate from [Liberty University](#). He is an active member of the Military Officers Association of America, Association of the United States Army, and is a life member of the [Virginia National Guard Association](#) and [Chemical Corps Regimental Association](#).

Maj. Eric Johnson, the operations officer assigned to the Petersburg-based [276th Engineer Battalion](#), was elected as vice president – Army National Guard. Johnson has previously served the VNGA as the secretary and as a unit representative. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from [Virginia State University](#) and a Master of Science in Logistics Management from [Florida Institute of Technology](#). Johnson is an active member of [Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.](#), the [Army Engineer Association](#) and is a life member of the Virginia National Guard Association.

Capt. Jonathan Patterson, the human resources support branch chief, assigned to the Hampton-based [192nd Wing](#), was elected as vice president – Air National Guard. Johnson has previously served as a unit representative. He holds an Associate of Science from the [Community College of the Air Force](#) in Aerospace Ground Equipment Technology, two Bachelors of Arts in Political Science and Government and in American Studies from the [University of Hawaii at Manoa](#).

Capt. Jason C. Dodge, the deputy commander assigned to the Fort Pickett-based [34th Civil Support](#)

[Team – Weapons of Mass Destruction](#), was elected as the Company Grade Officer Representative. Dodge holds a Bachelors of Science in Electrical Engineering with a Minor in Physics from the [University of Massachusetts](#) and is pursuing a Master of Science at the [University of Virginia](#) in Electrical Engineering. He is an active member of the [American Association for the Advancement of Science](#) and the [Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers](#). The CGO representative serves as the primary conduit of sharing information between company-grade officers assigned to the Virginia Army and Air National Guard and the Executive Council.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Lionel Blair, the automation service branch chief assigned to the Fort Pickett-based Directorate of Military Personnel Management, Joint Force Headquarters – Virginia, was elected as the Warrant Officer Representative. This is Lionel's second term of office serving in this position. Lionel holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and Management from the [University of Phoenix](#) and a Masters of Arts in Public Administration from the [Old Dominion University](#). The WO representative serves as the primary conduit of sharing information between warrant officers assigned to the Virginia Army National Guard and the Executive Council.

The officers and members of the executive council serves as Board of Directors for the VNGA and are elected to one-year terms. The executive council for 2020-2021 includes: Lt. Col. (Ret.) Matthew Ritchie, Executive Director; Capt. Adam Provost, Immediate Past President; 1st Lt. Joshua Nichols, treasurer; Maj. Christina Peronnie, secretary; Maj. James Jennings, chair of Membership Committee; Lt. Col. Tony Schlagel, chair of the Scholarship Committee; Lt. Col. Michael Booker, chair of the Nominations Committee; Maj. Sheryl Lloyd, chair of Family Programs Committee; Maj. Erika Legg, chair of Arrangements; 1st Lt. Mohammed Harba, chair of Awards.

Additionally, the VNGA appoints three members to serve on the Board of Directors for the Virginia National Guard Management Group. The VNGA representatives on the VNGMG board are: Col. W. Preston Scott, trustee; Col. (Ret.) Charles "Buddy" Faulconer, Jr., secretary; and, Maj. Gen. (Va.) John D. Taylor, chair.

Find out more about the VNGA by visiting us at vnga.us or on our social networks @vnga1960.

[Twitter](#)

[Facebook](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Website](#)

Virginia National Guard Foundation, Inc.

Emergency financial assistance to Virginia National Guard service members, employees, and families.

Key Facts

- **Combined Virginia Campaign Code: 8376**
- **Combined Federal Campaign Code: 46732**

Email: vangfinc@gmail.com Phone: (434) 264-4945

Note: Links to external organizations and their programs are for informational purposes only, and does not constitute an official approval nor endorsement.

Historical Foundation Annual Golf Tournament



Save the Date!

The annual [Virginia National Guard Historical Foundation](#) Golf Tournament fundraiser is scheduled for 18 September 2020, at the [Royal New Kent Golf Club](#) (I-64 exit 214, about 35 minutes east of [Richmond](#)). Prizes, lunch, old friends, new friends, and support of our common heritage.

Registration details in future editions of this newsletter, as well as at the [VNGMG website](#).

Government-Paid Dental Program Premiums?

smileTDP.com

TRICARE is a registered trademark of the Department of Defense, Defense Health Agency. All rights reserved.

TRICARE Dental Program (TDP)

premiums are 60% government paid for most National Guard sponsors. Even if you are covered by your employer's plan, adding the TDP can save you money in most instances, and help you meet readiness requirements. For the service member, [coverage starts at under \\$12/month](#). Family members have coverage options, for an additional charge.

Learn more at www.smiletdp.com

Thank our corporate partners for their generosity and support.



At [ESS](#), our unyielding passion is to make the toughest eyewear in the world. We provide go-to styling and superior fit, form, and function so our tough customers can stay safe and be brave. ESS innovation is born from intense listening to elite warriors. The end result is battle-proven eye pro with



[Mack Defense, LLC](#), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Mack Trucks, Inc., is responsible for the sale of Mack Trucks and Volvo Trucks (to include parts) to all Federal/Ministerial level customers globally. The [Mack Defense M917A3 Heavy Dump Truck](#) is a commercially-based Mack® Granite® dump truck, engineered to be the best-in-class tactical

a track record of peak performance in the most hostile environments. The entire line of ESS ballistic-grade eye pro is engineered to meet or exceed the most stringent U.S. Military and ANSI Z87.1-2015 specifications.

vehicle solution from the only company that can deliver these unparalleled capabilities to the U.S. Army.

VNGMG Board of Directors

[John D. Taylor](#)

Chairman, [VNGA](#) Representative

[Buddy Faulconer](#)

Secretary, [VNGA](#) Representative

[Cliff White](#)

Treasurer, [VaA/ANGEA](#) Representative

[Alexander F. Barnes](#)

[VNGHF](#) Representative

[Todd Combee](#)

[VNGHF](#) Representative

Preston Scott

[VNGA](#) Representative

[Cheyenne Johnson](#)

[VaA/ANGEA](#) Representative

[Ronnie Emerson](#)

[VaA/ANGEA](#) Representative

[Matthew A. Ritchie](#)

Executive Director

[Jay N. Ellis](#)

Administrator