

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 180

November 2023



2023 Quilt winners were Doug and Carol Schulz

(Pictured: Doug Schulz and Sue Turner)

Greetings From The President...

Greetings from Nebraska:

The Board of Directors worked very hard to accomplish GMM53. With the exception of our Parliamentarian Lang Anderson all of the Board members were in attendance. He was confined to his house because he needed to be on oxygen all the time, but he joined us on Zoom for all the meetings. I had developed an agenda for the meeting that tasked each individual with providing the membership with updates about their particular committee. Our Treasurer, Chief Richardson, provided us with the annual review of all the income and expenses, and then a budget for the upcoming year. Our Vice President, Chief Uthe, provided us with the scholarship winner's information and then we selected the topics for next year's scholarship program. Our Secretary, MSgt Oster, provided the board with all the necessary forms and kept us on track with our agenda. It is no small task to record all the information that is discussed and ensure that all the l's are dotted and t's are crossed. Our Membership Director, MSgt Creasser, provided us with an annual update of the membership, as well as providing me with a deceased membership listing which is unfortunately very extensive. Our Ways and Means Director, Chief Turner, provided us with an update of the Be Square pledges that are available for adoption and the pledges that were received this year. Additionally she completed the quilt raffle during the meeting which generates additional funds for our scholarship program. Our Graduate Director, Major Koenig, provided us with the Zoom connection and ensured that the Zoom attendees were able to see the board accomplishing the meeting agenda. Additionally, she updated us on the Graduate's she has published on the web site this past year. Our TEC Director, Chief Damrow, provided us with an update on the changes at the training center in Knoxville. Classrooms are being renovated, there will be a new Commander and new Commandant coming in December, and lastly, the base has selected the site of the bricks that were sold that recognize members or commanders. Even though our Parliamentarian was not able to be with us, he kept us following the Roberts Rules of order by providing us with guidance at every turn. Finally, I accomplished the second reading of the changes to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Those were approved by the quorum of members in attendance and on Zoom.

Looking forward, the new Bylaws and Articles allowed us to downsize the board of directors to 5 voting members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Director. The other 4 positions on the board are appointed non-voting positions. After conducting the elections at the meeting the 5 board members were sworn in and the remaining 4 board members were officially appointed by the board. The board members will develop a meeting schedule via Zoom that will meet the needs of the Association for the coming year. The next board meeting is scheduled for after the first of the year and

In This Issue

- From the President
- GMM 52
- Quilt Winner
- Auction Winners
- Scholarships
- Hall of Fame
- In Memorium
- BOD
- Membership

Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at
www.ncoaga.com

the agenda is set. Our quorum will now be 3 voting members.

Also, during GMM53, Chapter 7 members informed us that they wish to host GMM54 in Charlotte, North Carolina. We are waiting for them to provide us with dates that will work for them. As soon as we come to an agreement on the date, we will be posting the date on our website, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. It is great that Chapter 7 has stepped up to host next year's meeting. We have been in Charlotte before and they do a great job hosting the meeting.

We are also working with our web site assistant Mr. Johnathan Farrell to develop email addresses that are position identified versus individual identified. This will allow the information to be stored by position so if a board member is replaced by someone else the information is available to the new board member.

Our Graduate Editor, Major Koenig, has been working with Mr. Ferrell to update our web site. This is an extensive project and the board has been providing her with input to make the changes that best fit our current situation. We have also changed the designation of that position to Director of Media which is more in line with the current requirements of the position. She publishes the Graduate, is updating the web site, created a LinkedIn account and an Instagram account.

Lastly, as your President I continue to look for ways to get more communication with the chapters in order to get more participation at our meetings and on our board of directors. I understand with the current tasking situation that Air Guard members have and with the inspections that are required, many guard members are too busy to get involved with our association. But having had the opportunity to attend in residence PME, I know how valuable that training was for my career and preparing myself for attaining the rank of CMSgt. I am hearing that the tasking's are getting fewer and the inspections are also getting further spread out which should give guard members more free time to support organizations such as ours. So continue to encourage fellow guard members to get involved with our association and also please consider getting involved on the national board of directors. We will continue to conduct our scholarship program for as long as we can. So if you wish to support this financially contact our Ways and Means director CMSgt Turner. Her contact information is on the NCOAGA.com web site.

Doug Schulz, CMSgt (Ret)
President, NCOAGA Chapter 1
twins68521@yahoo.com

From the 1st Vice.....

Greetings to all. In this issue of The Graduate, you will find the winning essays for this year's Scholarships.

NCOAGA winner: Jade Schulz
Wm Goyer winner: Alexandra Brown
USAA winner: Evan Schulz
Bennie Frick winner: Thomas Camp

Thanks to all that took the time to write an essay and send in their applications for the scholarships. Congratulations to the winners.

The Topics for next year are:

Senior Division: Why do 89% of young people ages 17-24 reject the idea of military service?

Junior Division: Should we continue to support Ukraine? Yes or no and defend your answer.

Thank you for all you do!

Kevin Uthe, CMSgt (Ret)
Vice President, NCOAGA Chapter 1
kduthe57@hotmail.com



From the Treasurer...

Below is the Financial Report I gave at GMM53. please let me know if you have any questions or need clarification of any of the items.

I wish you a Happy and Prosperous holiday season!



Financial Report 1 July 2022 through 30 June 2023

Beginning Balance 1 July 2022		\$ 3,577.31
INCOME		
Membership Deposits	\$ 698.61	
Auction Income	\$ 1,335.00	
USAA Scholarship Funding	\$ 1,000.00	
Bennie Frick Scholarship Funding	\$ 700.00	
Quilt Ticket Sales		\$ 1,400.00
Funds transferred from other accounts to pay scholarships		\$ 1,143.82
EXPENSE		
Scholarship's	\$ 5,400.00	
Printer Ink	\$ 153.96	
Attorney Fee's	\$ 200.00	
Norton Virus Protection	\$ 322.37	
M & D Engraving		\$ 133.13
Ending Balance 30 July 2023	\$ 3,645.28	
Edward Jones Life Investment		\$ 34,904.00

Janice O. Richardson, CMSgt (Ret)
Treasurer, NCOAGA Chapter 1

From the Parliamentarian...

Fellow Graduates:

Greetings from Lincoln, Nebraska, where we just wrapped up GMM 53. For those who traveled to Lincoln and for those who attended via Zoom, thank you!

Charlotte, North Carolina, is hosting GMM 54 in 2024. This promises to be a wonderful event.

Charlotte is both an elegant city and a down-home place, exciting for history buffs as well as NASCAR enthusiasts.

If you enjoy traditional Southern cooking, you'll find it in abundance: Barbecue, corn-bread, black-eyed peas, turnip greens, fried chicken and (of course) sweet tea are available in the humblest lunch counter kitchens and the trendiest upscale spots. Charlotte also boasts steakhouses, sushi bars, delicatessens and ethnic restaurants - so the "Queen City" is a rich prospect for us foodies.

At the Association's last national gathering there in 2004, Charlotte laid out a variety of great experiences. I especially remember Chapter 7 arranged to get tickets for those interested in the traveling Broadway show "Mama Mia" at the beautiful Belk Theater. The performance was outstanding and by the end, I was dancing in the aisles with everyone else. While this example might be slightly outside the traditional Southern evening, it offers a perfect window into the Southern hospitality and generosity which envelop every visitor to Charlotte and which - in some form or another - will make your visit unforgettable, too.

Of course, the most compelling reason to attend GMM 54 is to reunite with your Alumni Association. The real joy of the GMM is spending time together, learning, catching up, and soaking up what the Association and its hosting city have to offer.

Please join me in thanking CMSgt (Ret) Janice Richardson for spearheading next year's GMM 54 in Charlotte. She holds the office of National Treasurer for our Association, and she herself is a national treasure.

Lang W. Anderson, III, SMSgt (Ret)
Parliamentarian, NCOAGA Chapter 1

From the TEC Liaison...

After over 5 years the memorial bricks have been placed at a great spot at the TEC. It took a while, but after several meetings early on and suggestions and rejections of locations, the bricks are in place. The bricks are located at an appropriate location in front of the flag poles and thus, students can see them daily. It took time but the mission was accomplished. The NCOAGA worked in conjunction with the TEC Heritage committee in making this happen.

On another note, the TEC is scheduled to have a change of command ceremony on 14 December 2023 and the new commander will be Colonel Angela Tappy. On 15 December 2023, a new Commandant will assume authority and he is CMSgt Paul Butts from AN-GRC, but a member of the Springfield, Illinois unit and a life member of NCOAGA. More to follow when I meet with both.

The construction continues at the TEC and most of the earlier buildings are undergoing renovation and updating. Additionally, more classrooms are being incorporated into Morrissey Hall. The NCOAGA at McGhee Tyson is the largest NCOA in Air Force inventory at present. To that end, the EPEME curriculum is undergoing a significant change to reflect an agile agenda and training warfighters. As soon as we know the outcome of those changes, we will share it with our readers.

Regards,

BRUCE D. DAMROW, CMSgt (Ret)
Liaison to TEC, NCOAGA Chapter 1



From the DAL Ways & Means...

Be Square

We currently have \$12,550 Be Square Pledges up for adoption. If any individual or Chapter would like to adopt a state, please go to the NCOAGA website under the donation tab, then the Be Square tab, and you will find the adoption form to fill out and either email or send to me. The form is also on page 9 of this Graduate.

You can use the PayPal link for payment or send a check to my address on the form. Either way you choose to pay be sure to at least email me the adoption form. When using the PayPal link, please use the comment section to state the intention of the Be Square donation.

Harry Awana, HI \$1000	Roger Benson, IA \$1000	George Bones, IL \$1000
Jorge Cantres, PR \$1000	James Chumley, SC \$1000	Jimmy Evans, AR \$1000
Don Beshore, TN \$250	Dale Echelberger, OH \$1000	Dale Lahrs, TN \$1000
Paul Lankford, TN \$500	Ronald Perkins, MD \$1000	Phyllis Sandstrom, UT \$800
Terri Shaw, IL \$1000	William Stone, MI \$1000	

Fundraising

The Quilt Fundraiser earned \$917 before PayPal fees. The online Auction earned over \$1500 before PayPal fees.

Thank you to everyone for your support.

Sue Turner, CMSgt (Ret)
DAL Ways and Means
NCOAGA Chapter 1





AIR NATIONAL GUARD NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ACADEMY GRADUATE ASSOCIATION



Be Square Pledge Adoption Form

I, , the undersigned, to assure the perpetuity
of the Air National Guard Noncommissioned Officer Academy Graduates

Association, its goals, and endeavors, agree to adopt the Be Square Society pledge
in the amount of \$ in honor of .

I have included a check made payable to **ANG NCOAGA, Chapter One** and mailed
to CMSgt (Ret) Turner at the address below.

Signed this day of 20 .

Signature

Printed Name

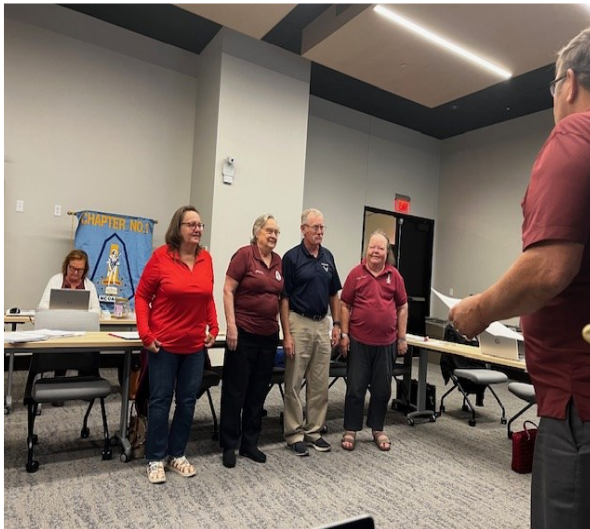
Address

City State Zip

Susan Turner, CMSgt (Ret)
Director at Large, Ways and Means
345 W. 7th Street Crete, NE 68333
Email: sueturner@gardener.com

In August of 2009, our 501(c)3 tax exempt status was approved by the IRS, making the Be Square pledge a tax deductible donation.

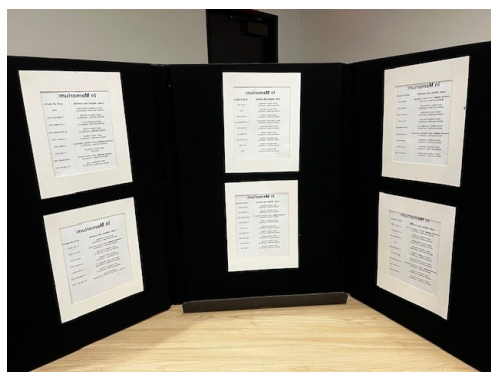
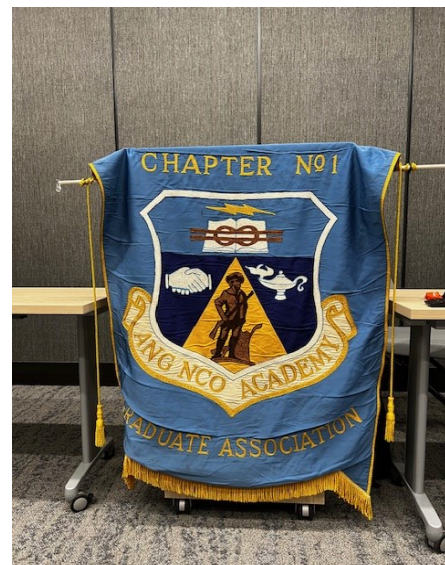
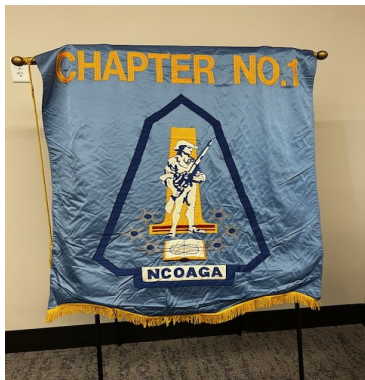
Swearing in of Officers...



Swearing in of the new officers (Top Picture): Doug Schulz (President)

(Bottom Picture): Phyllis Oster (Secretary), Janice Richardson (Treasurer), Kevin Uthe (1st Vice President), Belinda Creaser (Membership)

Pictures of GMM53...



More Pictures of GMM53...



AIR NATIONAL GUARD NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER

ACADEMY GRADUATE ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 1



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

1 October 2023

<u>SCHOLARSHIP</u>	<u>AWARDEE</u>
WILLIAM M. GOYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD	Awardee: Alexandra Brown Sponsor: CMSgt (Ret) Wharton C. Brown JR Region East
SENIOR DIVISION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD	Awardee: Jade Schulz Sponsor: CMSgt (Ret) Doug Schulz, Chapter 76, Region West
USAA SENIOR DIVISION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD	Awardee: Evan Schulz Sponsor: CMSgt (Ret) Doug Schulz, Chapter 76, Region West
MSGT BENNIE S. FRICK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD	Awardee: Thomas Camp Sponsor: CMSgt (Ret) Ned Seaman, Chapter 7, Region East
JUNIOR DIVISION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD	NO SUBMISSION
BETTY FEARN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD	NO SUBMISSION

10/1/2023

SENIOR DIVISION WINNER
Jade Schulz

What is America's Biggest Threat: Russia Or China?

Assessing the bigger threat to the United States between Russia and China is a complex and subjective matter. Both countries pose significant challenges, but the nature of their threats differs in several ways. The perception of which country poses a bigger threat can vary based on one's perspective and interests. Some argue that China's economic power and technological advancements could lead to long-term challenges, such as economic competition and potential military conflict. Others believe Russia's aggressive actions and nuclear capabilities make it a more immediate and direct threat. It's important to note that geopolitical dynamics can evolve over time, and new developments can impact the relative threat levels.

It's important to note that U.S. foreign policy considers both Russia and China as strategic competitors, and the U.S. seeks to address their respective challenges through diplomacy, economic measures, military deterrence, and alliances with other countries. Determining which threat is bigger is subjective and depends on various factors, including the context, specific U.S. interests, and policy priorities. It is crucial for the United States to address both challenges and employ a nuanced approach, while also seeking opportunities for cooperation where interests align.

China presents a different set of challenges due to its economic, military, and technological capabilities. China is the world's most populous country and the second-largest economy, rapidly expanding its military, including the development of advanced weaponry and expanding its naval capabilities. China's advancements in technology, such as artificial intelligence and cyber capabilities, raise concerns about intellectual property theft and cyber espionage. China's other advancements in emerging technologies like 5G networks and quantum computing could challenge the United States' technological leadership and have potential implications for national security. Additionally, its human rights record and lack of transparency in areas like trade practices have attracted attention. China's human rights record, including its treatment of Uighur Muslims in Xinjiang and crackdowns on pro-democracy movements in Hong Kong, has drawn international criticism and affected its relations with the United States.

Russia remains a formidable challenge to the United States in several areas. Russia is a nuclear-armed nation and a major geopolitical player. Russia possesses a significant nuclear arsenal, making it one of the few countries capable of causing catastrophic damage. It also possesses a significant military capability. Russia has demonstrated sophisticated cyber capabilities and has been accused of state-sponsored cyberattacks, including interference in foreign elections and infrastructure hacking. Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014 and its ongoing involvement in the conflict in Ukraine have raised concerns about its intentions in the region. Russia has been accused of conducting disinformation campaigns to sow division and undermine democratic processes in the United States and other Western countries. However, Russia's economy faces challenges, and its global influence may be limited compared to China.

Russia's and China's political interests differ in several key aspects, reflecting their distinct historical, geopolitical, and ideological contexts. It's important to note that while these differences exist, Russia and China also share certain commonalities in their political interests, such as their emphasis on national sovereignty, opposition to Western hegemony, and pursuit of their respective national security priorities.

Both Russia and China are guided by the principles of socialism. Russia's political interests are influenced by its historical legacy as a successor state to the Soviet Union. It often promotes a conservative approach to governance, emphasizing traditional values and state sovereignty. China's political interests blend Marxist-Leninist ideology with market-oriented economic reforms. The Chinese Communist Party maintains a dominant role in the country's political system and seeks to maintain social stability and economic growth.

Russia often challenges the existing international order, viewing it as dominated by Western powers and seeking to assert its own influence. It frequently opposes Western interventions and supports non-interventionist principles in international affairs. China seeks to reform and adjust global governance institutions to accommodate its interests and perspectives, while promoting a multipolar world order and the principle of non-interference.

Russia's political interests often revolve around its regional influence and maintaining a sphere of influence in its neighboring countries. It seeks to safeguard its borders, maintain stability in its periphery, and assert itself as a major player in global affairs. Russia also often forms alliances and partnerships with countries that share its geopolitical concerns or oppose perceived Western dominance. It has developed close ties with countries like Belarus, Syria, and Iran, and maintains strategic partnerships with some emerging powers. Whereas, China's political interests are more global in nature. While it also seeks to protect its territorial integrity, its primary focus is on expanding its influence beyond its immediate neighborhood. China is actively involved in shaping the international order, establishing economic ties, and pursuing strategic partnerships worldwide. China pursues partnerships and alliances based on its economic and strategic interests. It seeks to enhance cooperation with countries that can contribute to its economic development and provide access to resources and markets. China has established the Belt and Road Initiative to promote connectivity and economic integration with partner countries.

Russia's economic interests are closely tied to its energy resources and export-dependent economy. It seeks to protect its energy markets, secure favorable trade agreements, and diversify its economy away from dependence on oil and gas. China's political interests are centered around its economic development and the pursuit of economic prosperity. It focuses on expanding its market access, securing resources and supply chains, and fostering innovation and technological advancement.

In conclusion, while both China and Russia pose significant challenges to the United States, it is important to assess which country presents the greater threat. As the global landscape continues to evolve, it is important for policymakers, diplomats, and analysts to remain vigilant in monitoring both China and Russia, as well as other emerging threats, in order to devise comprehensive strategies that address the complexities of the 21st-century geopolitical landscape. By acknowledging the nuances and interconnections of these challenges, the United States can adapt and respond effectively to safeguard its national security and promote a stable world.

Alexandra Brown

What is America's Biggest Threat, Russia or China? Why?

America's biggest threat is China. The 2022 National Defense Strategy identifies both China and Russia as threats to our National Security for different reasons. China to undermine our alliances and security partnerships in that region and Russia's record of aggression. China surpasses Russia as America's biggest threat due to population, technology and military prowess.

Russia is weak from their war with Ukraine. I think the world expected Russia to attack Ukraine and the conflict to be an easy win for them. This has been far from the case. Ukraine has held their own against Russia. National news estimates Russia has lost around 100,000 men to the conflict. Meanwhile, a simple Google search ranks China number 1 in military strength with about 4 million. As a comparison, the US military strength is about 2.1 million and Russian numbers are around 3.5 million which was estimated before the losses in the conflict. While military strength isn't enough to provide a good assessment, there is something to be said about military experience, raw numbers of people who can fight and superpower status in the world. China's goal is to be the only superpower and is reaching towards that goal in totality which technology is a big factor.

China has spent about 66 billion dollars in research and development in recent years. They are working on new aircraft carriers, 5th and 6th generation fighters (which rely heavily on technology) and they work with private technology firms. They are wiggling their way into American culture by tracking our social media usage via TikTok which will help them to control software and public narratives. We will likely never see conventional warfare such as what we experienced in the Great Wars, Vietnam, Korea or Desert Storm, Afghanistan anymore. Wars will be fought through artificial intelligence, attacking power grids, shutting down the vital networks we rely on to survive. China's continued increase in technological advances will place themselves in a position to be leaps and bounds above the world if we are not careful and do not keep up with their continued progression in these areas. China's military progress is also cause for concern.

As mentioned, they are utilizing their research and development teams for new equipment and technologies. They are looking at Taiwan for a strategic advantage. While they annoyed Europe with the Ukraine War, they are perfectly content with pushing the envelope. China may be in decline as they are the biggest importer of food and things needed to grow food. They are looking for way to ease their burdens. Through the Ukraine war, Russia was proven they are incompetent in military strategies. Their complete supply system broke down very early in their conflict rendering them hopeless. Meanwhile China is learning from this and testing the limits on advanced weapons systems and response times.

Secretary of Defense, Lloyd Austin in a press brief said "China has the intent and power to do it." While this differs from what Geopolitician Perter Zeihan feels (Podcast interview with Jack Carr). I feel China's motivation to survive and absolute goal to be the world's only superpower is enough. China does have it's downfalls. President Xi Jinping is the sole power in the country. There are no advisors to question his tactics or challenge his thinking which makes the country weaker, they still have strong research and development going on. China is proud of their genocides which alienates the world, however, their population appears to be loyal. Maybe it's loyalty out of fear, but they still have the raw numbers to overwhelm other militaries. China also as depressed birth rates despite the repeal of the One Child Policy. Russia

and the United States also have depressed birth rates. While Russia is a bit upside down (an older population vs a balance of young and old) the United States appears to be more balanced. Russia can't sustain a long conflict. They are barely surviving the Ukraine conflict. While this conflict is still Russia's to "win", regardless of the outcome, it's bound to leave them weak and the time it takes them to rebuild far outweighs them being a bigger threat over China.

Should the United States be complacent, China will use their technological advances and sheer strength in numbers to infiltrate the American way of life and next thing we know our technology will be compromised and we will be in a position where we can't defend ourselves. Good thing we have super smart think tanks and senior leaders at the highest levels who are aware of our vulnerability and can mitigate anything China can throw at us.

I believe that China poses a bigger threat to the United States and its citizen's security than Russia. Russia has a history of undermining American elections and has a stronger military, but that military has been exposed heavily throughout the war with Ukraine, and we now know how to combat some of Russia's deviousness. When it comes to China, there are many other reasons why they are threats to the United States. There are several recent accounts of espionage in China. Their economy is also the second biggest in the world, just behind America, with China being where a lot of products sold in the United States come from.

China poses a threat to the individual citizens of the United States with their espionage. For about a week from late January-early February, a Chinese spy balloon flew across the entire span of the United States collecting data. The United States government did not shoot down the balloon due to the threat of it falling on citizens. This scared the citizens of the United States because of the threat of information being stolen and falling into the hands of the Chinese Government, which has a history of data stealing. Over the past few years, news of the Chinese company TikTok stealing people's information from all over the world has been verified, and combined with the "surveillance balloon" flying over the United States, many American citizens reignited concerns about their data security. People are scared their information will get stolen by a country with a deep history of espionage and stealing information. A few states have joined multiple universities across the country that have started to ban the use of TikTok on their WIFI because of the security threat it poses. These states and universities are taking active steps to try and protect their users' data. I hope the government takes additional steps to protect Americans from what the Chinese government might try to do with open access to American citizens' data.

China also has the economic power and leverage to completely undermine our entire country's supply chain. So much of what we stock on our shelves come from China that they could simply just not sell any goods to us, and our entire country would have to find other means for food and products. We saw some of this during COVID when many store shelves were empty, and many electronic devices were unavailable due to not being produced in China or shipped from China as quickly as we needed them. In the last decade, China's economy has more than doubled to make up almost a fifth of the global GDP. While Russia has a GDP similar to that of Italy, China's economy is vastly growing and might soon overtake the United States for the top spot in the world. That is something that I think poses more of a threat to the United States than the military of Russia which gets so much praise yet has struggled mightily to take down Ukraine.

The United States has the military to confidently take on any country in the world, so while a rogue leader with nukes might be scary, in my opinion, an economy that has the power to undermine the United States and overtake them for the top spot scares me more. I definitely believe that China poses a higher threat to the United States than Russia does.

Resources:

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/14/economy/china-party-congress-economy-trouble-xi-intl-hnk>

Evan Schulz

What is America's Biggest Threat: Russia or China?

America's biggest threat is Russia. The reason that I feel Russia is our biggest threat is based on current aggressive military activity, their threat of cyber-attacks, and nuclear arms. In addition to their willingness to challenge National order. Assessing Russia's current military activity in comparison to China, Russia is actively using their power to attack a neighboring country to strip them of their power and take over their territory. China may have a large military presence, but they are not currently using military force. Russia has shown aggressive behavior in their move into Ukraine and threats against other countries who come to the aid of Ukraine. Based on Russia's threats followed by their action and behavior there is an ongoing concern for the security of the neighboring countries as well as those that try to provide support to Ukraine. Russia is using their military power in combination with aggressive action to show dominance, create fear, and increase power. It is evident that they are willing and ready to attack another country that they perceive as a threat.

NATO is a group that defends other countries, this means that if Russia starts attacking any other country, for instance Poland or Finland as they are right next to Russia, this will cause NATO and the US to come to the defense of these countries and pull the US into a war with Russia. Russia's leader, Putin, does not operate by the rules of international order. For instance, in 2014 Vladimir Putin said that he wanted to create a new world order that is "more friendly to Russian interests". As a result, he increased and modernized the Russian military to be able to support his ideals.

Russia also poses threats that are or could be directed at the US like cyber-attacks that attack our political system. Russian cyber-attacks are aimed to spread misinformation in a continual attempt to affect the US democratic system. For example, the US Senate select committee on intelligence determined that Russia had interfered with the 2016 presidential election by manipulating the voting machines and the processing of the polls. They hacked voting machine companies, and slowed disinformation and discord through social media channels. In 2017 American Civilian Agencies were told to remove Kaspersky Lab anti-virus software from networks because of concern that Russian intelligence agencies could use it to spy on the US government. In addition, they had sanctions put in place to interfere with the 2020 presidential election. That same year there was also an incident where the US government suffered multiple data breaches due to Russia hacking of Solar Winds software. It has also been revealed that hackers working for the Russian foreign intelligence service were exploiting 5 vulnerabilities to attack US companies and the defense-industrial base.

Another threat to the US is caused by Russia Nuclear arms since Russia possesses 45% of the international nuclear stockpile and the delivery systems that would allow it to target US soil. They are also developing 2 new nuclear capabilities, 1 being a hypersonic glide missile making it harder to detect, and a nuclear armed undersea torpedo, as well as growing its stockpile of tactical nuclear weapons. There is also a US Nuclear Posture Review that says "Russia considers the US and NATO to be principal threats to its contemporary geopolitical ambitions. Russian Strategy and doctrine emphasize the potential coercive and military uses of nuclear weapons." This shows that a nuclear strike from Russia however unlikely cannot be ruled out.

In conclusion, I feel past actions by Russia, in addition to their leader, aggressive military, continued threats for cyber-attacks and the risk for nuclear war makes Russia our primary threat.

In Memorium

NAME, REGION AND CHAPTER	DATE OF DEATH
CHARTER MEMBER, LTCOL DEWEY R PRESLAR REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 7	9 APRIL 2023
MAJ CORLEY L SHEAROUSE REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 59	9 APRIL 2018
CMSGT CHRISTIE W BARKE REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 11	17 AUGUST 2022
CMSGT EUGENE M BOUTON REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 10	24 July 2016
CMSGT ROBERT C CHAMBERLAIN REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 50	24 SEPTEMBER 2011
CHARTER MEMBER, CMSGT VERNON D EDWARDS REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 42	28 MARCH 2022
CMSGT ROBERT E HANNIFIN REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 7	2 MARCH 2021
CMSGT JEROME T ROULEAU REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 6	25 JULY 2019
CMSGT AUDRYS SIDLAUSKAS REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 75	14 JANUARY 2018

In Memorium

NAME, REGION AND CHAPTER	DATE OF DEATH
CHARTER MEMBER, CMSGT EUGENE A STUNEK REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 47	6 AUGUST 2023
SMSGT JOSEPH H ALTERI REGION EASTER / CHAPTER 28	12 OCTOBER 2017
SMSGT DALE A ECHELBERGER REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 23	16 SEPTEMBER 2013
SMSGT JOSEPH C FISCHER REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 63	2022
SMSGT WARREN J GOMON REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 50	26 SEPTEMBER 2018
SMSGT KARL E HOFFMANN III REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 96	28 MARCH 2019
CHARTER MEMBER, SMSGT THOMAS M KERWIN REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 5	10 SEPTEMBER 2023
SMSGT KENNETH T LYMAN REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 81	7 JANUARY 2003
SMSGT WILLIAM R MCHALE REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 74	21 FEBRUARY 2018

In Memorium

NAME, REGION AND CHAPTER

DATE OF DEATH

SMSGT EDGAR A ROSARIO
REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 2

14 MAY 2015

SMSGT ARLO D SORHEIM
REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 61

2018

SMSGT RICKY R TOWNS
REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 70

16 MARCH 2023

MSGT JACQUALINE J BERLOWITZ
REGION CENTRAL/ CHAPTER 76

17 SEPTEMBER
2023

MSGT NUNZIO BIONDELLO
REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 74

5 MARCH 2022

MSGT TOMMY M BONE
REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 58

7 OCTOBER 2019

MSGT KENNETH J BORDEN
REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 81

2 JANUARY 2021

MSGT WILLIAM J BROCK
REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 37

JULY 2003

MSGT LESLIE E FAUTH
REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 4

2020

In Memorium

NAME, REGION AND CHAPTER	DATE OF DEATH
MSGT LOUIS A GERWECK REGION WESTERN / REGION 61	30 APRIL 2023
MSGT KENNETH L GLASER REGION WESTER / CHAPTER 57	5 OCTOBER 2016
CHARTER MEMBER, MSGT EDWARD C GORDON JR REGION WESTER / REGION 20	23 DECEMBER 2022
MSGT CLIFFORD W GREEN REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 66	15 MARCH 2020
MSGT DAVID W HIGBY REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 79	10 JULY 2019
MSGT ALFRED J JAEGER REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 11	6 OCTOBER 2022
MSGT JOHN G KOVACS REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 42	6 OCTOBER 2022
MSGT ALBERT C LLOYD JR REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 48	18 MARCH 2012
MSGT THOMAS K MATYE REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 27	2 MAY 2019

In Memorium

NAME, REGION AND CHAPTER	DATE OF DEATH
MSGT CLARENCE E MCINTOSH REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 10	2005
MSGT JERALD E NEPHEW REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 66	7 FEBRUARY 2023
MSGT RICHARD E PAUL REGION WESTERN / REGION 27	3 OCTOBER 2022
MSGT JERRY E PAYNE REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 37	30 SEPTEMBER 2013
MSGT JOHN J PERNO REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 13	11 MARCH 2023
CHARTER MEMBER, MSGT HOWARD T REYNOLDS REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 75	9 APRIL 2020
MSGT DEAN C SCHILLER CHAPTER 1	6 JUNE 2014
CHARTER MEMBER, MSGT JOHN P SMYTH REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 64	8 DECEMBER 2007
MSGT LEONARD H TAM REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 18	24 AUGUST 2021

In Memorium

NAME, REGION AND CHAPTER

DATE OF DEATH

MSGT ROY M WADDELL
REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 46

5 JULY 2019

CHARTER MEMBER, MSGT LOYD A WALTERS
REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 24

28 JULY 2019

MSGT ROBERT W YOTTER
REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 79

18 MAY 2010

MSGT GLEN T ZIEMKE
REGION CENTRAL / CHAPTER 15

14 MARCH 2023

MSGT WILLIAM C ZINNERT JR
REGION EASTERN / CHAPTER 88

24 MAY 2023

TSGT CHARLES D LOVELL
REGION WESTERN / CHAPTER 30

25 FEBRUARY 2022

MR DICK E ELLIS
MCGHEE TYSON AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE

28 JANUARY 2023

Winners of the Auction

Once again we did an online auction to help raise money for the scholarships. We raised over \$1500 between donations and auction items!! Following are the prizes and winners of each item. Congratulations to all!

Christine Knoblauch-Rubrecht:

\$1200 St Jame's Club & Villas—Antigua Vacation

Garry Fisher:

\$25 Amazon Gift Card

VibeLite Telescoping Flashlight

Doug Schulz:

\$100 Visa Credit Card

Sue Turner:

\$50 Uber Gift Certificate

Karen Koenig:

Cornhusker All-Natural Seasoning Salt

Wooden Box



**AIR NATIONAL GUARD NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER
ACADEMY GRADUATE ASSOCIATION - CHAPTER 1
2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<u>EXECUTIVE ADVISORY BOARD (EAB)</u>	<u>DIRECTORS AT LARGE (DAL)</u>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PRESIDENT</u> CMSgt (Ret) Doug Schulz Phone: 402-875-1205 E-Mail: twins68521@yahoo.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE, MEDIA</u> Maj (Ret) Karen Koenig Phone: 425-610-7476 E-mail: kkoenig44@gmail.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>VICE PRESIDENT</u> Kevin D Uthe, CMSgt (Ret) Phone: 605-212-0817 E-Mail: kduthe57@Hotmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE, WAYS & MEANS</u> CMSgt (Ret) Sue Turner Phone: 402-418-1237 Email: sueturner@gardener.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SECRETARY</u> MSgt (Ret) Phyllis Oster Phone: 703-861-6794 E-Mail: poster1104@aol.com NCOAGChapter1@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE, TEC LIAISON</u> CMSgt (Ret) Bruce Damrow Phone: 334-467-3129 E-Mail: damrowbd@msn.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TREASURER</u> CMSgt (Ret) Janice O. Richardson Phone: 828-458-8308 E-Mail: janiceorichardson@earthlink.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE, PARLIAMENTARIAN</u> SMSgt (Ret) Lang W. Anderson Phone: 402-499-1661 E-Mail: langanderson1@gmail.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR</u> MSgt (Ret) Belinda Creasser Phone: 402-575-1721 E-Mail: missymanx@juno.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PRESIDENT EX-OFFICIO</u> MSgt Alec Cawlfild Phone: 260-341-5750 E-Mail: PattonZero@hotmail.com</p>

10/16/2023

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

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)
☐ NCOA (RESIDENCE)
☐ NCOLS (RESIDENCE)
☐ NCOPC (RESIDENCE)
☐ ALS (RESIDENCE)
☐ OTHER (RESIDENCE)

☐ SNCOA (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)
☐ NCOA (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)
☐ NCOLS (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)
☐ NCOPC (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)
☐ ALS (CORRESPONDENCE COURSE)
☐ 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"