ENLISTED ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF IOWA



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2026 ANNUAL CONVENTION

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THE 2ND BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

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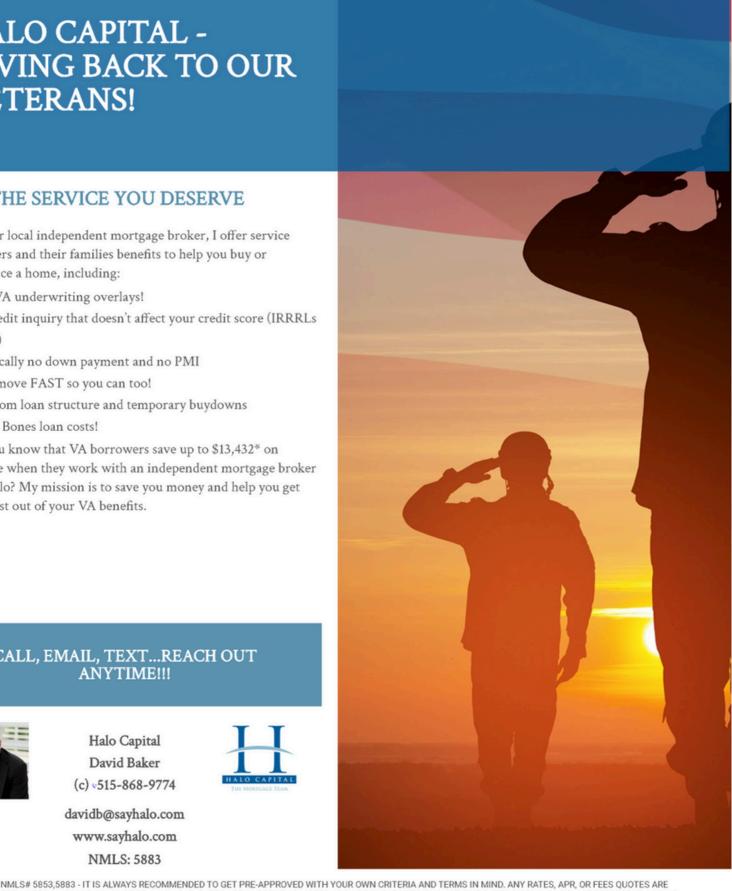


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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PETER MOELLER

To our dedicated Airmen and Soldiers of the Iowa National Guard,

As we close out another year of service and reflection, I want to begin by extending my sincere appreciation for all you have helped our Association accomplish. 2025 was an exceptional year for EANGI, and that success is owed entirely to your passion, commitment, and willingness to stay engaged. Together, we supported more than a dozen events across the state, strengthened our community presence, and raised tens of thousands of dollars to directly benefit lowa's enlisted service members and their Families. More importantly, we continued standing firmly beside our units at home and abroad, ensuring that those who serve never face their challenges alone.

Our Soldiers and Airmen deployed overseas, especially within the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, have remained at the forefront of our thoughts and efforts this past year. You have shown extraordinary resilience, professionalism, and dedication while representing our state on the global stage. EANGI is proud to support you and your Families throughout this mission, and we look forward with great anticipation to welcoming you home safely. Your service continues to inspire the entire Iowa Guard community.

In addition to our community efforts, 2025 was a year of meaningful progress at the legislative level. Through the collective voice of our members and the hard work of our delegation, we advanced and supported legislation that will benefit enlisted Soldiers and Airmen for years to come. Whether advocating for improved benefits, expanded opportunities, or stronger support systems, your participation gave Iowa a stronger voice nationally, proving yet again that our state remains a leader among the Enlisted Associations across the country.

As we look toward the horizon, we recognize that 2026 will bring its share of challenges and critical decisions. We face the final stretch of negotiations on the FY26 National Defense Authorization Act, which will set the tone for training, benefits, and resourcing in the years ahead. We also look forward to the safe return of our 2nd Brigade Combat Team, whose reintegration and support will require the coordinated efforts of leaders, Families, and communities across lowa.

In the midst of these challenges, one constant remains clear: we are strongest when we come together. That is why I want to personally encourage every member to attend the 2026 Annual Business Meeting and Command Senior Enlisted Appreciation Dinner. The value of your presence cannot be overstated. This gathering is more than an event; it is a

chance to hear directly from senior leaders, strengthen relationships across the force, celebrate the enlisted corps, and ensure that every voice is part of shaping our path forward.

As always, I remain grateful for your service, humbled by your trust, and motivated by your resilience. Together, we will meet the challenges of 2026 and continue strengthening the enlisted force that makes the Iowa National Guard one of the best in the nation.

Your liberties we prize and your rights we will maintain.





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Districts 1-4 represent Soldiers of the highlighted districts
District 5 represents the Airmen of the 132nd Air Wing and state headquarters.
District 6 represents the Airmen of the 185th Air Wing.



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IOWA'S 132D CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON PARTICIPATES IN EXERCISE TOXIC SWELL 25

Story by Staff Sgt. John Johnson



Airmen from the Iowa Air National Guard's 132d Civil Engineer Squadron traveled to Oahu, Hawaii, in August to participate in Exercise Toxic Swell 25, a joint chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) training event involving multi-branch Active-Duty, Reserve, and National Guard components.

While Iowans back home enjoyed salt on their corn at the state fair, the Airmen from Des Moines found themselves dealing with a different kind of salt—sweat, sand, and simulated chemical threats—on the beaches and training sites of Oahu.

The intent of Exercise Toxic Swell is to enhance joint-force readiness and interoperability in responding to chemical. biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats in complex environments. The exercise simulates real-world scenarios where military units must identify, secure, and mitigate hazardous materials while coordinating across

service branches. By training together in a dynamic and realistic setting, participants build critical skills in communication, threat assessment, and mission execution under pressure.

Exercise Toxic Swell 25 culminated on Aug. 21, 2025, in a complex scenario involving opposition forces and civilian role players. Participants patrolled into a mock town, secured a hazardous laboratory, and defended against simulated enemy threats in a high-stress, joint training environment.

The Iowa Airmen were split into two main groups and performed a variety of roles, including machine gun overwatch, CBRN lab seizure, and outer perimeter security.

"The mission was intense but rewarding," said Tech. Sgt. Jon Linn of the 132d Civil Engineer Squadron. "Working alongside Marines and other Airmen helped us improve our skills and build confidence in real-world scenarios."

Marine Corps leadership praised the professionalism and adaptability of the Iowa Airmen, noting their work ethic and willingness to take on critical roles during the exercise. Tech. Sgt. Linn was specifically recognized for going above and beyond to support the joint mission.

Chief Master Sgt. Sean Augspurger, senior enlisted leader for the 132d Mission Support Group, commended the Airmen's performance.

"The defining characteristic of the Iowa Guard team in joint training is their seamless integration and collaborative spirit," said Augspurger. "They actively seek learning opportunities every interaction, fostering a culture of mutual respect and shared expertise that elevates the performance of all participating forces. We could not be prouder."

The 132d's participation in Exercise Toxic Swell reflects the unit's ongoing commitment to readiness, joint interoperability, and mission success in complex environments.



YOUR INVITATION TO CONNECTION, CAMARADERIE, AND PURPOSE:

WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND THE 2026 EANGI ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED APPRECIATION DINNER

Enlisted Each vear. the Association of the National Guard of Iowa brings together the Soldiers, Airmen, families, retirees, and supporters who make our force what it is: capable, resilient, committed, and united. But in 2026, the gathering will be more than a meeting, it will be a milestone. On 27-28 March 2026 at the Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn. we will come together for a built weekend around connection. celebration. professional development, and honoring the leaders who shape our enlisted corps.

If you have attended an EANGI event before, you already know the impact of bringing our community together. If you haven't, this is the year to make the decision to join us. The 2026 Annual Business Meeting and Command Senior Enlisted Appreciation Dinner engineered to be energizing, meaningful, and memorable. From the fun and fellowship of Friday night's icebreaker to the music, networking, and lateevening hospitality rooms that close out Saturday.

This is your invitation not simply to attend, but to participate in a weekend designed uniquely for you: the enlisted Soldiers and Airmen who give the lowa National Guard its strength and character.

Below is everything you need to

know and all the reasons this is the one weekend you won't want to miss.

A Weekend That Strengthens Our Force

EANGI exists for a purpose: to advocate for enlisted personnel, preserve benefits, support Families, and strengthen the future of the lowa National Guard. But purpose isn't sustained through emails or policy alone, it is reinforced through people gathering, collaborating, and investing in one another.

This event is where enlisted professionals learn what's ahead for the Guard. It is where ideas are exchanged, relationships deepen, and new leaders emerge. It is where we gather not as units or ranks, but as one lowa National Guard family.

2026 The meeting intentionally designed to strike the perfect balance between professional value, personal enjoyment, and community connection. Every element from the joint session with senior leaders to the beauty bar to the live jazz performance creates touchpoints for building relationships, refreshing motivation, and feeling truly valued in your profession of

Whether you are a junior enlisted Soldier looking to

understand your future, a seasoned NCO shaping young leaders, a spouse or partner supporting the force, or a retiree who helped build the foundation we stand on, this weekend is for you.

Friday Evening Icebreaker (27 March 2026): The Perfect Start to the Weekend

The moment you arrive, you will feel the energy of the weekend setting in.

The Warrant Officer Association is hosting Friday evening's icebreaker, and they are pulling out all the stops. Expect:

- Free drinks
- Appetizers
- Music Bingo
- A relaxed atmosphere to reconnect with old friends or make new ones

Music Bingo has become one of the most popular social games at National Guard gatherings across the country. Whether you're competitive or just enjoy the music, it's a guaranteed source of laughter and fun.

This night sets the tone for the entire weekend: welcoming, informal, and full of camaraderie. You'll feel immediately at home among peers from across the state. For many attendees, the icebreaker is the highlight of the weekend. Not because of any single

activity, but because you realize you're surrounded by people who get it. The shared experiences, the sacrifices, the deployments, the drills, the late nights, the early mornings. The icebreaker puts you among your people.

Saturday Morning: A Joint Session That Shapes the Future

Saturday launches with one of the most impactful sessions of the weekend: a joint gathering featuring remarks from The Adjutant General of the Iowa National Guard and the Command Senior Enlisted Leader.

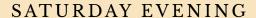
These leaders don't often have the opportunity to speak directly to such a broad audience of enlisted Soldiers and Airmen. This session is your chance to hear:

- How the Guard is evolving
- What strategic priorities are ahead
- Where resources are focused
- What challenges we face
- What opportunities exist for the enlisted force
- How changes in the Army, Air Force, and National Guard Bureau affect us in Iowa
- Initiatives to improve readiness, training, benefits, and quality of life

cont'd on Page 13

Enlisted Association Annual Business Meeting

27-28 March 2026
Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn



THE COMMAND SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER APPRECIATION DINNER PRESENTS

MOONLIGHT SERENADE:



PIANO JAZZ PERFORMANCE BY

Heather Gillis



DES MOINES

AIRPORT

RAFFLES, DRAWINGS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS

WE CARE FOR IOWA FOUNDATION

Friday Night Icebreaker - Music Bingo

Professional Development - Saturday Business Meeting



REGISTER AT EANGI.ORG



FREE Beauty Bar

at lpm

cont'd from Page 11

Hearing directly from senior leaders helps us understand our role in shaping the future force. It ensures every Soldier and Airman leaves more informed, more connected, and more empowered to succeed.

For junior enlisted members, this session is a rare opportunity to sit in the same room with top decision makers and hear exactly how your service fits into the state and national picture. For NCOs and senior enlisted professionals, it is a chance to hear strategic intent firsthand so you can guide your formations accordingly.

And for retirees and family members, it provides valuable insight into how the Guard continues to evolve and the role you still play in supporting it.

Saturday Afternoon: A Beauty Bar Experience Like No Other

After a meaningful morning of dialogue, professional the afternoon offers something refreshing, relaxing, and uniquely enjoyable. A free Beauty Bar, complete with:

- Champagne
- Hors d'oeuvres
- Stations with beauty products available
- Bring-your-own makeup, styling tools, and preferred products
- A space to unwind, socialize, and enjoy some self-care

This is not a spa day, it's a chance to enjoy time together, try new products, and feel appreciated. Whether you're preparing for the evening's dinner, looking for a moment of relaxation, or just want to enjoy a glass of champagne with friends, the Beauty Bar is a perfect mid-day break.

The event is designed to be inclusive and welcoming.

It's about offering a fun we pause, look around the room, consistently impress, and they experience to anyone who and say: wants to take part, whether you together." enjoy makeup, want your hair touched up for photos, or simply The dinner is intentionally After the band, the evening want to socialize in a relaxed crafted to be a night to transitions setting.

lowa. People you may serve with get in a Guard setting. digitally but rarely see in person. Conversations here often lead to networking, mentorship, and Entertainment by Heather Gillis: the weekend ends.

Senior Dinner

Senior Enlisted Appreciation and Dinner, a formal gathering built style. around recognition, camaraderie. music, celebration.

night filled with warm lighting, is both relaxing and inspiring. sophisticated ambiance, and a deep appreciation for the Her enlisted force.

What Makes This Special?

- honors the Soldiers and Airmen who feel truly special. carry the weight of our missions.
- It recognizes our senior simply service.
- It brings together every and supporters—in one unified space.
- of training, deployments, will and operations.

This isn't just another banquet. are It is the one evening each year

thoughtful remarks, meaningful spaces

Talent

Saturday Evening: The Command One of the most exciting parts relaxed atmosphere that only Enlisted Appreciation of the evening will be our the lowa National Guard can featured performer: Heather create. Gillis, an incredibly talented The crown jewel of the weekend musician known for her soulful It's not mandatory. It's not is Saturday evening's Command piano work, expressive vocals, formal. It's simply fun and it's vibrant jazz-influenced often

and Heather brings a unique blend of energy and sophistication A Weekend You Will Remember that perfectly matches the This year's theme: Moonlight theme "An Evening of Ivory." Every detail of the 2026 EANGI Serenade: An Evening of Ivory- Her music will elevate the Annual Business Meeting and sets the tone for an elegant atmosphere, setting a tone that Command

> performance is background music but it is part personal, the formal with the of the experience. It's a treat fun, the serious with the Dinner rarely seen at a National Guard celebratory. event, and it adds a level of enlisted elegance that makes the night It is a weekend to learn from

Whether you're a jazz lover or weekend to celebrate the enjoy great enlisted leaders for their performance, Heather Gillis' simply enjoy yourself. mentorship, sacrifice, and presence alone makes the evening worth attending.

to E9s, spouses, retirees, Rooms, and the 34th Army Band

The night doesn't end with forces in the nation. It provides a night of dessert. The Iowa National celebration after a long year Guard's own 34th Army Band provide post-dinner entertainment, bringing upbeat, high-energy music they known for. Their performances

"We built this know exactly how to get a crowd engaged.

into remember with excellent food, rooms, the traditional gathering where This is also another opportunity presentations, and the kind of associations, and groups host to meet attendees from across classy atmosphere you rarely informal social rooms. These rooms are legendary for their friendliness, humor, and opportunity to unwind.

friendships that last long after Jazz, Soul, and Unforgettable This is where you reconnect with old battle buddies, share stories, laugh, and enjoy the

> where the most meaningful conversations take place.

Senior Enlisted Appreciation Dinner has been crafted with purpose. It blends not the professional with

leadership. A weekend reconnect with friends. live enlisted force. A weekend to

But more than anything, it's a weekend that reminds us why level of the force-from E1s After Dinner: Music, Hospitality we serve and why the lowa National Guard remains one of the strongest, most dedicated



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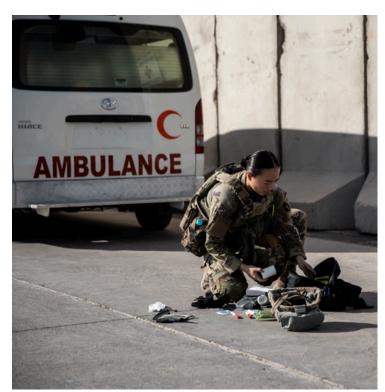
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CENTCOM – Soldiers of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division, Iowa Army National Guard, nicknamed the "Red Bulls," and the 396th Field Hospital out of Washington state are sustaining readiness by teaching and certifying soldiers through Combat Life Saver (CLS) training while deployed to the U.S. Central Command Area of Responsibility.

The 396th Field Hospital Forward Detachment 1, 2nd Medical Brigade, 807th Division has already conducted three CLS classes in theatre, certifying 57 graduates from 14 different units, and with the help of the Iowa Red Bulls, they will have fifteen graduated more students. The 40-hour training gives non-medical soldiers the skills they need to provide lifesaving care at the point of injury until higher-level medical support can arrive.

"CLS is the most important training we need to be focused on," said Staff Sgt. Travis Wersky, combat medic assigned to 396th Field Hospital and the

main instructor for the course. "There's not always going to be a medic there. There's not always going to be a doctor there. CLS, out of all the tiers of Tactical Casualty Combat Care, is usually the least trained on or used."

The tiers of Tactical Casualty Combat Care range from tier one, the basics each soldier is trained in, up to tier four, combat paramedics. CLS, which falls under tier two, fills the gap between a soldier's basic aid and the advanced interventions of medical professionals.

During the course, students learn to treat the three leading causes of battlefield death: massive bleeding, airway obstruction, tension and pneumothorax. They also practice evacuation procedures and how to communicate effectively with leadership to ensure patients are moved quickly to the right level of care.

"Most of the time, all we are doing is plugging holes and getting them to a higher level of

COMBAT LIFESAVER

PRIORITY IN COMBAT ZONE

Story by Staff Sgt. Rachel White

care," Wersky said. "Surgeons can take care of those holes."

Sgt. Joe Seydel, a combat medic specialist from West Branch, Iowa, assigned to Charlie Company 334th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division, Iowa Army National Guard volunteered to instruct a portion of the class.

"This is my third time teaching CLS," Seydel said. "I did it on my last mobilization to Poland. I taught it again before we left Fort Polk, and now I'm teaching it here."

Seydel emphasized that CLS raises the standard of care a soldier can provide and strengthens unit survivability.

"CLS bridges the gap between all servicemembers and (combat medic specialists)," Seydel said. "They can't quite do medical interventions, but they can get close. Whereas all a servicemember can do is apply a tourniquet, head tilt, chin lift. These guys are trusted more

with hemorrhage control items. They are trusted with more airway interventions. They are trusted with chest seals."

The instructors recognize the challenge of condensing lifesaving training into four days, but stress the value in ensuring soldiers have practical, handson skills.

"The most challenging is that (the course) is forty hours. It's a lot of information in 40 hours," Wersky said. "Retaining the knowledge is going to be the hardest."

Still, both instructors believe it's worth it.

"The options for hemorrhage control is the most critical skill students will take from this course," Seydel said. "Massive hemorrhage is the leading cause of preventable death for service members in combat zones."

By training soldiers as CLS, these medics are ensuring that lifesaving care is a priority.





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IOWA NATIONAL GUARD BREAKS GROUND ON VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP

Story by Staff Sgt. Tylon Chapman

Iowa National Guard leaders and local community leaders broke ground on a new vehicle maintenance facility for the Army National Guard's 1-113th Cavalry, 334th Brigade Support Battalion and 2168th Transportation



Company today.

"This project is about more than just modernizing our equipment facilities," said Maj. Gen. Stephen Osborn, Adjutant General of the lowa National Guard, "it's about ensuring our Soldiers have the tools they need to succeed while continuing to strengthen the communities where they live and serve."

Projected to be more than 25,000 square feet, the new facility will have drive-through maintenance bays, enhanced storm drainage, expanded parked and geothermal energy systems.

The new structure will support double the current mechanic staff,

allowing 18 soldiers to work and maintain vehicles.

The facility will be built to last at least 50 years.



READ OUR STORY

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Reading our story is essential to understanding the purpose and progress of our organization—and the incredible leadership behind it. The Adjutant General and Senior Enlisted Leader are making significant strides to strengthen the Iowa National Guard through bold vision, clear priorities, and genuine care for our Soldiers, Airmen, and Families. Their leadership sets the tone for excellence, readiness, and resilience across our force. By staying informed, you stay connected to the mission and the momentum driving our success.



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