



United States Army
Warrant Officers Association

Northeast Region Annual Report
2004 Annual Meeting of the Members
Leesburg, Virginia



USAWOA Region 6
15 September 2005

State of the Region

Mr. President, Vice President, and assembled members, it is indeed a pleasure to be with you all today to deliver state of the Region report.

What a wonderful year we have had in the great Northeast Region. We have been successful in starting up new Chapters, adding new members to existing Chapters and getting the word out about our wonderful Association. This past year I have had to opportunity to travel up the coast to the New England area and observe Chapter members involved in community events and have traveled down to VA to be with those members as well. Everywhere I go, I am amazed at the work that is taking place. Work to make our Association a better organization to be apart of as you will hear in the Chapter reports. Keep in mind, I am highlighting the major events that occurred during the year. Each Chapter has many smaller events that take place that never make to Newsliner, but are just as important as those that do. We are still closing the gap on the Southeast Region, last year we were 65 members away from the top, this year we are only 33 members away. A goal my sight are still set on!

Begin Chapter Reports:

Crater Chapter: Chapter Membership 86
Chapter President: Jasper Lee

On May 13-14, 2005 Crater Chapter operated a food concession booth at Richmond International Raceway (RIR)during the "Chase for the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup". The members attended the Installation Volunteer Luncheon June 10, 2005, 11:00- 13:00 hrs, at the Lee Club.

Our Chapter Officers elections dinner was held on the 28th Jan 05. We hosted a Fun raiser walk at Richmond International Raceway to recognize to supported the ALS Association. ALS is "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis" often referred to as "Lou Gehrig's" Disease. The Crater Chapter collected monies and walked in honor of CW4 Ret Gil Harrison; a retired Warrant Officer afflicted with ALS. The Crater Chapter supported Habitat for Humanity, Christmas in April, the BOSS program, Thanksgiving Basket giveaway and Helping Hands during Christmas. The Chapter stands at the ready to fully support the Region and Association in all of it's endeavors.

Aberdeen-Edgewood Chapter: Chapter Membership 49
Chapter President: Wayne Burton

The Chapter started this year as we did last by hosting the COP in January. Since then we have had two OPD's. One from the Retirement Services Office in May and one from the Education Center in June. We also hosted our annual Pig Roast in May which coincides with OSAM week. This year it was held at the CG's quarters. The chapter has donated \$200.00 to the VA hospital along with other items for our veterans. We have established a web site that is up and operational. The Chapter also was able to make a donation to the Blue Star Banner Association.

Keystone Chapter: Chapter Membership 60
Chapter President: Paul Gutekunst

The Keystone Chapter continues to meet on a quarterly basis, most recently in March at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA, and in June, for a dinner meeting, at the Commissioned Officer's Mess, Naval Inventory Supply Point, Mechanicsburg, PA.

Currently involved in our one large fundraiser for the year: Selling raffle tickets for the Big 33 Interscholastic Football Game. The chapter sells the tickets for \$2 and gets to keep \$1. Also, we are selling Black mock turtleneck shirts with WO emblem and recently sold

well enough that we have placed second and larger order for shirts. Have made contributions to a local VFW Post to assist them in their Golf Tournament that supports wounded soldiers in our military hospitals.

The Chapter has also made contribution for a teenager traveling on an international trip promoting International relations.

Ft. Dix-Doughboy Chapter: Chapter Membership 109
Chapter President: Robert Wahl

Bob reported that he had represented the Chapter at the annual memorial Day Service at the BG Doyle Veterans Cemetery. It was the first time that he and his wife had attended the service and they were very impressed with the quality and scope of the program as well as the level of participation by the various organizations. He noted that the Acting Governor spoke personally to the representatives of each of the veterans organizations present, demonstrating his support for the military. This is an annual event that began shortly after the Chapter received it's charter and he was pleased and honored to represent the Chapter this year. He encouraged members to attend in the future, even if only as a visitor rather than a participant, as it is quite an impressive and moving experience the entire family would enjoy.

Vice President: Ken reported that the Military Funeral Honors Team-Central participated in 10 funeral details for the month and also assisted with the Burlington County Scout Registration for the Memorial Day Flag Placement detail on Friday, May 27th. In addition, Chapter member CW2 Artie Kimbrough participated in 5 funeral details in June. Ken also assisted the Doyle Veteran's Cemetery Staff during the annual Memorial Day Service. (Presentation of the State Wreath with the Acting Governor and The Adjutant General). In July, the Military Funeral Honors Team-Central participated in an additional 11 funeral details.

First State Chapter: Chapter Membership 31
Chapter President: Bill Buss

The First State Chapter has held two meetings, March, 2005 and May, 2005. We have elected officers (Present, William Buss, Vice Present, Ben Gottfried) formalized and voted acceptance of Chapter bylaws that are currently being forwarded to elected officers for signature. They arrived at National by end of week of 27 June. Recruiting of new chapter members is in the forefront and progressing very well. We will hold our installation dinner on 29 October 2005 at the Marydel Fire House in Marydel, DE with cocktails starting at 17:30 hrs. The Adjutant General, Delaware National Guard, Major General Francis Vavala will be our keynote speaker. Our next meeting was held on 12 July 2005 at the Smyrna Readiness, Smyrna, DE

Arlington Hall Minuteman Chapter: Chapter Membership 56
Chapter President: Frank Pablo

New England: Chapter Membership 69
Chapter President: Pat Nelligan

Patrick and crew are planning a state wide OPD to be held in the near future. Guest speakers will include the Rhode Island TAG, Representatives from the Warrant Officer Recruiting Team and the Northeast Regional Director.

George G. Meade (Prov): Chapter Membership 36
Chapter Representative: Joe Koschmeder

We have had four meetings now in my attempt to restart the Chapter here at Fort Meade. So far, the max attendance was six people. Unfortunately since the last meeting, two of the people who wanted to participate have PCSed or retired and left the area. While I am confident that I am reaching a wide enough audience we are struggling to get 10 people to show up, but I have not given up hope yet. We may be small but we are strong!

Lord Fairfax: Chapter Membership 160
Chapter President: Patrick Morris

In Oct several members of the LFSC participated in the Annual Meeting of Members in Leesburg, VA, and assisted the meeting as members of the Credential Committee.

Nov the LFSC donated canned goods to the Good Neighbor Food and Funds Drive to benefit the Capital Area Food Bank.

LFSC donated \$100 to the Fort Belvoir Chaplain's fund for Thanksgiving Day food baskets.

LFSC conducted a clean up of our Adopted highway (Route 7100 between Route 1 and I-95) as part of the Virginia Adopt-a-Highway program. Eleven volunteers picked up 19 bags of trash in about two hours time. .

Finishing out the year the LFSC participated in the Adopt-a-Family programs sponsored by both the Fort Belvoir and the Fort Myer Army community Services, by adopting one large family in each community for the holiday season. In addition to the many donated presents for both families from our chapter members, the chapter donated \$400 which was added to the cash donations to purchase gift certificates from the commissary and the AAFES PX for the families.

The new year started with a bang in Jan, LFSC volunteers joined United Service Organization, Inc at their warehouse on Jackson Loop, Fort Belvoir to stuff care packages with phone calling cards, gum, candy canes and other items in plastic bags that will be delivered to U.S. troops deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and other countries in the Middle East.

In Feb LFSC conducted a clean up of our adopted stretch of highway (Route 7100 between Route 1 and I-95) on Saturday, 19 Feb. The eight volunteers for this event picked up 23 bags of trash in about 2 and ½ hours of time.

On Saturday, 16 Apr 05, we conducted another clean up of our adopted stretch of highway (Route 7100 between Route 1 and I-95). Only five volunteers showed up, but 26 bags of trash were collected in about three hours of work.

On Saturday, 30 April, the chapter participated in the annual Christmas in April / Rebuilding Together Alexandria program. Despite a rainy day, Rick Ford, the lead POC on this project, with able assistance of Tom Cronin and Willie Brown, led the xxx volunteers in repairs of a

house in Alexandria. The chapter also donated \$250 to the Rebuilding Together Alexandria program.

On 4 June 2005, from 0800 - 1630hrs, LFSC volunteers joined United Service Organization, Inc at their warehouse on Jackson Loop, Fort Belvoir to stuff care packages with phone calling cards, gum, candy canes and other items in plastic bags that will be delivered to U.S. troops deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and other countries in the Middle East.

On Saturday, 16 July the Lord Fairfax Silver Chapter conducted another Adopt-A-Highway cleanup of our adopted stretch of the Fairfax County Parkway – East. The eight volunteers picked up 17 bags of trash in only 2 hours of hot, sweaty work.

Then on Friday, 22 July our chapter participated in the annual Casino Night at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, DC. A donation of \$300 was made by the chapter to door prizes for the residents of the AFRH participating in this Casino Night event.

Finally, on Saturday, 30 July, we conducted a car wash fund raiser at the Fort Belvoir South Post Shoppette, beginning at 0900 hours and ending about 1300 hours. There were eleven volunteers for this car wash that generated some much needed funds for our treasury

Ocean State: Chapter Membership 16

Chapter President CW5 George Wilkins

Most members still deployed, but they are starting to return, we have a meeting scheduled for 29 September 2005, and hope to have a good turn out.

Presently we are providing family assistance helping deployed family member, transportation, emergency repairs home / auto, and general help.

We plan on holding a professional development day on 5 November

Although the following Chapters were not very active due to the optempo it does not mean they are not actively supporting the Association:

Capital Guardians (Org): Chapter President

* *Professionalism* * *Representation* * *Recognition* *

Hampton Roads: 71 Chapter President CW5 George Gonsalves
Iron City: Chapter 21 President CW4 Tom Cannon
Monticello: 21 Chapter President CW3 Janes Bertotti
Niagara Frontier: Inactivated 1 July 2004
Statue of liberty: 61 Chapter President CW2 David Perez
Thousand Island: 33 Chapter President CW4 Harry Moore
Uncle Sam: 34 Chapter President CW3 Chuck Rodda

Regional Goals:

Our primary goal is always increasing our membership. My number one goal is getting our “active” Chapters active again. What a great day it will be when I can host a COP and have all of the Chapters represented. It only takes a little preplanning to make these meetings happen, but the wealth of knowledge that is shared is priceless! I have committed myself once again to visit every Chapter in the Region.

We look forward to serving another year, growing, learning, and discovering new ways to support the Associations goals and plans. It has been an honor for me to serve as your Director and I look forward to seeing you in the field!

In closing, the Northeast Region remains in great shape thanks to the hard work and dedication of those professional officers who amaze me on a daily basis. I want to say what an Honor and Privilege to work for each and everyone of you.

May God Bless you in all you do.

To The Corps!

CW4(Ret) Kenneth B.N. “Pete” Hill