

Mr. President, Board of Directors and Members: It is a pleasure to address you here today.

I have had the honor of being your National Vice President and as you know I must step down this month after four years in the position (and ten years on the Executive Council) but as I reluctantly leave this post I would like to report to you that your association has grown by over one thousand members since I took over. This was all accomplished in a time frame where we were a nation at war and had countless other natural and man made disasters occur to our great nation.

After a many years and a long series of unbelievably talented officers as our executive directors (ED) we have found ourselves without someone to take the day to day controls of our business affairs. Our President Roy Valiant (as his name last suggests) has done a "valiant job" keeping your association relevant to our members. Mr. Don Hess is back again and performing the duties as the Executive Director for many months and will not except our pay. Therefore, I ask everyone to share your gratitude to him for his countless months of dedicated volunteer time that he (and Pauline) has spent working for the USAWOA in our home office. His contributions and outstanding results have been remarkable. The most publically obvious one is of course the "COLOR NEWSLINER" that you are all receiving. With the obviously vacant head position, your BOD asks for you all to nominate trustworthy individuals that may make a good Executive Director for the Association.

We are very blessed to have Mr Herb Rundgren as our office and member services manager and Ms Terri Casteel as our Bookkeeper. Mr. Dave Welsh has received numerous awards for his efforts as our webmaster. Since his involvement with our web site, it has moved a light speed. His work has truly rivaled the NEWLINER as a best source of information to the USA Warrant Officer and our association. He has done such a great job in fact we have begun to be concerned that he (single handedly) may provide a greater good on-line than we can inside our association. The significant strides made by the two major spin off organizational structure in both the heritage foundation headed by Dave Welsh and the scholarship foundation headed by Bob Scott have been no less remarkable. Bob is really found a great source of income for the Scholarship Foundation through Combined Federal Campaign. I would like to all to join me in donating to the CFC and the USAWOA Scholarship Foundation. While I am on that subject I would to ask for your support for the Heritage Foundation as that group is generating funds for our place in history at the Army Museum coming swoon to Fort Belvoir.

I have had the privilege of attending several of the Army SWOAC (Senior Warrant Officers Advisory Council) meetings and though them I have been able to develop an agreement with them and there Chairman that we will be working hand in hand on all issues as they relate to our Corps. This was accomplished by drawing a line of communications back to something similar to what USAWOA and HRC's Warrant Officers Division used to be like. You will hear more about that later this week at the PD day.

Our relationship with The Military Coalition (TMC) continues to grow better, stronger and closer as we work toward our common good together. I have represented USAWOA at several TMC meetings and let me assure you that the name Don Hess is a legend in their halls. As most of you know that where we can, we try to develop organizational offences with issues for our members that are common concerns across the DOD and HQDA spectrum. If any of you would like to awesome experience of attending one of these meetings let me of Don know and we can make sure you get an invitation. You will get to meet the people that you have only been able to read about in the Army Times before.

Another effort that we have initiated which recently completed the first year in its test program is described as the Joint Membership Program. Where our members may at a reduced price can be a member of more than one military organization. To help promote our relationships with AAAA, Bob Scott and I attendee their annual conference on your behalf to support this new program. Executive leaders of several other military associations' such as AUSA, AAAA, NGAUS and MOAA have received this very favorably. This topic is still open and I will report to you as significant events occur. Just know that we have recruited 115 new members to both organizations directly from this program.

The print "The Quite Professional" is sold out and those lucky owners can now get ~\$3000.00 for their \$150 investment if they were interested in selling theirs. Don Stivers has graced us with a second print that is selling at about the same rate as the original. The "Let Go!" print will need to be replaced soon as profit grabbers buying it up and this print will most likely be gone by the time we meet again in the Salt Lake City, Utah area next year. We have begun initial discussions on our third print in the USAWOA series. The thoughts at this point are to show the bond between the Warrant Officer and Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) Corps. If anyone of our members what want to be able to say that they had a hand in how it was designed, please think about how it might be laid out and presented to Mr. Strivers again for the next print in our series.

And to the soldiers that have been protecting us all, in the global war on terrorism in the Middle East. I have attended too many Purple Heart Award ceremonies and funerals at Arlington Cemetery over the past few years.

I want to thank all of those that have taken the time to write articles for the NEWSLINER this past year. It is through their insight and vision of you that I learn better how to serve our Corps!

I would be very remiss if I did not thank the Northeast Region & Chapters under the direction of Regional Director CW4 (Ret) Pete Hill for hosting this years AMM. Aberdeen is located on the beautiful and historic Chesapeake Bay. We are blessed to be in an area that offers just about everything a visitor would want to see from the old town of Havre de Grace to the Inner Harbor of Baltimore. There are countless things to do here and I encourage you all to get out and see what there is to see. This place is nothing short of wonderful. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
CW5 Gary Nisker  
**For the Corps!**