



*United States Army*  
**Warrant Officers Association**



Northeast Region Annual Report  
2010 Annual Meeting of the Members  
Huntsville, Alabama

## State of the Region

USAWOA Northeast Region

October 2010

Mr. President, Vice President, and assembled members, it is indeed a pleasure for me to be with you at the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Members here in Huntsville, Alabama.

The Northeast Region continues to be the second largest Region within the Association, with about 23% of the total membership. It is made up of 15 chapters, one of which, a Sub-Chapter in Kabal, Afghanistan, the Phoenix Chapter, sponsored by the Arlington Hall Minuteman Chapter. The Northeast Region covers the following states: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, and W. Virginia. I had the opportunity to visit some Chapters during their regular meetings this past year, but not as many as I would have liked to. Many chapters have been very busy supporting their communities and donating money. However, some chapters are in a dormant stage due to deployments, PCSing, and simply warrant officers not getting involved in Chapter business. I did have the bitter sweet pleasure of attending the last Ordnance Warrant Officer Graduation at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. WOBC Class 007-10, with 11 students and WOAC Class 006-10, with 12 students received their Graduation Certificates during a morning ceremony at the Top of the Bay, on 27 July, marking the last time an Ordnance Warrant Officer will train and graduate from APG. From now on, all training and graduations for Ordnance Warrant Officers will be performed at Fort Lee, VA. It was a very nice ceremony. The guest speaker was CW5 Bernard Satterfield, the 7th Ordnance Corps Regimental Warrant Officer.

I would like to give you a brief update on the individual Chapter activities.

**0601: Hampton Roads Chapter:** George Gonsalves: 60/13= 73 members

No report at this time, however, the Hampton Roads Chapter has increased its membership by 3 members since last year.

**0602: Ft. Meade:** Vacant 37/44= 81 members

No report at this time, however, the Fort Meade Chapter has increased its membership by 1 member since last year.

**0603: Crater Chapter:** Pamela Null: 111/22= 133 members

The Crater Chapter, Fort Lee, VA has had another very busy and productive year. The Chapter continues its support to both Fort Lee and the local surrounding community. The Chapter presented the Garrison Commander with a check for \$500.00 to be given to Fort Lee Army Community Services (ACS) for the Thanksgiving Basket Program. This program provides financially challenged soldiers a means to provide a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner for their families. In December 2009 the chapter held the first annual Holiday Semi Formal Event. The membership voted to hold this event in lieu of an annual picnic. The occasion took place at the Holiday Inn, Colonial Heights, VA. It was a huge success with approximately 100 members and guests, in attendance. Due to its popularity, the membership voted to continue it again in 2011 at the same place. During the Christmas Season the Crater Chapter participated in the Santa's Helper Program wrapping gifts. The Holiday Helper House invites selected families to pick out toys and stocking stuffers that can be placed under the Christmas tree. Funded and stocked by the community's generous donations, this program is truly a reflection of the community's goodwill. The Crater Chapter is honored and privileged to be a part of this program. Once a year, the Crater Chapter partners with Rebuilding Together Petersburg. This organization brings volunteers and the community together to improve the homes and lives of low-income homeowners. In the spring of 2010 Members of the Crater Chapter assisted with the remodeling and installation of handicapped accessories of a bathroom for a handicapped widow of a Navy retiree. There was an abundance of volunteers and limited workspace so several members spent time on local area beatification efforts. Over the past eight years, the crater chapter has assisted with the improvement of nine houses in the local area. Owners of these houses include a retired WWII veteran who was a Red Ball

Express driver as well as a retired Viet Nam and Korean War veteran. The chapter also assists Tri-Cities Habitat for Humanity, based in Petersburg, on an annual basis. On 4 February 2010 CW4 Pamela (Hancock) Null was elected as president of the chapter and CW4 Andrew Russell vice president. The new officers were sworn in by BG Jesse R. Cross, the 50<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster General at the March 2010 Meeting. The Crater Chapter has a thriving Scholarship Program for dependents of its membership and others in the local community. This year's recipients were Walker C. Jones and Danielle Burton. They were each presented with a \$1000 scholarship in August 2010. The main source of funding for these scholarships comes from operating a concession stand at the local NASCAR Races in Richmond. Twice a year they operate a concession stand at the Richmond International Raceway (RIR) during the NASCAR races. There is a spring race in early May and another much more important race in September. There is the Nationwide Race on Friday night and the Sprint Cup Race on Saturday night, known as the Race for the Chase under the lights. The Crater Chapter gets a percentage of the profit from the stand that it operates. Great job!

**0604: Lord Fairfax “Silver” Chapter:** Meisha Atkinson: 178/80= 258 members

No report at this time.

**605: Aberdeen-Edgewood “Silver” Chapter:** Roy Valiant: 58/11= 69 members

The Aberdeen-Edgewood Silver Chapter holds its meetings at the HUT, in building 2041, on APG, Maryland. The Chapter's footprint is about a 150 mile in circumference from the installation with membership consisting of Active duty, Guard, Reserve and Retired Warrant Officers that represent many branches, but primarily ordnance. Their meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 1130 for lunch and 1200 for the meeting. Over the last year they have supported numerous community activities and organizations. Their contributions for the year totaled approximately \$1,750 to organizations such as Wounded Warrior Project, Chaplains Offerings and Tithes Fund, the Perry Point Veterans Hospital and others. The Chapter had two HUT clean-up days as well as renovating the restrooms. The Chapter continued with its annual Pig Roast this year, but due to the Ordnance Center and School moving to

Ft. Lee, they will no longer sponsor the pig roast for OSWOAM week. However, they will continue with the Pig Roast as an annual Chapter picnic for its members and their families. So if you are in the neighborhood, you're welcome to stop by and enjoy good food and good friends. Due to BRAC and other issues the Chapter decided to share its building with the Military and Civilian Spouses Club. As of right now, they are currently spared of any BRAC projects. The Chapter has many memorabilia items for sale which can be found on their website. Go to [www.apgwoa.org](http://www.apgwoa.org) and check it out. The webmaster, Ron Cingle, has done an outstanding job in getting the website updated, maintained and easy to use. Visit their website to view the current events of the Aberdeen-Edgewood Silver Chapter. Nice job with the website Ron!

**0606: Ft. Dix, Doughboy Chapter: Albert Curving: 108/7= 115 members**

The Fort Dix Doughboy Chapter has increased its membership by 19 members since last year. In November 2009, the Chapter held an Election Meeting for the period of 2010-2011, with the following results: President – CW5 (R) Albert G. Curving (2<sup>nd</sup> full 2-year term), Vice President – CW2 Nancy E. Rowbotham (2<sup>nd</sup> term), Secretary – CW2 Patrick R. Stroud (1<sup>st</sup> term) and Treasurer – CW2 (R) Joseph T. Sobczak (2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive term). During the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly meeting in January, the Chapter held an induction ceremony for the recently elected officials. Brigadier General James J. Grant (NJNG Joint Chief of Staff) and Colonial Steven Ferrari (NJNG CoS Army) participated in the swearing in and joined the Association as Associate Members. The President and Vice President made a USAWOA recruiting pitch at the NJNG Joint Force HQ Officer Association meeting on invitation from BG Grant. On April 6<sup>th</sup> past Chapter President CW5 (R) Richard Monus passed into life eternal. Chapter members provided a presence at his funeral services, and a \$150 donation to Saint Coleman Children's Home in New York in his honor. A \$250 donation from the Chapter was presented to CW4 (R) Harry McCurdy, Director for the Heritage Foundation. The President attended a Memorial Funeral Service for Colonial John McHugh, killed in Afghanistan, and established contact with his son CW2 Michael J. McHugh of Fort Rucker on behalf of the Doughboy Chapter. Also in June, the Doughboy Chapter awarded two \$300 scholarships to Preston Smith (Rutgers) and Devon Garner (Rowan) from Pemberton High School. The criterion was that the

students must be from local military families, and a short essay was requested of what their ‘family members’ service meant to them. The President made a USAWOA Recruiting Presentation at a NJARNG-WOPDD in June that resulted in 6 on-the-spot membership applications. It is encouraging to see increased attendance at meetings, and a general willingness to participate in various committees and activities, especially among younger members still in uniform. Membership applications were especially brisk this year owing to: Vice President CW2 Nancy Rowbotham’s leadership as our Membership Chair; the addition of NJNG TAG, the Joint Chief, and the Cos Army as Associate Members; and CCWO-NJ’s invitation to speak at the WOPDD. Great job!

**0607: Thousands Islands Chapter:** Julio Hall: 56/24= 80 members.

The Chapter participated in the annual Mountain Fest and ran a food stand raising approximately \$1,625.00. They have donated annually to the Food Pantry and Jefferson County Children’s Home.

**0608: Ocean State Chapter:** Gerald Sciamacco 32/6 = 38 members  
No report at this time.

**0609: Arlington Hall Minuteman:** Vickie Elias: 85/17 = 102 members

The Arlington Hall Minuteman Chapter has increased its membership by 44 members since last year. In November of 2009 donated four Thanksgiving gift baskets to military families in need and participated in a fundraiser "Amelia's Night" to raise money for a toddler with serious medical issues. The Chapter finalized and dedicated the "Eagle Rising Room" a conference room dedicated to Warrant Officers. They made a large donation of \$3500 to the Enlisted Association to help military families in need during Christmas. They also donated \$400 to Toys for Tots. In December of 2009 they hosted their first Annual WOA Christmas Party. The Chapter participated in the Komen Global Race for the Cure; the team was called "Walking Warrants". This sounds appropriate for the event. In June they hosted the Annual Golf Tournament and raised \$4700 for the Chapter. In July and August they donated \$400 in support of the Enlisted Picnic and \$250 to Army 10-Miler “HOOAH” Tent. They have conducted quarterly socials and arranged Warrant Officer Professional Development briefings in March for “Adopt a Soldier” and August “Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve” (ESGR). Great job!

**0611: Keystone Chapter:** Daun Arsenberger: 91/34 = 125 members

The Keystone Chapter meets on a quarterly basis, once this year at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA., and once at the Commissioned Officer's Mess, Naval Inventory Supply Point Mechanicsburg, PA. The chapter membership is comprised mostly of: National Guard, Army Reserve and retired Warrant Officers, spread out over 75 percent of the State of Pennsylvania. Chapter members prepared and served a charity dinner for adults and children at the Ronald McDonald house in Hershey, Pa. This was very well received by the staff and the Ronald McDonald house along with the parents of the children who were in Hershey medical center. The Chapter continues to collect items and send Care Packages to deployed Soldiers. The Chapter made its yearly contribution of \$300 for a Holiday Tea at Christmas time for senior citizens at the Army War College Carlisle Barracks, PA. Great job!

**0613: First State Chapter: John Dill:** 66/8 = 74 members

The First State Chapter continues to grow in strength with 74 members, an increase of 19 members from last year. They are actively recruiting new members, with the emphasis of attracting the army reserve population in the state of Delaware. This chapter is active in the community assisting various organizations. The Home of the Brave, a Veteran's home for the Homeless is one of these organizations where the Chapter has agreed to buy \$ 400.00 Gift Cards for Christmas this year. A donation was made to Unity Day for the Delaware National Guard. Their largest event is their Annual Golf Tournament, where they raise money to support Community Service Project for Our Veterans, such as Irv Bovis a WW2, Korean and Vietnam Veteran whose house they painted as one of their community projects for 2010 and 4 (\$250.00) Scholarships awarded to the University of Delaware for ROTC Cadets. They are involved with the State Legislator's to work on issues regarding benefits to their members and other State Associations. The chapter is included in the Delaware National Guard Senior Leaders Call; it is during these events the members distribute information about the USAWOA.

Donations for the year were:

\$250.00 to the Delaware Military Heritage and Education Association

\$250.00 to the USAWOA Scholarship Foundation

\$500.00 in Gift cards for Calling Cards for Deployed Soldiers

\$100.00 Unity Day Delaware National Guard

\$250.00 Warrant Officer Heritage Foundation

They're also active with attending, by invitation, the (Delaware) State Veterans Affairs meetings, held every month. They're invited (by the Governors' office and or by the state office of Veterans Affairs) to attend numerous state dedication and memorial services throughout the state, which they do attend by the way. Great job!

**0615: New England Chapter:** Patrick Nelligan 69/29 = 98 members

The chapter suffered with the President and the Vice President deploying and the Secretary PCSing to Arizona this past year. However, Pat Nelligan is back and plans on connecting with the membership and holding a function after the AMM. Pat will be able to make things happen now that he is back.

**0618: Monticello Chapter:** James Betotti: 11/1= 12 members

No report at this time.

**0619: Uncle Sam Chapter:** Paula Martinez: 100/17 = 117 members

The Uncle Sam Chapter has increased its membership by 79 members since last year. The Chapter donated \$500.00 to the Wounded Warrior Project, \$100.00 to the Gold Star Mothers and \$100.00 to the NYARNG for distribution to needy soldiers for Christmas through the NYARNG Family Support Center. Chapter members continue to volunteer at the Gerald Solomon Veterans Cemetery, the American Legion Posts in the area, the Saratoga Springs Senior Citizens Center, hospitals in the area and the Retired Services Office at the Watervliet Arsenal. The Chapter has put in over 300 volunteer hours so far this year. Great job!

**0620: Capitol Guardians:** 2/0 = 2 members

No report at this time. Trying to get established

**0699: Camp Phoenix Sub-Chapter, Afghanistan:** Kent Samson: 16/2 = 18 members

The Camp Phoenix Sub-Chapter has increased its membership by 6 members since last year.

Total Membership: 1395, down from 1402 last year (- 7)

## **Northeast Region Goals:**

**1. Support the Warrant Officer Association.** What I mean by this is “SELL” it in everything you do, your actions and behavior, how you communicate to others and how you present yourselves as Warrant Officers. This alone will pay dividends, because you know, Chief is always being watched. Market the association to increase membership.

**2. Support the Heritage Foundation.** This Foundation is about keeping the history of the Warrant Officer Corps alive.

**3. Support the Scholarship Foundation.** This Foundation focuses on providing scholarships to qualified members and family members of warrant officers serving in or retired from the United States Army, the Army Reserve and the National Guard.

**4. Support the Wounded Warrior Project.** The mission of the Wounded Warrior Project is to honor and empower wounded warriors. To raise awareness and enlist the public’s aid for the needs of severely injured service men and women.

I believe these two foundations and the wounded warrior project are important to our organization and the Corps and we should do everything that we are financially able to do in order to support them. It’s all about taking care of our own.

Now, I mentioned “Market the association to increase membership”. But, you may be asked, “Why should I join”? It’s a valid question. Maybe you could answer it this way; “Because you are a member of the Warrant Officer Corps, a proud organization that fosters a spirit of patriotism and devotion to duty, that recommends programs for the improvement of the Army in coordination with The Military Coalition (TMC), disseminates professional information, promotes the technical and social welfare of its’ members and promotes the spirit of comradeship.” Just look at the goodwill and community service our chapters get involved with. And if someone says “What does it do for me” maybe you could say “The USAWOA was the first to negotiate

with the Army regarding inequality with Aircrew Incentive Pay (ACIP)/"Flight Pay", the Association worked with The Military Coalition to get CW5 rank approved and the recent commissioning of WO1's, they pushed for higher pay raises and continue to improve warrant officer pay compensation by recommending targeted pay raises, which relieved warrant officer pay compression". Now hopefully that will be good enough and if not maybe that individual doesn't need to join our Association.

To The Corps!

CW4 (Ret) Gregory A. Gouty