



U. S. Army Warrant Officers Association

USAWOA ONLINE

Annual Meeting of Members 2006

34th ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

Hilton St. Petersburg
333 1st Street South
St Petersburg, Florida 33701

October 16 - 20, 2006

Army Chief of Staff message to the USAWOA AMM - see [CSA Flag Note](#).

The following reports were presented at the AMM. All are Portable Document Files.

National Officer Reports:

[National President](#)
[National Vice President](#)
[President European Region](#)
[Director Mid-North Region](#)
[Director Mid-South Region](#)
[Director Northeast Region](#)
[Director Southeast Region](#)
[Director Western Region](#)
[Asst. Vice President National Guard Affairs](#)
[Asst. Vice President Reserve Affairs](#)
[Asst. Vice President Veterans Affairs](#)
[Legislative Advisor's Report](#)
[Webmaster's Report](#)

Foundation updates:

[USAWOA Scholarship Foundation](#)
[Warrant Officers Heritage Foundation](#)

Focus Groups and their reports:

Focus Group Report #1 – Finance Warrant Officer

FOCUS GROUP LEADER – CW4(R) Harry Wilson –

MEMBERS – CW5 David Koch, CW5 Charlie Parker, CW4Randy Niedt, CW4(R) Gregory Gouty, CW4(R) William Whealy, CW3 John Dill, CW2 Mike Ciampa, CW2 Thomas White

ISSUE – Many personnel warrant officers in the Reserve Components act as finance officers at various levels.

DISCUSSION – Many of these serving warrant officers have had identical training and duties and responsibilities of their Finance Corps Officer counterparts (LT's, CPT's, MAJ's). The personnel warrant officers that are assigned these duties are not performing their personnel duties of which other personnel warrant officers will have to. It appears that the bill payer has been established. There have been recent advances in software programs that will eventually enhance the service provided by the personnel and finance branches. Two systems that are currently being tested are:

1. The Defense Integrated Military Human Resource System (DIMHRS)
2. General Funds Enterprise Business System (GFEBS)

These two systems are due to be fielded to all military departments within DoD to include all Guard and Reserve components. Fielding is scheduled for later in FY07. The software components of these two systems will enable trained individuals to take care of both personnel and finance transactions thereby eliminating the need for a Finance Warrant Officer and easing the shortages currently experienced in the Active Duty Finance Corps.

RECOMMENDATION – The recommendation of this focus group is to table this issue until the 2007 AMM in San Antonio based on the fielding of these two systems. USAWOA Headquarters will monitor the progress of these two systems to verify the need to surface the Finance Warrant Officer issue in the future.

Focus Group Report #2 – Deployed Chapters

FOCUS GROUP LEADER – CW4 CANDIS MARTIN –

MEMBERS – CW5 Billy Ray Robinson, CW5 Philip Tackett, CW5(R) Ed Stephenson, CW4 Don Brown, CW4 Ron Lafferty, CW4(R) Bill Buss, CW3(R) Charles Schue

ISSUE – USAWOA currently has no provisions in their bylaws for recognizing or formally supporting deployed chapters.

DISCUSSION – Army policies regarding private organizations in deployed areas do not allow formal recognition or organization of private

organizations in those deployed areas. USAWOA bylaws and manuals do not allow for granting charters to stand-alone deployed chapters or recognize "ad hoc" chapters in deployed areas. USAWOA does support the home station chapter of deployed units in the name of that home station chapter. USAWOA has supported deployed warrant officers with extra copies of NEWSLINERS as well as other assistance regarding USAWOA operations and information. Deployed chapters in most instances would not be able to fulfill the requirements of a chapter as outlined in the USAWOA bylaws and manuals. Many deployed warrant officers have come together and held gatherings in the name of USAWOA with varying degrees of success. Most deployed warrant officers would welcome the idea of gatherings/meetings for professional development and social purposes.

RECOMMENDATION – National form a committee to research the means USAWOA can represent deployed Warrant Officers through an informal or formal relationship to the Association."

Focus Group Report #3 – Active Component Command Chief Warrant Officers

FOCUS GROUP LEADER – CW5 ANTHONY ROTTI –

MEMBERS – CW5 Daun Arsenberger, CW5 Joseph Diaz, CW5Michael Gillis, CW5 Sal Green, CW5 Paul Merchant, CW4(P) Barbara Carpenter, CW3 Stephanie Adams

ISSUE – Should USAWOA support Active Component Command Chief Warrant Officers (CCWOs)?DISCUSSION – CCWOs are currently integrated into the National Guard and Reserve components with successful programs to enhance warrant officer development and issues. Each CCWO is an advisor to their commander and a mentor to their junior warrant officers. One area in which the active component needs improvement is in structured programs for mentorship and working warrant officer issues within their commands.

RECOMMENDATION – USAWOA support Active Component CCWOs. CCWO positions should be at the 2-Star level command and higher and keep the current Senior Warrant Officer Advisors to the CSA and VCSA. USAWOA Headquarters appoint a committee to draft a proposal to the Chapters for input NLT 1 March 2007. USAWOA present proposal NLT 30 Jun 07.

Focus Group Report #4 – Electronic Voting

FOCUS GROUP LEADER – CW4(R) PETE HILL –

MEMBERS - CW5 Robert Arms, CW4 Francis Pablo, CW4Gabino Seda, CW4(R) Percy Butler, CW4(R) Robert Voges,CW2 Patrick Morris

ISSUE – USAWOA has no procedures to distribute or collect proxies or ballots electronically.

DISCUSSION – USAWOA bylaws require proxies and ballots to be mailed to each member and returned by mail to the committee handling proxies/ballots for that year's meeting. Many of the members are in deployed areas that require extended lead time in order for them to receive and send anything by mail. USAWOA currently does routine business by electronic means in regards to membership updates, new member applications, and renewal applications. To ensure timely distribution and collection of proxies and ballots electronic procedures is a way to make that happen. This will allow for quicker return of proxies and ballots to ensure quorums are met to conduct business at our annual meetings.

RECOMMENDATION – USAWOA change bylaws and other manuals to allow for electronic distribution and collection of proxies and ballots.

National Election Results Announced:

- National President - CW4 (Ret) Roy A. Valiant
- National Vice President - CW5 Gary Nisker
- National Secretary - CW3 James W. Williams
- Northeast Region Director - CW4 (Ret) Kenneth "Pete" Hill
- Southeast Region Director - CW3 (Ret) Eugene "Gene" Perrino
- Mid-South Region Director - Candis "Candy" Martin
- Mid-North Region Director - CW5 Philip "Phil" Tackett
- Western Region Director - CW4 (Ret) Harry Wilson

Annual Awards presented:

Albert Holcombe Memorial Warrant Officer of the Year - [see picture & story](#) top of page.

CW4 (Ret) Gregory A. Gouty, President, Aberdeen/Edgewood Chapter, Northeast Region

Virginia Holcombe Memorial Warrant Officer Spouse of the Year -

Valerie Valiant, wife of National president CW4 (Ret) Roy Valiant - [see picture & story](#) bottom of page.

Don Hess Presidents Award -

CW5 Franklin D. Meeks, USAWOA Immediate Past President

CW5 John W. Chizmar. President Morning Calm Chapter, Western Region

Best Website – Fort Hood Silver Chapter

Highest Recruiting Award – First State Chapter

Best Recruiting Award – First State Chapter

Best Retention Award – Big Sky Chapter

Overall Best Chapter for Recruiting and Retention – Rheinland-Phalz Silver Chapter

Overall Best Region for Recruiting and Retention – Northeast Region

Community Affairs Award for Services – Fort Bragg Silver Chapter

Community Affairs Award for Donations – Arlington Hall Minuteman Chapter

Community Affairs Award for Sustaining Programs – Fort Lowell-Apache Chapter

Best Professional Development Program Award – Arizona Silver Chapter