



United States Army

## **Warrant Officers Association**

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### **2005 Annual Meeting of the Members Report By CW4(R) Roy A. Valiant, President**

First, I would like to begin by thanking everyone for taking time out of your busy schedule to attend this year's Annual Meeting of the Members (AMM) here in Tucson. Like the Army, USAWOA is a professionally rewarding and personally enriching environment in which people take pride in being part of the only non-profit organization for Army Warrant Officers. We have a great program planned for you this week.

Second, it has indeed been an honor for me to serve this past year as your Association President. As all of you know, it takes the collective efforts of all of us for this Association to work and grow, and I appreciate all of your support this past year.

**Where have we been?** This last year has been a year in turmoil for the Association headquarters. We have not had a dedicated Executive Director throughout this past year. Bob Scott has done a yeoman's job in filling in as the volunteer Executive Director until a few months ago. The Association leadership has tried to continue the operations as best we could without that fulltime help. Hopefully you in the field, due to the expertise of Herb and Terri, have not seen a degradation of services to the membership. I am confident that we will find a new Executive Director. Ray Bell continues to attend the TMC meetings as our representative.

**Where are we headed?** One of the toughest tasks that your Association leadership has had to deal with is the selection of an individual to fill in as the Executive Director/Legislative Liaison (whatever you may call that person). We continually grapple with this issue in hopes to find the right person to fill the job. We have restructured the job requirements in order to make it more lucrative for the right person. I am hopeful that we will find that person soon. Regardless of the office staffing, we will continue to service you, the member, in order to ensure your membership dues are worth the ride.

**Goals and Objectives:** Your Association's Goals and Objectives are outlined in our manuals and are found in the Strategic Goals and Plans publications. One area that will be a focus in this next year is the Warrant Officer Pay!! I pledge to you that I will do what I can to ensure that this will become a reality. By virtue of me saying this will happen as a result of my efforts will not necessarily make it so. When we need the voice on the hill, I count on you to make your/our voice heard. I am confident that the targeted pay raise will happen for the Warrant Officer Corps!!

**Did we sell you out??:** Some Warrant Officers in all categories (RET, AD, NG, RES) feel that the USAWOA has not looked after their interests when it comes to the Eagle Rising, branch insignias, pay, and Warrant Officer quality of life issues. I assure you that we continually express the desires of our membership and the Warrant Officer Corps when dealing with those issues that affect our Corps. One of the issues that we continue to deal with is the size of the organization that we voice our opinion about. We are currently just under 5000 members that we "represent" although we truly represent the entire Warrant Officer Corps. We need your efforts to ensure increased numbers to validate and lend credibility to the membership we represent. Your Vice-President, CW5 Gary Nisker continually looks for ways to increase membership and I fully support his current efforts for increasing our membership.

**USAWOA plans additional annual fundraisers** – As you will see on the CD that is provided to you, our budget is in the toilet. Having said that, allot of the expenses that are annotated are just accounting entries that do not depict actual out-of-pocket expenses. Our biggest revenue source is our dues. This income continues because of your efforts to recruit and renew members. Unfortunately this may not be enough in the future. We send out annual fund raiser raffle tickets and hope for the best, which has helped immensely and I thank you. An alternative to this, or I should say an addition to this, would be an additional fundraiser. We are currently looking at a number of ideas of which an annual golf tournament is one area that we are looking at. We are looking at a stand alone event that is not

associated with the AMM to supplement our income. As always, your comments are welcome to make any fundraiser successful.

I see our top priorities for the next year as to increase our activity on Capitol Hill to ensure the targeted pay raise for the Warrant Officer Corps is approved and second to solidify our Association by continuing to increase the involvement of all Warrant Officers within our ranks to join us in the collective goals to further the Warrant Officer Corps and the USAWOA. Although we have many issues to work through, as you will see this week, we must continue with the most important (biggest bang for our buck) issues first and sometimes other issues will not get the time that they deserve. We must spend our “silver bullet” wisely.

The work you do this week will assist your Association leadership in guiding the direction of the USAWOA’s future. Overall, I think our Association is healthy, could be healthier, and I am optimistic about our future. With your support and the support of our total membership, we can only get better and improve our Association and the Warrant Officer Corps.

As always, I would not be here if it wasn’t for your continued support of the USAWOA and the Warrant Officer Corps. **I thank you!**

**FOR THE CORPS!**

**ROY A. VALIANT  
CW4(R), USA  
National President**