

WESTERN REGION

State of the Region – October 2005

Good morning everyone and welcome to Tucson Arizona the home of the Western Region. It was in 1972 that our very first chapter started at Fort Huachuca which is about 75 miles south from where I am standing. I am very pleased that the current president of that chapter – the Arizona Silver Chapter – is with us today CW4 Bill Whealy.

THE TEAM

DIRECTOR: CW4R Harry C Wilson JR

Deputy Director: CW3R Joe Gill

Web Designer: Mrs. Mary Ziegert

- From the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean.
- Across the Pacific Through out the Pacific Rim.
- From Canada to Mexico. **We are the (Wild) Western Region.**

First of all, let us join the rest of America in Saluting our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, the Cost Guard and the Marines for the outstanding job they are doing winning the battle against terrorism. (Clap)

The OPTEMPO for the operations in Afghanistan and Iraq plus the support of Katrina and Rita has caused major Challenges to all of our chapters World Wide.

As a result many chapters have:

- Died
- Not been able to Charter
- Gone into receivership
- Continued as Usual (most of these have Retired Warrants in some of the Chapter Officer position)
- Gone to War as a whole. Some have taken their Chapters with them, like the Gold Rush Chapter. The Chapter President (CW2 Mario Garcia) is trying to form a Gold Rush Forward chapter in Iraq.
- Have been inundated with:
 - AIT Students
 - Mobilized WO's

REGION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Re-Established the Deputy Director position (CW3R Joe Gill)
- Re-Activated and Re-designed Region Web Site
 - <http://usawoa-westernregion.org/index.html>
- Put the Wild West Review back in Electronic Circulation

- Two-Way Communications being re-Established

One of the best ways to have your chapter keep you informed is to stay in constant communications with them. This is a typical E-Mail from a Chapter President, (Big Sky Chapter) Helena, MT. (From Iraq)

From: [Joseph W. Yuricic](#)

Date: 09/14/05 04:09:29

To: 'Harry Wilson'

Subject: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Harry

All is going very well. We have more than enough work to go around. Personally, I am the Food Service Officer for 4,000 garrison personnel and 1,100 field soldiers. It definitely keeps me busy. I am on FOB Warrior which is in Kirkuk. Now that the 120 degree heat has passed, 100 degrees is comfortable. I have been receiving your emails and enjoy reading about what is going on. There isn't anyone at home doing anything with the chapter right now. We are just spread to thin and those that didn't deploy have far too much to do just filling in for those of us that are gone. We will have to resume chapter business next spring. Take care.

Joe

- Chapter Visitations have been re-started.
- We have also been trying to set up Joint chapter meetings.
 - This is really a tough one to pull off.
- AMM 2005 in Tucson First On-Line Reservation System
- Developed a Regional Recognition Certificate

ALL OF THE ABOVE HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED SINCE OCTOBER 2004

CHAPTER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NORCAL Chapter Manteca, CA has provided \$700.00 in support of the less fortunate in Manteca, through the "Second Chance Charity" organization that provides meals, clothing, consoling for the complete family plus "Back To School" supplies for the children each year. They annually award \$500.00 Scholarships to Freshman College Students. The NORCAL chapter donated \$250.00 to "Escalante, CA to support the troops coalition. They also donated \$250.00 to Ripon, CA to support the troops. The chapter displays 2400 American flags over Manteca, seven times each year on Patriotic Holidays- this works out to putting out and retrieving an average of 350 flags each time. (This is a very good example of keeping a chapter active with retired members while others are serving overseas and elsewhere)

Gold Rush Chapter Sacramento, CA: many of these CA ARNG members are now serving in Iraq and are organizing themselves as the Gold Rush Chapter Forward and get together as OPTEMPO permits. Many of its members are also in support of Katrina. During the Christmas Holidays they passed out gifts at their local VA Hospital to Vets. (A very busy chapter)

Arizona Silver Chapter Fort Huachuca, AZ: This chapter continues to conduct their well attended WOPD luncheons successfully mixing military and civilian speakers. Each WOBC and WOAC class takes advantage while at FT Huachuca. The use of the proceeds from their most successful Memorabilia sales program and their annual Golf tournament is used to award one or more scholarships annually to the children of chapter members. This chapter is now starting to bring it's self back on line. This is due to the current chapter President being able to spend the time that is needed as chapter President. The previous chapter President was so busy going TDY with his Army job that he did not have the time to be able to spend working as a chapter president. This was not his fault.

Southern California Chapter Los Angeles/Los Alamitos, CA This chapter has continued to have their Annual Christmas Brunch in the San Diego area. I believe the one coming up will be their 7th Annual Christmas Brunch. This Brunch always brings together Warrant Officers from out of State and Warrant Officers from all over the Southern California area. The Southern California chapter is third on the list of the Joint Forces Training Base list for setting up a booth for the Training Bases Annual 4th of July celebration. (Normally around 25,000 people attend this free 4th of July celebration. Only about Two hundred of the 25,000 attendees are military. This Chapter also gives out two \$500.00 Scholarships a year in a joint effort with the Reserve Officers Association to a Warrant Officers family member. The chapter continues to support their very beautiful Chapel Stained Glass Window project. Anyone who has ever been a member of the Southern California Chapter of the USAWOA, who passes on will have their name mounted on a plaque next to the window, which is inside of the chapel on the East side. This window can be seen as you drive into the JFTB.

Northwest Chapter at Fort Lewis was all but forgotten until CW4 Rita Vacek of the Washington National Guard and CW3 Chuck Ziegert an AGR Title 10 stationed at Ft Lewis. These two Warrant Officers stepped up to the plate and took charge after the previous chapter officers just walked away. The just recently had Chapter elections and are on the move.

Ft Lowell-Apache Chapter: Tucson, AZ is an active supporter of the Flowing Wells High School JROTC program. The chapter has established ROTC medals for the presentation to the ROTC personnel. They have the only chapter USAWOA Web Site in Arizona. They are also your Host for this Annual Meeting of the Members. I know that each of you will enjoy all that they have done in putting together this AMM.

Sunrise Chapter: (Organizing) Las Vegas, NV. Three Retired Warrant Officers represented the USAWOA at Nellis AFB Retirees Appreciation Day Open house. They are not an official chapter yet.

Morning Calm Chapter, Korea has been revitalized throughout Korea. This is due mainly to the chapter President CW5 John Chizmar. John has done an outstanding job in bringing the Morning Calm Chapter back on line and put the chapter back in

the minds of all Warrant Officers through out Korea. Some really good news is that they are recruiting and getting retired Warrants involved offsetting the challenge of the short one year hardship tours that has drastically affected this chapter.

In the works:

Sunrise Chapter (Organizing) Las Vegas, NV

Mare Island Chapter (Provisional) Vallejo, CA

Silver State (Organizing) Reno, NV

Salem OR Working

Trailblazers Chapter Fort Lawton/Seattle, WA

Working on getting it back up and running again

Western Region Goals for 2006

- Regional Director to visit each chapter by the 2006 AMM
- Five New Chapters by the 2006 AMM
- Obtain 1200 members with in the region by the 2006 AMM
- Have all current eighteen chapters up and running to standard by the 2007 AMM

I want to thank all of the Western Region members for allowing me to represent them.

I hope each of you enjoy your stay while you are in the Western Region. If we can be of any assistance please let one of us know.

Keep your computer Virus Free.

CW4 (Ret) Harry Wilson, Region Director