



United States Army
Warrant Officers Association



Northeast Region Annual Report
2006 Annual Meeting of the Members
St. Petersburg, FL

State of the Region

USAWOA Northeast Region

5 September 2006

Mr. President, Vice President, and assembled members, it is indeed a pleasure to be with you all today enjoying this beautiful weather to deliver state of the Region report.

What a trying year we have had in the great Northeast Region.

We normally conduct at least three COP's throughout the course of the year, due to the op-tempo, we were only able to hold one. It's tough getting the word out when we can't put names on faces.

We have been successful in adding new members to existing Chapters and getting the word out about our wonderful Association. But, unfortunately we have lost some Chapters and Members as well. We are still in a rebuilding phase, as I call it, but we will continue to spread the word and remain as active as possible. This past year I have had to opportunity to travel up the coast to the New England area and observe Chapter members involved in community events and have traveled down to VA to be with those members as well. Everywhere I go, I am amazed at the work that is taking place.

On a personal note, I had to opportunity to Chair the Scholarship Committee this year. What a wonderful learning experience for myself. What I truly enjoyed was reading the students theme papers on what they plan to do after college and how they will use the scholarship funds to repay their communities. I have indicated to Mr. Bob Scott of my willingness to serve again next year.

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

Begin Chapter Reports:

Crater Chapter: 0603

Chapter Membership 163

Chapter President: Verona A. Williams

No Report Rendered

Aberdeen-Edgewood Chapter: 0605

Chapter Membership 57

Chapter President: Greg Gouty

The Chapter has increased in membership from 49 as of this time last year to 55 members now. This past year, on average we have had 13 members attend our monthly meetings. This equates to 25 percent of the chapter membership.

The chapter has made the following donations:

1. \$450.00 to aid the families of victims of Hurricane Katrina.
2. \$200.00 to the HHC 61st Ordnance Brigade Family Readiness Group. This money was used to provide Thanksgiving Baskets to families of soldiers in HHC.
3. \$89.00 to Basket Bingo for the Military & Civilian Spouses Club.
4. \$175.00 to the Ordnance Corps Association for the Golf Tournament during OSAM in May.
5. \$150.00 to the 2006 USAWOA Scholarship Fund.
6. \$150.00 for Longaberger Basket donation to the Military & Civilian Spouse's Club.
7. \$250.00 to Ms. Julia Johnson for a People to People World Leadership Forum trip to London, Paris, and Brussels. A program founded by President Eisenhower in 1956.

In January I was invited to attend a Warrant Officer Professional Development, Mentoring and Recruiting Symposium hosted by the 94th RRC in Massachusetts. I was asked to talk about what makes a good chapter.

We have had three scheduled OPDs this year. One was presented by CW5 Harry Hobbs. Harry discussed topics addressed by the Warrant Officer Advisory Council. He expounded on 19 ongoing initiatives that impact and is directly related to Warrant Officers. Unfortunately MG Boles had surgery on his foot and had to cancel at the last minute. CW5 (RET) Ray Bell will be providing the third OPD in September.

April 15th we had a fantastic showing of 17 members and guests that participated in Maintenance Day at the HUT. We painted the inside of the HUT and cut and raked the grass. The place looks terrific.

The month of May was a busy month for our Chapter. The Annual Pig Roast, which has been combined with the CG's Social for the past two years now,

was a success again this year and we had the pleasure of witnessing two chapter members, CW5 (RET) Larry Van Cleve and CW4 (RET) Pete Hill, be inducted into the Ordnance Hall of Fame on 12 May.

WOAC Class 001-06 visited veterans staying at the Nursing Home Care Unit, VA Hospital in Perry Point, MD. Led by Chief Halsey, they stayed about two hours and the veterans really enjoyed the visit.

Keystone Chapter: 0611

Chapter Membership 55

Chapter President: Paul Gutekunst

The Keystone Chapter continues to meet on a quarterly basis: twice a year at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA; and a dinner meeting the other two meetings at the Commissioned Officer's Mess, Naval Inventory Supply Point, Mechanicsburg, PA. The Chapter is comprised of mostly National Guard, Army Reserve and Retired Warrant Officers. The Chapter does one large fundraiser each year: selling raffle tickets for the Big 33 Interscholastic Football Game for \$2 each and the chapter gets to keep \$1. The Chapter also sells black mock turtleneck shirts with WO emblem as memorabilia. The Chapter has made contributions to a local VFW Post to assist them in their Golf Tournament that supports wounded soldiers in our military hospitals; and our yearly contribution for a Holiday Tea for senior citizens at the Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA. For the first time this year, the chapter also sponsored the first WOC class taking its Phase Two training at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA. This training will take place yearly helping the National Guard fill its Warrant Officer shortages.

Ft. Dix-Doughboy Chapter: 0606

Chapter Membership 92

Chapter President: Sam Smith

The Chapter installed their new officers in January. This was done at the installation dinner held at club Dix. We enjoyed a successful Chapter fund raiser;

The Chapter continues it's participation in Pemberton Township High School Scholarship for military dependants from Ft. Dix/McGuire. We increased our total amount this year and our goal is to a \$500 or greater scholarship in the future.

(There was coverage and photos on this in the recent Newsliner).

We have shifted to quarterly meetings and two year terms, and we're looking forward to social events in the near future that will "rekindle" our members participation.

First State Chapter: 0613

Chapter Membership 45

Chapter President: Bill Buss

The First State Chapter has had a very good year.

An active recruiting program has doubled our membership.

We had an opportunity to host a Northeast Region COP.

Actively working with State Legislators in an effort to get Senate Bill 95 passed.

This is a bill that when passed, will eliminate state income tax on military pensions.

Proposed draft to USAWOA that reservist with over 25 years service be granted veteran status upon their retirement without having served the mandatory 180 days of active duty.

Participated in legislative day with the Delaware National Guard Association and the Command Staff of the Delaware Guard. This is an annual event honoring the Guard and the associations that support the Guard. Both houses recognize the Guard and the supporting associations. The Chapter presented Governor Minor a chapter coin in recognition of her dedicated service as the Commander in Chief of the Delaware Guard.

Finally we participated in wreath laying at Delaware Memorial for Fallen Soldiers on Memorial Day.

Arlington Hall Minuteman Chapter: 0609

Chapter Membership 56

Chapter President: Frank Pablo

No Report Rendered

New England: 0615

Chapter Membership 70

Chapter President: Pat Nelligan

In January the Chapter sponsored a joint guard, reserve and Warrant Officer recruiting forum in Fitchburg Mass. This function was well attended and had representation from Northeast leadership as well as Ft Rucker.

Congratulations go out to Chapter President Pat Nelligan as he was selected to become the second Command Chief Warrant Officer of the 94th RRC.

During the month of April, Pat Nelligan attended the Army Warrant Officer Senior Staff Course and was a WOCS graduation speaker. His talk focused on affiliation and membership in WOA and local chapter participation. Also the 94th RRC enrolled 3 soldiers in the first National Guard Warrant Officer Candidate School program. We had soldiers in both Connecticut and Maryland.

In May Pat Nelligan attended a WOCS session at Camp Rell in Connecticut to provide an OPD to the candidates about membership in the WOA and specifically the New England chapter.

Pat Nelligan chaired a Memorial Day weekend celebration for the City of Bristol Connecticut and had participation from members of the New England chapter in support of this function. Accolades were presented on how supportive and professional the “Warrants” were and how this could not have worked as well without them.

In June, Pat Nelligan spoke at a Coast Guard promotion ceremony in New Haven Connecticut and had a meeting with 6 Coast Guard Warrant Officers who are willing to start attending New England Chapter meetings and grow the New England Warrant Officer Network.

July saw the New England Chapter Warrant Officers help support the 1st Brigade recruiting Command with personal and vehicles at the Terryville Connecticut Country Fair.

During the month of August The New England Chapter as well as the 94 RTD held the second Warrant Officer Recruiting Forum in Southbridge Mass. This was once again attended by National Guard, Reserve, and Active applicants, candidates and Warrants Officers. Applications were handed out to applicants and candidates to keep and submit once they pinned their bar, and become members of the New England chapter.

September: Pat Nelligan and members of the New England Chapter flew to Camp Attebury, Indiana to attend the graduation of the 3 Army Reserve candidates and sign them up as members of the New England chapter.

Which closes out the year with October and Pat Nelligan along with several members of the New England Chapter will be attending the annual meeting in Tampa.

George G. Meade (Prov):

Chapter Membership 36

Chapter President ProTem: Joe Koschmeder

While Joe has been trying to maintain interest in re-forming the Chapter, lack of attendance at the meetings has been the biggest drawback. It appears now, short of a large numbers of members stepping forward we will lose this Chapter.

Lord Fairfax: 0604

Chapter Membership 163

Chapter President: Patrick Morris

USO Care Package Packing: LFSC members participated on numerous weekends throughout the year wrapping and packing care packages to send to the troops in support of Global War on Terrorism (Iraq/Afghanistan).

Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup: We conducted highway cleanups on the following dates: 17 Sep 05, seven persons and 12 bags of trash; 19 Nov 05, six persons and 22 bags of trash; 18 Feb 06, five persons and 23 bags of trash; and 17 Jun 06, 12 persons and 20 bags of trash. Next cleanup is scheduled for 23 Sep 06.

Thanksgiving Day Food Basket Donation: Provided a donation of \$100 to the Fort Belvoir Chaplin's Fund for their Thanksgiving Day food baskets.

Holiday Adopt-A-Family: The LFSC participated in the Adopt-A-Family program sponsored by both the Fort Belvoir and the Fort Myer Army Community Services, by adopting two large families in each community for the holiday season. In addition to the many donated presents for both families from our chapter members, the chapter donated \$550 which was added to the cash donations to purchase gift certificates from the commissary and the AAFES PX for the families.

XMAS in April/Rebuilding Together Alexandria: On Saturday, 29 April 2006, the chapter participated in the annual Christmas in April / Rebuilding Together Alexandria program. Repairs were made on a house that was over 40 years old. The chapter also donated \$300 to the Rebuilding Together Alexandria program.

USAWOA Scholarship Fund: The Chapter donated \$100 dollars to the USAWOA Scholarship Fund through the Northeast Region.

Armed Forces Retirement Home Casino Night: On Friday, 21 July 2006 our chapter participated in the annual Casino Night at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, DC. A donation of \$300 was made by the chapter to assist in obtaining the door prizes for the residents of the AFRH participating in this Casino Night event.

Golf Tournament Participation: Chapter members participated in the Rebuilding Together Alexandria golf tournament held on 26 Sep 05, and the Arlington Hall Minuteman Chapter Golf Tournament held on 8 Jun 06.

Walter Reed Hospital Morale Calls: The members of the LFSC constantly visit the wounded troops from Iraq and Afghanistan on a monthly basis. These visits warranted and appreciated by the service members.

Active Duty Warrants on the move: Several active duty members are continually supporting the Soldiers in their respective units by overseeing and participating in reenlistments, promotions, and Warrant Officer recruiting.

Ocean State: 0608

Chapter Membership 22

Chapter President Robert Ward

As with other chapters, the State of Rhode Island and the Ocean State Chapter has had a large number of warrant officers deployed over the past few years. Last year we sent “care packages” with chapter hats, t-shirts and coins to deployed warrant officers to help keep their morale high. In June 2006 we worked a food booth at the annual Rhode Island National Guard Air Show to earn money which we would be able to assist warrant officer families or other organizations as needed. Unfortunately it rained both days and understandably spectator participation was sparse. We will try again next year.

Hampton Roads: 0601

Chapter Membership 62

Chapter President George Gonsalves

No Report Rendered

Iron City: 0614

Chapter Membership 21

Chapter President

No Report Rendered

Monticello: 0618

Chapter Membership 19

Chapter President James Bertotti

No Report Rendered

Statue of Liberty: 0612

Chapter Membership 58

Chapter President Robert Neglia

The Status of Liberty Chapter meets the first Thursday of the month, quarterly. Based on some members being in the 77th Regional Readiness Command Located at Fort Totten, New York. there is allot of good information and discussions that is shared, i.e., Job Placements, Web-sites, Retirement Benefits and Medical, Identification Card (ID) hours of operation on Ft Totten. How to come out from the IRR and volunteer your services, Warrant Officer authorizations

based on Unit conversions, Unit inactivation's, BRAC, Contracting, and Fort Dix (Training Readiness Platform) operations. Information provided is not only for those still in active service, but those that have retired and specifically family members. Over 10 new Warrant Officers have graduated from Fort Rucker and the Chapter has reached out to them to ensure mentorship and support is provided and to invite them to be members of the Chapter.

After Chapter elections this year, a plan will be developed to independently or with local DAV's, American Legions or family support groups to participate in local community events.

Thousand Island: 0607

Chapter Membership 35

Chapter President

No Report Rendered

Uncle Sam: 0619

Chapter Membership 33

Chapter President Edward Krutka

No Report Rendered

Members-at-Large: 299

Total Membership: 1213

Regional Goals:

Our primary goal is always increasing our membership. In numbers our collective voice becomes louder! My number one goal is getting our “active” Chapters active again. What a great day it will be when I can host a COP and have all of the Chapters represented. It only takes a little preplanning to make these meetings happen, but the wealth of knowledge that is shared is priceless!

If I am re-elected I look forward to serving another year, growing, learning, and discovering new ways to support the Associations goals and plans.

It has been an honor for me to serve as your Director and I look forward to seeing you in the field!

In closing, the Northeast Region remains on course, thanks to the hard work and dedication of those professional officers who can be counted on even in thin times. With continuous support we can climb that mountain and come out better on the other side.

May God Bless you in all you do.

To The Corps!

CW4(Ret) Kenneth B.N. “Pete” Hill