

GOOD MORNING MR. PRESIDENT AND GOOD MORNING FELLOW  
WARRANT OFFICERS AND GUESTS OF THE US ARMY WARRANT  
OFFICERS ASSOCIATION AS WE GATHER TOGETHER FOR OUR  
NATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS.

I AM CW5 PHILIP TACKETT, A MEMBER OF THE SHOW-ME CHAPTER,  
FT LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI AND DIRECTOR, MID-NORTHERN  
REGION. IT IS TRULY A PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH YOU AS WE  
BEGIN A WEEK OF PROFESSIONAL HARD WORK AND REDEDICATION  
TO BEING THE SUPERB WARRANT OFFICERS WE ARE IN THE US ARMY  
AS WELL AS TO THE USAWOA. I AM GLAD TO SEE MANY MID  
NORTHERN WARRANT OFFICERS HERE. THANKS TO EACH OF YOU  
FOR WHAT YOU DO AT YOUR RESPECTIVE CHAPTERS AND FOR  
MAKING THE TRIP TO THIS ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS.

BEFORE I BEGIN, I WOULD LIKE TO WISH MY FELLOW WARRANT  
OFFICER, FELLOW REGION DIRECTOR AND FRIEND, CW4 CANDICE  
MARTIN, WHO JUST UNDERWENT SURGERY, A SPEEDY RECOVERY  
AND BEST WISHES. SHE IS A STALWART IN THIS ASSOCIATION AND  
WILL BE MISSED THIS WEEK. CANDICE, WE LOVE AND MISS YOU  
AND WISH YOU A SPEEDY RECOVERY.

THERE ARE MANY WARRANT OFFICERS IN OUR FINE ORGANIZATION WHO HAVE AND ARE DEPLOYED TO DEFEND THIS GREAT COUNTRY OF OURS. AS WE PROCEED THROUGHOUT THE WEEK, I ASK THAT WE KEEP ALL THESE HEROES IN OUR HEARTS AND OUR PRAYERS AND HOPE FOR THEIR SAFE RETURN.

WITH THIS SAID, IT IS SIGNIFICANT WE ARE ABLE TO BE HERE TODAY. THIS PAST YEAR, AS IN THE LAST FEW, HAS BEEN A LONG, STRESSFUL AND TUMULTUOUS ONE.

WE HAVE APPROXIMATELY 1074 MEMBERS IN 13 CHAPTERS WITHIN THE MID-NORTHERN REGION STRETCHING FROM MINNESOTA TO MISSOURI, FROM KENTUCKY TO COLORADO.

THE REGION REPRESENTS THOUSANDS OF WARRANT OFFICERS OF THE ACTIVE ARMY, THE ARMY GUARD, THE ARMY RESERVE AND RETIREES FROM ALL THE COMPONENTS. MANY OF THESE HIGHLY SKILLED MEN AND WOMEN SERVE AS HELICOPTER PILOTS, INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS, ARMAMENT AND EQUIPMENT REPAIR TECHNICIANS, PERSONNEL MANAGERS, EQUIPMENT REPAIR TECHNICIANS, LOGISTICIANS, AND OTHER TECHNICAL FIELDS, WHICH ARE CRITICAL TO SUCCESS OF THE MODERN BATTLEFIELD. ALL OF THESE WARRANT OFFICERS PROUDLY SERVE DAILY EITHER

HERE AT HOME OR IN MANY OF DEPLOYED ENVIRONMENTS.

OUR REGION CONTINUES TO PUSH THE SLOGAN OF “GETTING OUT AND ABOUT” THE MID-NORTHERN MILITARY COMMUNITIES TO “SHOW THE USAWOA FLAG”.

WE ARE MAKING INCREASED EFFORTS TO GET THE WORD OUT TO OTHER WARRANTS OF WHAT WE DO AND WHO WE ARE.

SOME OF OUR CHAPTERS ARE LOOKING AT VARIOUS WAYS TO INCREASE ATTENDANCE AT CHAPTER MEETINGS BY CHANGING THE DAYS/TIMES/LOCATIONS OF THE MEETINGS. SOME HOLD BREAKFAST MEETINGS, SOME LUNCH, SOME MEET IN WARRANT OFFICER HUTS, SOME IN DINING FACILITIES. WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET WARRANT OFFICERS TO THE MEETINGS, WE ARE DOING IT IN THE MID-NORTHERN REGION.

**BOTTOM LINE** : ALL CHAPTERS ARE LOOKING AT INNOVATIVE WAYS TO INCREASE ENROLLMENT AS WELL AS RETENTION WITHIN THE ASSOCIATION.

UNDER PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT, SOME CHAPTERS CONDUCT WARRANT OFFICER CANDIDATE BOARDS TO ASSIST THE WO APPLICANT IN PREPARING A MORE PROFESSIONAL PACKET AS WELL AS TO BETTER PREPARE THEM FOR THE CANDIDATE COURSE.

OTHER CHAPTERS SPONSOR EVENTS SUCH AS GOLF TOURNAMENTS AND ROAD RACES. OTHERS SET UP USAWOA BOOTHS AT OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS SUCH AS AN ANNUAL RETIREE OPEN HOUSE AND JOB FAIRS. STILL OTHERS OFFER ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS TO GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS.

MR PRESIDENT, AS THIS IS MY LAST NATIONAL MEETING AS AN ACTIVE DUTY SOLDIER, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO DEVIATE FROM MY REGION REPORT TO TALK ABOUT A COUPLE OF ITEMS WHICH SHOULD BE OF OVERALL WARRANT OFFICER INTEREST AS WELL AS TO THE INTEREST OF THIS ASSOCIATION.

THE ARMY CALLS IT TRANSFORMATION. THE ARMY IS CHANGING THE WAY IT DOES BUSINESS. NOT ONLY THE ARMY IS CHANGING, BUT OUR COUNTRY IS IN A STATE OF CHANGE THIS YEAR. SO TOO IS OUR FINE ASSOCIATION. THE ARMY WARRANT OFFICER IS TRANSFORMING AS A RESULT OF THE ATLDP-WO STUDY DONE A FEW YEARS BACK.

I AM NOT ONLY A MEMBER OF THIS FINE ASSOCIATION, AS THE MP/CID RCWO, I AM ALSO A MEMBER OF THE ARMY'S SENIOR WARRANT OFFICER ADVISORY COUNCIL (SWOAC). I WILL DISCUSS THIS ORGANIZATION IN MORE DETAIL LATER THIS WEEK. AS SUCH,

OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS I HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN  
TOTALLY CHANGING THE WAY TODAY'S WARRANT OFFICERS ARE  
EDUCATED FOR TOMORROW'S MISSIONS.

THE WAY WE HAVE BEEN DOING WARRANT OFFICER BUSINESS IN  
THE PAST IS NOT THE WAY WE NEED TO BE DOING IT IN THE FUTURE.

HOW ARE WE DOING THIS:

1. ONE OF THE 63 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ATLDP-WO WAS  
TOTAL INTEGRATION OF THE WOES INTO THE OES. THIS  
OVERARCHING RECOMMENDATION BEARS A LOT OF WEIGHT TO  
MANY OF OUR DISCUSSION TOPICS THIS WEEK.

- A. CHANGE TO WOCC/WOBC
- B. BOLC PHASE II
- C. WE NOW HAVE 5 WO'S ATTENDING ILE AT FT  
LEAVENWORTH
- D. ADDING NEW WARRANT OFFICERS TO OUR  
RANKS.....CHEMICAL CORPS IN 2010.....ACQUISITION  
BRANCH IS BUILDING NOW.....THIS HAS OTHER LOGISTICAL  
WO BRANCHES CONCERNED.

SO I ASK THAT THIS ASSOCIATION TO CONTINUE TO JOIN FORCES  
WITH THE SWOAC AND CONTINUE TO KEEP OUR WARRANT OFFICERS  
CURRENT AND RELEVANT

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THIS CONCLUDES MY PRESENTATION  
AND I WOULD LIKE TO CLOSE BY SAYING THAT I REPRESENT SOME  
OF THE HARDEST WORKING, SEVERLY DEDICATED, AND THE MOST  
PROFESSIONAL WARRANT OFFICERS ANYWHERE, AND THEY ARE  
ALL MEMBERS OF THE MID-NORTHERN REGION.

**FOR THE ARMY AND FOR THE WARRANT OFFICER CORPS !!!**

THANK YOU.