



United States Army
Warrant Officers Association



Northeast Region Annual Report
2009 Annual Meeting of the Members
Salt Lake City, Utah

State of the Region

USAWOA Northeast Region

September 2009

Mr. President, Vice President, and assembled members, it is indeed a pleasure for me to be here with you at the 37th Annual Meeting of Members in Salt Lake City, Utah. For a time, I thought I wasn't going to be able to make it, due to a mission requirement in Arifjan, Kuwait. The Northeast Region has continued to grow, however like all of the Regions we have had our ups and downs. During my first year as the Northeast Region Director, I have had the opportunity to get out and visit some of the Chapters during their regular meetings, attend a ribbon cutting ceremony, and was privileged to be able to install new officers. In July I was invited to provide an OPD during the 91st Warrant Officer Birthday celebration, put on by the Kuwait Warrant Officer Professional Group out of Arifjan. CW3 Price and CW4 Baugh did an outstanding job along with their support staff. It was an excellent turnout of professionals. In August, I had the opportunity to speak to Warrant Officers at Fort Hood Texas. This was in conjunction with a visit to Fort Hood by the Ordnance Corps Regimental Chief Warrant Officer, CW5 Art Dahl. I addressed the Army's Sample Data Collection (SDC) program, which is managed by the Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity (AMSAA), the organization I work for, and how we should support our Association, the Warrant Officer Heritage and Scholarship Foundations, and the Wounded Warrior Project. I also spoke about an opportunity for warrant officers to obtain a Master of Science Degree in Logistics Management from a program called TLOG/FIT through the Army Logistics Management College at Fort Lee, VA. The Region has been hit hard with unit deployments to OIF and OEF. This year the Iron City Chapter dissolved and the Statue of Liberty Chapter is in the process of dissolving. The members of those two chapters will be picked up by other chapters within the Region. I am extremely proud of

the fact that the Region has donated a little over \$18,000.00 to various organizations.

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

0601: Hampton Roads Chapter: George Gonsalves: 55/19=70 members

No report at this time.

0602: Ft. Meade: Vacant 37/43=80 members

Patrick Morris has PCS'ed to the Ft. Meade area. I believe Patrick can revitalize this Chapter.

0603: Crater Chapter: Wayne Burton: 108/28= 136 members

This chapter has been involved in 7 community events and 3 sustaining community programs. One of the programs is the "Rebuilding Petersburg Together", which brings volunteers and communities together to improve the homes and lives of low-income homeowners. The Crater Chapter is involved with this program every year. Great job! The chapter has handed out college scholarships this year to deserving teenagers. There donations have totaled \$6,825.00 for this past year. Vickie Vachon, Wayne Burton and the chapter membership have done a great job supporting the community, as always!

0604: Lord Fairfax "Silver" Chapter: Patrick Morris: 185/85= 270 members

This chapter has been involved in 2 community events and 1 sustaining community program. The chapter has been involved with "Rebuilding Together Alexandria" home repair project, annual Adopt-A-Family and Sugarplum programs. Many chapter members volunteered their time to support these efforts. This chapter remains committed to supporting their community!

605: Aberdeen-Edgewood "Silver" Chapter: Roy Valiant: 66/17= 83 members

The chapter was extremely proud to donate \$3,500.00 to various organizations this year. They supported the following organizations/programs this year: Warrant Officer Heritage Foundation, Ordnance Corps Association, Saint Jude's Hospital, and VA Hospital

out of Perryville, Maryland. The chapter's Annual Pig Roast was a success again this year. As most of you know the Ordnance Center and School is moving to Fort Lee. This will have a dramatic impact on membership for the Chapter. The Region will not lose membership, because the Crater Chapter will pick up those members. CECOM is coming to APG and the chapter looks forward to picking up as many members as possible with this move.

0606: Ft. Dix, Doughboy Chapter: Albert Curving: 89/7= 96 members

I had the opportunity to attend the January meeting, installation of officers and luncheon. It was my pleasure to install 2 new officers: CW2 (P) Nancy Rowbotham, Vice President, and CW5 (R) William Olson, Secretary. Twenty-two people attended this event. What a great turn out! In May, the Chapter President was keynote speaker at the Prospect Park, NJ American Legion Post #240 Memorial Day Ceremony. The President and Vice President also presented a wreath to Governor Jon S. Corzine, The Adjutant General, Major General Glenn K. Rieth, and Colonel (R) Steve Able, Deputy Director of Military and Veterans Affairs, for the Memorial Day ceremony at Brigadier General William C. Doyle Cemetery at Arnytown. In June, the President attended the Pemberton High School Annual Scholarship Awards Program. The Doughboy Chapter awarded two \$250 scholarships to Melissa Antolubich and Damaris Medina. The criteria were that the students must be from local military families, and a short note was requested of what their' family members' service meant to them. These scholarships were increased from \$100 based on fund raising efforts of CW4 Tom Comyack. On Veteran's Day, the President attended the New Jersey WWII Monument Dedication across from the State House in Trenton. The chapter came up with an excellent idea to market the Warrant Officer Association by sending Newsliners, received from National, to deployed Soldiers. This chapter did a great job this year!

0607: Thousands Islands Chapter: Billie Filkins: 69/29= 98 members.

The Chapter established Steering committees for Events on and off Fort Drum and for Memorabilia. They also assisted the 10th Mountain Division Rear Commander in establishing a Warrant Officer Forum - meeting Monthly. They set up a snowmobile safety course, hosted a Chapter recruitment event at the PX and hosted Warrant Officer Recruitment Event with USAREC - Ms Farmer. Upcoming events

include: A Snowmobile Ride, Fund Raising Raffle for Scholarship Foundation and Heritage Fund, Support Habitat For Humanity, USERAC Briefing on Promotion Board Results, Purchase Bricks for 4 fallen KIOWA Pilots, Develop annual calendar that will include one Monthly Meeting, one Fund Raising Event and one social event each month and finally, a Warrant Officer Fun Run. Great job!

0608: Ocean State Chapter: Gerald Sciamacco 39/7= 46 members
The Ocean State Chapter donated gift certificates for food and gasoline to the Rhode Island Family Program to assist Families of Military Personnel in Rhode Island. The gift certificates were available the Army and Air National Guard, Army Reserves, Navy, Marines and Air Force. Any military Family was eligible to receive them.

0609: Arlington Hall Minuteman: Jill Graham: 51/7= 58 members
No report at this time.

0611: Keystone Chapter: Daun Arsenberger: 89/36= 125 members
The Keystone Chapter meets on a quarterly basis, once this year at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA., and once at the Commissioned Officer's Mess, Naval Inventory Supply Point Mechanicsburg, PA. The chapter membership is comprised mostly of: National Guard, Army Reserve and retired Warrant Officers, spread out over 75 percent of the State of Pennsylvania. Chapter members prepared and served a charity dinner for 35 adults and children at the Ronald McDonald house in Hershey, Pa. This was very well received by the staff and the Ronald McDonald house along with the parents of the children who were in Hershey medical center. Seventeen members of the Iron City Chapter moved their membership to the Keystone Chapter. The Chapter continues to collect items and send Care Packages to deployed Soldiers. Great job! The Chapter made its yearly contribution of \$300 for a Holiday Tea at Christmas time for senior citizens at the Army War College Carlisle Barracks, PA. They also sponsored a WOC class taking its phase II training at Fort Indiantown Gap.

0612: Statue of Liberty Chapter: Jose Soto: 68/16= 84 members
Chapter is dissolving.

0613: First State Chapter: John Dill: 51/4= 55 members

The First State Chapter had a good year this year. John Dill was deployed this past year and the Vice President, Jim McDaniel, stepped up and made things happen with the support of the chapter membership. In November 2008 the Dedication of (2) 12 foot gazebos was conducted at the Delaware Veterans Home in Milford, DE. The gazebos were provided and installed as a joint effort of the Chapter and F&C Structures. Total value of this effort was \$7500. The Chapter was honored to be part of the wreath laying ceremony on Veterans Day and again on Memorial Day at the DE/NJ Memorial to Fallen Service Members located at the Delaware Memorial Bridge. The Chapter sponsored a Texas Hold-um Tournament in January benefiting their Scholarship Fund and their annual Golf Tournament benefiting their general fund.

The First State Chapter made the following donations:

\$250 Donation to the Heritage foundation

\$250 Donated to the Delaware home of the brave (Home Vet Shelter) to purchase gift card for vets to purchased need personal items

\$300 Paid for Cocktail Hour for 2008 AMM

\$150 Donation to USAWOA Scholarship fund

\$500 Donation to Delaware National Guard "Boot on the Ground" used for phone card for deployed DE Army National Troops

\$1000 First State Chapter Scholarship given to 4 (\$250 each) ROTC members from University of Delaware

Great support to the community this year!

0614: Iron City: Dissolved.

0615: New England Chapter: Patrick Nelligan 75/44= 119 members

During this year the New England Chapter has not held any meetings. The Vice President and secretary were PCS'd, the President (Pat Nelligan) was mobilized for one year. In addition to the leadership vacancies it has also been very difficult to marshal a mandatory quorum and hold an event worth the time and travel required by the membership. There are several warrant officers based in Massachusetts who have shown an interest in stepping up to assume leadership positions. They will begin the necessary steps in October to introduce a new slate of officer nominees and hold a formal election. This will include the president's position, due to the selection of Pat Nelligan by National President Gary Nisker to chair the Ways and Means USAWOA. Pat

has been working with Gary and the EXCOM to develop new fundraising opportunities which will be unveiled at the annual meeting in Utah. Also, during his travels President Nelligan presented a Warrant Officer mentoring session sponsored by the 7thCSC to both active and reserve warrant officers from Germany based units.

This was initiated and created by CW3 Veronica Rogers from the 7thCSC. Due to the constant OTEMPO and 6 state geographic radius it will continue to be a challenge to hold full meetings with enough membership to satisfy the minimum needed to recoup dues. We are hopeful that new and stable leadership shall improve the chances of attaining this goal.

0618: Monticello Chapter: James Betotti: 11/1= 12 members

No report at this time.

0619: Uncle Sam Chapter: Paula Martinez: 35/3= 38 members

I had the pleasure of installing chapter officers back in March of this year. Congratulations to Paula Martinez President, Russ Hoyer Vice President, Tom Hatlee Secretary, and Scott Turner Treasurer. I'm positive with this leadership, the chapter will do well. They have been contacting members of the Statue of Liberty Chapter to see if they are interested in moving their membership to the Uncle Sam Chapter. In September, Paula was invited to provide a WO recruiting presentation at the NYARNG Warrant Officer Conference in Saratoga Springs, hosted by CW5 Collarafi, Command Chief Warrant Officer for the state of New York and a member of the Uncle Sam Chapter.

0620: Capitol Guardians: Anna David 7/9 = 14 members

No report at this time.

0699: Provisional Chapter in Camp Phoenix, Afghanistan: 12/0 = 12 members

Members-at-Large: 355, up from 332 last year (+23)

Total Membership: 1402, up from 1362 last year (+ 40)

Regional Goals:

1. Support the Warrant Officer Association. What I mean by this is “SELL” it in everything you do, your actions and behavior, how you communicate to others and how you present yourselves as Warrant Officers. This alone will pay dividends, because you know, Chief is always being watched. Market the association to increase membership.

2. Support the Heritage Foundation. This Foundation is about keeping the history of the Warrant Officer Corps alive.

3. Support the Scholarship Foundation. This Foundation focuses on providing scholarships to qualified members and family members of warrant officers serving in or retired from the United States Army, the Army Reserve and the National Guard.

4. Support the Wounded Warrior Project. The mission of the Wounded Warrior Project is to honor and empower wounded warriors. To raise awareness and enlist the public’s aid for the needs of severely injured service men and women.

I believe these two foundations and the wounded warrior project are important to our organization and the Corps and we should do everything that we are financially capable of to support them. It’s all about taking care of our own.

To The Corps!

CW4 (Ret) Gregory A. Gouty