

U. S. Army Warrant Officers Association

USAWOA Fact Sheet

Association History and Philosophy

BACKGROUND – The concept of a professional association for Army Warrant Officers was generated in Indianapolis, IN, in July 1972 when forty-two Army Adjutant General Warrant Officers met informally for fun, camaraderie, and the opportunity to exchange professional concerns with each other. Out of this group was formed the United States Army Warrant Officers Association (USAWOA). The Association was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia on November 7, 1974.

At near the same time, The European Warrant Officers Association (ER-WOA) was organizing in Germany. Upon determination that the two organizations had similar objectives, the European Warrant Officers Association merged with the USAWOA and became the European Region of the USAWOA. In these early, organizing years, the European Region was the stabilizing force, in both membership and financial support, as USAWOA expanded its membership in the U.S.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP – Membership is open to all Army Warrant Officers regardless of component or status, i.e. Active Army; Army National Guard, Army Reserve, retired Army Warrant Officers, and former Army Warrant Officers. Associate memberships (without vote) are available for anyone interested in the Warrant Officer Corps or the USAWOA. Introductory Memberships are offered at no cost to WO1s. Reduced rate, Dual Membership in USAWOA and AAAA, Multiple-Year memberships, and Life Memberships are available. Visit www.usawoa.org/woa_appl.htm for dues rates and application forms.

ASSOCIATION OBJECTIVES – As stated in the Articles of Incorporation, the USAWOA is established to:

- Foster a spirit of patriotism and devotion to duty among our members, commensurate with the high ideals of the Army and our position therein.
- Recommend programs for the improvement of the Army.
- Disseminate professional information among warrant officers.
- Promote the technical and social welfare of our members.
- Promote a spirit of true comradeship among our members.

PHILOSOPHY – The basic philosophy of the Association is to **work within the system** to present knowledgeable, professional concerns that affect policy. (USAWOA does not involve itself in personal matters such as selection, assignment, promotion, or retirement.)

PURPOSE – The primary purpose of the USAWOA, since its inception, is to provide a sustaining program of professional information and service to our fellow warrant officers.

In large measure, we succeed to meet our objectives and purpose through a two-pronged approach.

First, we acquire professional information regarding warrant officers from our official and unofficial contacts with Department of the Army, Department of Defense, Congress and other military associations. We then provide such information to our members through our award-winning web site, our monthly publication the NEWSLINER, and through communications to chapters.

Second, we receive professional recommendations, suggestions, concerns and general comments from warrant officers in the field. After analysis, review, study, and approval, **we present** these views to the appropriate levels of Army leadership, or higher, with the support of the USAWOA. HQDA action officers often seek our advice concerning warrant officer matters.

ORGANIZATION – A Board of ten Directors (BOD), elected by and from within the membership, governs USAWOA. A National Executive Committee (EXCOM) oversees the operation of the Association Home Office. National Bylaws, approved by the membership, guide the operation of our Association. Other manuals guide the operation of the Board of Directors, Regions and Chapters, financial management, and administrative matters of our Association.

National Officers - The BOD consists National President, National Vice President, National Secretary,

National Treasurer, and the six Regional Directors. All are elected for two-year terms with the exception of the Treasurer who is appointed by the BOD (with a vote on the BOD). There are three appointed Assistant Vice Presidents, Army National Guard Affairs, Army Reserve Affairs, Veterans (and Retiree) Affairs, and several appointed committee chairs.

Chapters and Regions –USAWOA has local chapters around the world, established and led by USAWOA members. Chapters provide professional development and networking opportunities for members. USAWOA chapters also provide social and community service activities. USAWOA members derive value from affiliation with local chapter. It is recognized that some members may not be in close proximity to a chapter or may not desire to be affiliated with a chapter. Therefore, a "non-affiliated" (member-at-large) category of membership exists. Non-affiliated members retain the right to vote on the National level.

USAWOA has six geographic regions to facilitate Chapter organization, leadership and management. Each has either a region president or region director, elected from within the region membership, to serve and represent the Chapters in the Region. Visit www.usawoa.org/chap_add.htm for more information.

Annual Meetings of the Members (AMM) - USAWOA holds an AMM each year, normally in October, which allows the membership to have an active voice in the Association and to receive briefings from key subject matter experts in the Army. Members desiring so may participate by attending or by submitting a written proxy. Chapter and/or Regions bid to hold an AMM in their geographic area. Future years locations are decided by vote on the floor of the AMM. For more about the AMM, the business meetings and other activities to include Focus Groups, Professional Development Day, and the Annual Banquet visit www.usawoa.org/amm2007.htm.

STATEMENT OF POLICY –USAWOA is dedicated to the dissemination of professional information to our members. The monthly USAWOA publication, the NEWSLINER accepts and prints articles that may or may not reflect the positions of the USAWOA. These articles should not be interpreted as reflecting the official policy of the Department of the Army unless specifically stated as such.

The Association offers professional information and member services on USAWOA Online. More can be learned about our Association on our award-winning website at www.usawoa.org. Secure procedures are available for joining, rejoining, renewing membership, and providing updated information for membership records using the General Purpose Membership Form at www.usawoa.org/woa_appl.htm.

The National Headquarters (Home Office) is located at 462 Herndon Parkway, Suite, 207, Herndon, VA 20170-5235. The Home Office Staff consists of an Office Manager/Member Services Manager, and a Bookkeeper.

To communicate with the Home Office staff call toll free 1-800-5-USAWOA (587-2962), phone 703-742-7727, Fax 703-742-7728, and they can be reached by email at usawoahq@verizon.net.

USAWOA and is recognized by the Army as a "National Service-Related Organization."

For more detailed information about USAWOA visit www.usawoa.org/morewoa.htm.

Non-Profit 501 (c) (3) Independent Foundations formed by USAWOA:

USAWOA Scholarship Foundation - *"Serving Those Who Serve and Their Families"* - visit www.usawoa.org/WOSF

Warrant Officers Heritage Foundation, *"Preserving the History of the Army Warrant Officer"* - visit www.usawoa.org/WOHERITAGE

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