

USAWOA Scholarship Foundation Annual Report 2016

By CW5 (Ret) Gary Nisker
President and CEO



I was unable to be at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Members (AMM) this year to present this report personally, but I am eternally grateful to CW5 (Ret) Al Curving for delivering the report on my behalf to the Members assembled. Personally, I really wish I could have made it to the AMM this year. The Austin location, which is very near my very first duty location when I first joined the Army, would have been a far more attractive location to me that week than being in the Washington, DC area.

The United States Army Warrant Officers Association Scholarship Foundation (USAWOASF) was incorporated and federally recognized as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization in 2003, and is a separate entity from USAWOA.

This year brought a few changes to the foundation. We started the year with a very dedicated campaign of raising money to benefit our Warrant Officers and their dependents. Another goal was to increase the number of Grantham University applications. Thanks to many of you, we achieved great success.

USAWOASF's board of directors meets twice a year in person, with the most recent meeting in the later part of June. The end result was really exciting news.

For the second year in a row, the board decided to approve a standard scholarship award to each awardee of a minimum of \$1,500 each. Previously, the USAWOASF awarded only \$1,000 scholarships. The intent and spirit is to offer a greater value of scholarship awards, in an attempt to match the rising costs of a higher quality education.

The board opted to increase the number of awards for school year 2016-2017 to 17 awardees. Last year's awards were only offered to 12 individuals. The generosity of our Members, Chapters, Regions, and corporate sponsors – and the wise administration of the foundations funds – was substantial. This afforded us the opportunity to award more to our Members and their dependents, by increasing the number of scholarships.

This year's awards included:

- CW4 John Allnatt Memorial

Scholarship

- Grantham University 4-year Scholarship
- Pentagon Federal Credit Union (PFCU) Scholarship
- RAO Freedom Scholarship
- Above-The-Best Silver Chapter Scholarship
- Jack B. Sacks Foundation Scholarship
- Eleven regular USAWOASF Scholarships

This year's selection Committee met in June. Its membership included CW5 Joe Consiglio and CW4 (Ret) Jack Du-Teil. The Foundation members would like to recognize them with a great big thank you from all of us. They worked very hard, focusing for more than six hours on the difficult task of evaluating scholarship packets, and establishing a qualitative Order of Merit list.

A detailed report of who won this year's scholarships, the colleges and universities that they are attending, and their planned majors is available on our website that can be easily accessed by link from the USAWOA website. This was also published in the July 2016 *Newsliner*.

Now more than ever, we need the support of our generous Members, Chapters and Regions in order to keep this worthy organization going.

I would be remiss in not expressing a warm thank you to the Members, Chapters, Regions and corporate sponsors of the foundation for the generous tax deductible donations to our Members and their military families. The foundation, its board of directors, and all applicants and recipients wish to thank those who contributed to this program last year.

Without this money, we would not be able to offer

these scholarships that are so justly deserved. Thank you very much! Please continue to donate. Donations can be made directly via a link on the foundation's Scholarship Honor Roll page, also accessible via the USAWOA website.

Finally, I would very much like to thank the rest of the Foundation's Executive Committee for their dedication, hard work, and proven efforts. They are:

- CW5 (Ret) Eddie Mallard, Director and Treasurer
- CW5 (Ret) Richard M. Scalzo Sr.
- CW3 Alicia Fuller
- CW4 (Ret) Donald E. Hess

In closing, I look forward to giving my next annual report personally, at the 45th AMM in Washington, DC. On behalf of the USAWOASF leadership, it is our sincere hope that the number of scholarships will again rise in number and substance. Thank you very much. 🇺🇸

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