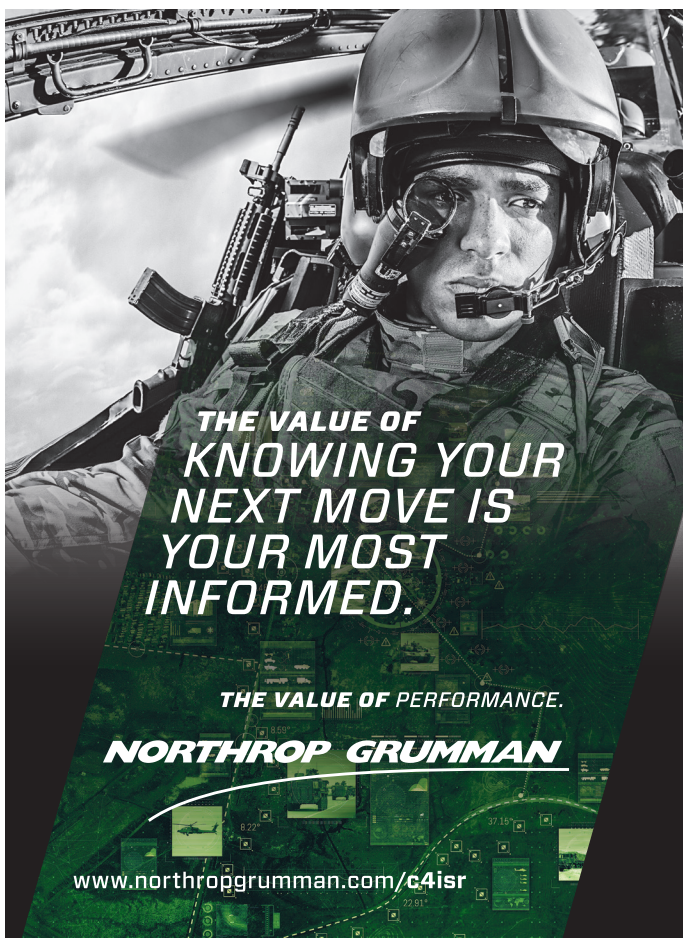




At the 45th Annual Meeting of the Members (AMM), USAWOA was deeply honored with the participation of current and former senior Army leaders, as speakers and panelists at many of our events. Pictured left to right, the following distinguished speakers kicked off each of our three business days, respectively: GEN James C. McConville, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army; AUSA President GEN (Ret) Carter F. Ham (pictured shaking hands with National President CW4 [Ret] Greg Gouty); and LTG (Ret) Patricia E. McQuiston, AUSA Vice President for Membership and Meetings.



Members heard reports from USAWOA national leadership officials, featuring briefings by the National President, Vice President (CW5 Joachim Consiglio), and Treasurer (CW5 Debbie Sharpe), and Regional Directors. Pictured left to right are CW4 (Ret) Gouty, Northeastern Region Director CW4 Vickie Carriaga, Southeastern Region Director CW5 (Ret) James Rathburn, Mid-Southern Region Director CW2 James Zamarripa, Mid-Northern Region Director CW5 (Ret) Marv Peters, Western Region Director CW4 (Ret) Harry Wilson, and European Region Director CW4 Bobby Sattazahn.



Members also heard a report from 100th Anniversary Observance Committee leaders, including Committee Chair and Above the Best Silver Chapter President CW5 Phyllis Wilson, CW5 Nicole Woodyard, and National Secretary CW4 (Ret) Pete Hill. Pictured embracing, CW5s Woodyard (at left) and Wilson have been prolific fundraisers for the committee. Crediting the hard work and assistance of fellow Crater Chapter members such as CW4 Adriana Aldape, CW5 Woodyard announced that their operations had raised more than \$10,000 from the sale of 100th Anniversary coins, belt buckles, and guideons. She also presented special personalized guideon flags to CW5 Wilson, CW4 (Ret) Hill (pictured right), and other national leaders.



Pictured left to right, ASWOC Chairman CW5 Richard Kunz, USAR CCWO CW5 Russ Smith, and ARNG SWOAC Vice Chair CW5 Christopher Rau provided Members with Senior Warrant Officer leader briefings. They discussed strength management issues and unanimously emphasized the importance of continuing to provide Warrant Officers with ongoing professional development, emphasizing deepening training to ensure their characteristic technical expertise is brought to the leadership table.



Chapter- and Regional-level business was also conducted and celebrated at the 45th AMM. Pictured left, National President CW4 (Ret) Greg Gouty was pleased to present the chapter charter to CW4 Michael Theroux, President of the new Chesapeake Bay Chapter. Pictured right (left to right) he also swore in CW4 Wandy Tumlin and CW3 (Ret) Christy Murray as the new Tampa Bay Chapter Vice President and Mid-Southern Region Director, respectively.



COL Gregory Johnson (pictured) and CW3 Whittaker, from the Department of the Army G1, provided Members with detailed briefing on the new Integrated Personnel and Pay System – Army (IPPS-A). Following the briefing, both engaged Members in a robust question and answer period.



USAWOA Scholarship Foundation President and CEO CW5 (Ret) Gary Nisker gave the Scholarship Foundation annual report.

National Executive Director CW4 (Ret) Jack Du Teil briefed Members on USAWOA's national legislative agenda, and his work as co-chair of The Military Coalition's Personnel Committee. He also introduced the proposed slate of USAWOA resolutions for 2018. Three of 2017's resolutions were accomplished (and thus removed from the 2018 document). Progress was made on others (which remain), and two were added. The resulting document was approved at the conclusion of the 45th AMM.



USAWOA was honored to welcome leaders of the Chief Warrant and Warrant Officers Association of the United States Coast Guard (CWOA) to the meeting. Pictured left to right on either side of USAWOA National President CW4 (Ret) Greg Gouty are CWOA Vice President CWO2 Rodney Moore and CWOA President CWO3 Jared Heintz.



CW5 (Ret) Al Curving gave the invocation, asking for the Almighty's presence at the meeting, and praying for the soul of USAWOA's beloved founder, CW4 (Ret) Don Hess. He also provided the benediction, at the end of the business meeting, on Saturday afternoon. During the meeting, he also delivered the annual report for the Warrant Officer Historical Foundation.



Chapters and Members are always generous at AMMs. Pictured left to right are Warrant Officer Historical Foundation (WOHF) Directors CW5s (Ret) Al Curving and Richard Markle, National President CW4 (Ret) Greg Gouty, Gold Rush Chapter President CW3 Sandy Andrade, and Western Region Director CW4 (Ret) Harry Wilson. The Gold Rush Chapter donated \$1,000 each to the WOHF and the USAWOA Scholarship Foundation. Not pictured is Redstone Arsenal Chapter President CW3 (Ret) Gary W. Mayers, whose Chapter raised more than \$1,300 for the 100th Anniversary Observance Committee, raffling off commemorative, numbered bottles of Jack Daniels whiskey – thanks to them and the five individuals who won the raffle!

Following the 45th AMM, a wonderful Warrant Officer breakfast was hosted at the AUSA Annual Meeting and Symposium, on 10 October 2017. This was immediately followed by the annual AUSA Warrant Officer Seminar. Pictured left to right are USAR CCWO CW5 Russell Smith, ARNG CCWO Peter Panos, Army Chief of Staff Assistant Executive Officer CW4 Billy Fritz, ASWOC Chairman CW5 Richard Kunz, and Army Materiel Command Commanding General GEN Gustave F. Perna. GEN Perna's overriding message to attendees of both events mirrored that of USAWOA 45th AMM Sustainment Panel panelists the week before: Warrant Officers must reclaim the Army logistics footprint from contract personnel, in preparation for future conflicts.

