

46th Annual Meeting of the Members “100 Years of Quiet Professionalism.”

By CW4 (Ret) Jack Du Teil

Executive Director, USAWOA

The Northeastern Region will serve as the host of the USAWOA 46th Annual Meeting of the Members (AMM), with assistance from the USAWOA National Headquarters. The theme of this year's meeting is “100 Years of Quiet Professionalism.”

As with last year's 45th AMM, the 46th AMM will be conducted in tandem with the annual meeting of our partner in The Military Coalition (TMC), the Association of the United States Army (AUSA). Following both the AUSA Warrant Officer Breakfast and Seminar on Tuesday, 9 October 2018, the 46th AMM will be gavelled into session at 0900 the following day, and will conclude at 1300 on Friday, 12 October. That evening, Warrant Officers, guests, and distinguished speakers will enjoy attending the 46th Annual Banquet and Ball.

The Army Ten-Miler race is scheduled to be conducted on 7 October, and will be immediately followed by the opening of AUSA's 2017 Annual Meeting on the following day. As it has for years, its meeting will be conducted at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center.

The entire 46th AMM will be conducted at the palatial Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel, offering more amenities than were available to attendees of the 45th AMM, and at a substantially lower per-night room rate (\$189). With regular shuttles to and from both the Reagan National Airport and the Arlington Metro train station, it will be easy for Members to commute around town (and to and from AUSA's meeting events for those who choose to arrive early and attend those, which we highly encourage).

USAWOA's national officers are partnering with the hardworking Chapters in the Northeastern Region, led by Region Director CW4 Vickie Carriaga, to plan and organize the event. The Northeastern Region is made of 14 hardworking Chap-

ters, and CW4 Carriaga is working with them to generate substantial support of what promises to be an amazing event.

USAWOA and AUSA Working Together

Last year's meeting was conducted the week prior to the AUSA annual meeting, from Wednesday evening through Saturday. We believe this made it easier for our Members to attend both AUSA's and USAWOA's annual meetings, with an intervening day to run the Army Ten-Miler, for those who chose to do so (or to sightsee in the nation's capital, or just take a breather between meetings).

For years, USAWOA has proactively supported both AUSA's Warrant Officer Breakfast on the second day of its annual meetings, followed by its Warrant Officer Seminar, featuring a panel of senior Warrant Officer leaders from all three Army components. At its 45th AMM, USAWOA added professional development panels to our usual robust briefing schedule, to dovetail with and com-

plement these important AUSA professional development events.

In moving the start of the 46th AMM to the other side of AUSA's meeting, we will still provide the same rewarding professional development experience. As it was last year, our other goal remains to offer the Army the best value, by affording its Warrant Officers the opportunity to attend both meetings and participate in the Army Ten-Miler – this time during one calendar week – in one multi-purpose trip to Washington, DC, where they might additionally incorporate meetings with the Army Staff.

Professional Development

Although a day shorter than past meetings, the 45th AMM contained perhaps the most powerful professional development opportunities offered in USAWOA's history. With the 46th AMM, we will strive to provide even more, in the same three-day timeframe (four, for those who attend AUSA's Warrant Officer-centric events on 9 October 2018).

Credit for prior military training



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As always, this year's AMM will include a mix of business meetings, professional development opportunities, and social events. We will again invite senior Army leaders and the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College (USAWOCC) Commandant to brief us. ASWOC Chairman CW5 Richard R. Kunz Jr and the ARNG and USAR CCWOs will also be invited to give individual briefings (and will likely all sit on the AUSA panel the day before our meeting begins).

For a fourth straight year, we will conduct a personal financial planning panel. Based on the success of this panel in previous years, we added additional sustainment and aviation professional panels at the 45th AMM, inviting distinguished senior Warrant Officer and Army leaders to serve as panelists.

Based on the tremendous success of these events, we are adding an additional panel to the 46th AMM. Details on all four of these planned events will be provided in future 46th AMM Update articles in the coming months.

Social Events

As with last year's meeting, social gatherings will be conducted on each evening this year at the hotel, offering the opportunity to meet and greet, network, and gain additional professional development. On Tuesday evening, prior to officially opening the meeting, National President CW4 (Ret) Greg Gouty will host the traditional President's Reception.

National Vice President CW5 Joachim Consiglio will host the Vice President's Reception on Wednesday evening. The attire for both receptions will be business casual, and as they did last year, they will feature hors d'oeuvres and a bar.

Last year's meeting included a retiree's breakfast, at which Mr. Morgan Brown – TMC co-

chair, and co-chair of the TMC Veterans Affairs Committee – graciously spoke and answered questions regarding Veterans affairs. Thanks to generous sponsorship by the Aberdeen-Edgewood Silver Chapter and corporate partner Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program, the cost of attendance was only \$10.

Based on the success of this event, we are not only repeating it, but will also be adding a similar event for spouses. The 46th AMM Spouses' Breakfast will become a formalized event, also featuring a distinguished guest speaker. On Friday morning, a retiree breakfast will be hosted.

All retired Members, Veterans, and spouses are again invited to register for the retirees' breakfast. Likewise, Members are encouraged to attend the spouses' breakfast with their spouses. A breakfast buffet will be provided at both events.

Of course the social highlight of the 46th AMM will be the USAWOA 46th Annual Banquet and Ball, on Friday evening. Last year's event was brilliantly orchestrated by master of ceremonies CW5 (Ret) Dave Cooper, and featured a marvelous speech by LTG Aundre F. Piggee, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4. This year's gala event

promises to be every bit as special, as we celebrate our cohort's 100th year of service to the Army.


As in the past, the 46th AMM will also offer activities for Warrant Officer spouses and guests. Details on spouse activities will be highlighted in future issues of the *Newsliner*.

Agenda and Registration

An agenda for the 46th AMM is scheduled for publication in the March edition of the *Newsliner*. Registration for the meeting will be open in May, and will be accomplished either electronically on the USAWOA portal, or manually. Manual registration forms will be published in the May *Newsliner*, and will also be available for download from the portal site.

National Elections


This year is a USAWOA national- and regional-level election year. Look for an article in the February *Newsliner* on this, from Past National President CW4 (Ret) Roy Valiant. The nominations period will be open early in the spring, and ballots will be mailed to all Members later this summer. Election results will be announced on the last day of the 46th AMM. ■



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