

United States Army Warrant Officers Association The Quiet Professionals®

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Dear Chapter Leaders:

This past week we celebrated the 249th birthday of the United States Army and observed Flag Day, both of which occurred on 14 June. Across multiple social media platforms and news outlets, we witnessed Army birthday balls, cake-cutting ceremonies, and installation "fun runs," including those conducted by many of our USAWOA members and chapters. The Spirit of America was displayed across the United States as cities both large and small and millions of homes proudly flew the Stars and Stripes in observance of this holiday. In 2025, the United States will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the start of the Revolutionary War and the Army's 250th birthday. Planning efforts for both historic occasions are well underway with initial information available at <u>U.S. Army and Revolutionary War 250th</u> <u>Commemorations Highlighted at AUSA | Article | The United States Army</u>.

The Revolutionary War began on 19 April 1775, and the Second Continental Congress met two months later 14 June 1775, and created the Continental Army, which consisted of Soldiers from the thirteen original colonies. In establishing the Continental Army, the Congressional delegates also prescribed an oath of enlistment that required all Soldiers to swear: "I have, this day, voluntarily enlisted myself, as a Soldier, in the American Continental Army, for one year, unless sooner discharged: And I do bind myself to conform, in all instances, to such rules and regulations, as are, or shall be, established for the government of the said Army." Congress then appointed General George Washington as our first commander-in-chief.

Coinciding with the Army birthday is Flag Day, commemorating the date when our first national flag was designed. The idea of choosing a day to honor the national flag originated in the late 1880s, and in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson declared June 14 as National Flag Day. Thirty-three years later, in 1949, Congress made National Flag Day official. However, while it is not observed as a federal holiday, the week of 14 June is also designated as "National Flag Week." Interestingly, only Pennsylvania recognizes Flag Day as a legal holiday, while New York has designated the second Sunday in June as Flag Day.

I'd also like to highlight a couple of key changes within USAWOA leadership that recently occurred. On 4 June, I informed the USAWOA Board of Directors that I was appointing CW3 Monette Madayag as the new USAWOA National Treasurer. Our current National Treasurer, CW5(Ret) Joe Consiglio is in the process of relocating to Texas and unable to continue to serve in the position. On behalf of the entire 6000+ USAWOA membership, I thank Joe for not only his most recent time as our Treasurer but for his previous leadership as the National President. We wish him and his wife, Deborah, the best of luck in Fort Worth, Texas and know that he will stay plugged in to USAWOA activities as a member of the Mid-South Region. CW3 Madayag, a member of the Arlington Hall Silver Chapter, most recently served as the Northeast Region Deputy Director. I thank her for volunteering to take on this new position and I look forward to working alongside her. They will conduct a full transition of duties along with our headquarters staff in the next 30-45 days which allows Monette time to fully integrate into the position by the time of the Annual Meeting of the Members (AMM) in October.

We also welcome CW4 Billy Gould as the new European Region Director. CW4 Gould was the Deputy Region Director and assumed the Director's duties as CW5 Araceli Rial stepped down as she prepares to retire and return to the US. We wish CW5 Rial all the best in retirement and offer a huge thank you for her efforts in working to get the four chapters of the European Region fully functional.

Finally, on 1 June, registration opened for this year's 52nd AMM and I encourage all chapters to try and send a member to represent your chapter. Registration costs are \$65/member and \$85/per for the Warrant Officer Ball. Like last year, there is also a reduced rate for WO1-CW2s with 1-year Time in Grade, or less. All registration information, to include lodging reservations at the Augusta Marriott with an established room rate of \$117/night + taxes and fees are found at <u>https://amm.usawoa.org/</u>.

Thank you for what you continue to do as a member and leader in the association.

Sincerely,

V And

CW5 Michael D. Dye National President "The Quiet Professionals ®"

