



United States Army
Warrant Officers Association
The Quiet Professionals®

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Dear USAWOA Members:

2024 is our National Election year, our biennial event to elect all Region Directors and the National leadership team of President, Vice President, and Secretary. If you are looking for, or wondering why, you haven't yet received a printed ballot in the mail, it is because for this election year the USAWOA Executive Committee (EXCOM) chose to eliminate the mailing of a hard-copy ballot.

In years past, all USAWOA members would receive a ballot in the mail to fill out and return to the election Teller Committee of the chapter hosting the Annual Meeting of the Members (AMM). The ballot listed all candidates for the national offices and allowed for write-in nominations. Once completed, the member would simply affix a stamp, drop the ballot in the mail, and it would be sent to the pre-printed address listed on the form. This year, the EXCOM deliberated on a decision to move away from mailing ballots while ensuring that every member still has the opportunity AND more importantly, the ability to cast their vote.

The primary consideration in moving away from mailing individual ballots was the steeply increasing price of first-class postage. On 14 July 2024, the price of a first-class stamp rose from 68 cents to 73 cents. By comparison, the cost of a first-class stamp in 2020 and 2022 was 55 cents. In July 2020, USAWOA had just over 5,200 members and today, we have just over 7,000 active members. What cost the association approximately \$2,900.00 in 2020 would now cost more than \$5,100.00. Note - this cost does not include the expense of printing the ballot. As a non-profit organization, who's funding primarily comes from regular membership dues and our annual fundraiser, the EXCOM collectively believed the cost we would incur with mailing of individual ballots was not in the best interest of our members or our association.

The EXCOM stipulated that in moving away from a mailed ballot, the voting ballot must be readily available to all members. As has been the case in every national election, the ballot would be printed in the NEWSLINER. All Life Members, and those who pay to receive a hard copy of the NEWSLINER are encouraged to fill out and submit the ballot on page 8 of the August edition. Additionally, an electronic version of the ballot will soon be available for download from inside the member portal <https://usawoa.site-ym.com/> and on the www.usawoa.org website. To further assist in the collection of ballots, we created a separate email account ballot@usawoa.org which is monitored by the Teller Committee of the Masters Chapter who is responsible for collecting and counting all votes.

I encourage all members to read the resumes of the candidates, printed in the August NEWSLINER and posted on the www.usawoa.org webpage. Members should then fill out their ballot with a total of four votes: National President, Vice President, Secretary and the Region Director for the region where they reside. Mail your ballot to the address listed or simply email it to ballot@usawoa.org. In accordance with our bylaws, all ballots must be received by the Teller Committee no later than noon on the 1st day of the AMM, 29 October 2024. Any ballots received after that cutoff will not be counted.

Finally, I'm excited to announce that we've confirmed GEN Randy George, 41st Chief of Staff of the Army (CSA) will officially open the AMM with a keynote address on Day 1. CW5 Aaron Anderson, Chief Warrant Officer of the Army, along with Command Chief Warrant Officers from the Army Reserve and Army National Guard will also be leading discussions during our multiple Warrant Officer Professional Development sessions.

All AMM registration information, hotel reservations, meeting agenda and the CSA's memo authorizing the use of Permissive Temporary Duty (PTDY) to attend non-Federal Entities

hosted events (like USAWOA) can be found at <https://amm.usawoa.org/>. I highly encourage all chapters to try and send a representative to the AMM as we've also dedicated time for the Region Directors to meet with their chapter members.

Thank you to all members who voluntarily serve in chapter leadership positions across the association. Together, we can, and should, drive USAWOA forward for the betterment of all Active, Guard, Reserve and Retired Warrant Officers and our families. Warrant Officers Taking Care of Warrant Officers!

Sincerely,



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

