



United States Army
Warrant Officers Association

The Quiet Professionals®
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Dear Esteemed Member

Welcome to February. The NFL season is over (congratulations Seahawks fans) and the Winter Olympics, officially the XXV Winter Olympic Games and commonly known as Milano Cortina 2026, is underway. For those of us yearning for warmer weather, pitchers and catchers report to Spring Training this week, meaning America's Pastime and Opening Day is only 45 days away, 26 March.

I have a few updates from the National Headquarters that I want share with you. First, USAWOA is currently without a Membership Manager. Mrs. Mary Etwiler, our USAWOA Bookkeeper is covering down on a limited basis while we continue the search to hire someone for the position. The **hq@usawoa.org** email remains the primary email address for all membership issues and submission of chapter minutes. Mary and I will continue to action member issues and emails as they come in however, there may be a slight delay in a response. Mary is in the Herndon VA office, Monday through Thursday, and the office phone is forwarded after hours. If members have an urgent request, please call the office at (703) 742-7727.

Specific to the Membership Manager, it is a great opportunity for someone in the greater Washington DC/Virginia/Maryland area who is looking for part time work with a non-profit Veterans Service Organization. The position is a part-time, 32-hour/week located at the USAWOA Headquarters. Together with our bookkeeper and Executive Director, these three positions make up the USAWOA national staff. General duties and responsibilities require an ability to work in a small team with a solid foundation in the use of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and MS Teams (Outlook and One Drive). Additional training and hands-on application of USAWOA's unique association management system will be provided. If anyone knows someone who may be interested, please email **president@usawoa.org**.

As most are now aware, we raised all membership rates effective February 1, 2026, the first substantial increase in more than two decades. I want to thank all those members who took the opportunity to join or renew their membership before the rates increased. Since making the initial rate increase announcement at the beginning of October 2025, we have seen more than 130 new members and renewals. We presently sit at approximately 5,100 members.

Another important change was the USAWOA Board of Directors (BOD) decision to eliminate the WO1, 18-month free membership. When initially implemented, every WO1 who graduated from WO candidate school was given a free membership. After the initial 18-month period, these members were offered another 18-month membership at a discounted rate, for a total of 36 months. For nearly 15 years, we welcomed hundreds of new WO1s to the association. In recent years however, a review of our historic metrics clearly showed that only about 15% of these members ever renewed and stayed active in the association. In short, the vast majority of these new warrant officers never renewed their memberships, which directly impacted USAWOA's continued operational expenses while diminishing our financial revenue.

From a fiscal standpoint, membership dues are the lifeblood of the association. As part of the larger financial solvency effort of the USAWOA strategy, the BOD recognized the need to change how our new WO1s become USAWOA members, while still offering a reduced membership rate to encourage their participation. What we have now, is titled "***New WO1 Membership – Buy 1 year and get next 2 years free.***" In essence, it is still a 36-month membership, however new WO1s will purchase their initial, reduced cost membership up front. We hope that by buying in to USAWOA at the onset of their warrant officer careers, a majority will not only maintain their memberships once promoted to CW2 and beyond, but be active members across our more than 70 chapters. The WO1 QR code – and all updated membership rates – are available at <https://usawoa.org/membership/membership.html>

Thank you to all of you for what you continue to do for this great association. I truly believe that by working together, we can accomplish anything.

USAWOA: Warrant Officers Moving Forward - Together

Sincerely,



CW5(Ret) Michael Dye

National President