

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
WESTERN REGION
11 JUNE 2015

Greetings Western Region Leadership,

I have been out of the loop the last couple months, my apologies to you all –

I've created a mid-year report, and request that you all review your chapter and if I'm missing an entry please send me your minutes. I will be sending this report out at the beginning of each Quarter.

Harry has been doing a great job picking up my slack these last 2 months, and for that I'm very appreciative, now let's catch up!

In creating this report, the struggles we continue to face are submitting your minutes in a timely fashion, submitting minutes period, submitting minutes in a document that both Harry and myself can open (please save your minutes to a .pdf or .doc file that is not encrypted, google chrome etc), and finally sending them to both Harry and myself.

We're half way through the year, and each Chapter should have a minimum of 1 meeting per quarter. Harry is spotlighting each chapter in the Newsliner, how wonderful it is to see what our region is accomplishing! Keep up all your efforts, and if you're having trouble coming up with ways to get more members interested in attending meetings, or participate in projects, let me know and we can share ideas.

Last week, in my unit I found out one of our best E7's was due to re-enlist. I gave her a call to find out if she was planning on re-enlisting, what her time-frame was (because I wanted to be there to see her swear in) and what her plans were for the next few years. I'm not in her chain of command at all, and I was very disappointed when she told me with great sincerity, "thank you Chief, you're the only one that has reached out to me, I would be honored for you to swear me in." How could I be the only one that reached out to her? She is a fantastic NCO, with a phenomenal reputation. Where were her NCO chain of command and mentor? The point of my story is that this applies directly to our USAWOA membership loss. More often than not, we don't reach out to those members and ask them to renew their membership. Especially the active members. We can't become complacent in our responsibilities as WOA Leaders to reach out to all our members and let them know how much we appreciate their ideas (not just their dues).

Thank you again for everything you do for the Warrant Officer Association, I know how difficult it is in today's OPTEMPO to make time for meetings and pay all the dues for all the different associations we belong to. With the Army facing some crucial restructuring and cutbacks, it's even more important to have a singular voice.

Michelle Hartley
Deputy Director, Western Region