

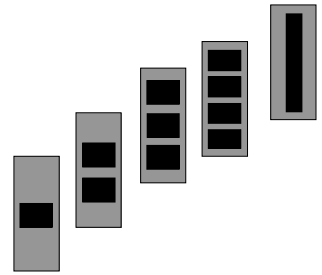


United States Army Warrant Officers Association Redstone Arsenal Chapter

“USAWOA 2004, 2007, 2009
OUTSTANDING CHAPTER OF THE YEAR”

www.redstonewarrants.com

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or the Department of Defense.”*



USAWOA Chapter # 0507

16 July 2010

Subject: Minutes of the Monthly Meeting, 14 July 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Redstone Arsenal Chapter # 0507 was called to order at the Redstone Officers & Civilians Club by the Chapter Vice-President (Retired Affairs), Mr. Joe Shiver at 1155. Members and guests were welcomed. Jonathan K. Pigott led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chapter Secretary, Johnie Keeter determined that a quorum was present with members.

The following members and guests were present (sign-in roster attached):

CW4 (Ret) Johnie Keeter	CW3 (Ret) Joe Shiver	CW4 (Ret) Steve Seamen
CW4 (Ret) Gary Braman	CW4 (Ret) Johnnie Walters	CW4 (Ret) Richard Christian
CW5 (Ret) Don St. Germain	CW4 (Ret) Bob Borden	CW5 (Ret) Alan Ruzicka
LTC (Ret) Michael Pigott	Mrs. Karen Pigott	Mr. Jonathan K. Pigott
CW3 (Ret) Vinita Hughes	CW4 (Ret) Charles Gully	

Bold indicates active USAWOA members.

2. READ MINUTES: The June 2010 Meeting Minutes were distributed through email to the membership. Minutes were read and accepted with change to para 6. e. (Delete “Not Present”) by the members.

3. READ TREASURER’S REPORT: The Chapter June/July 2010 Finance Report was presented by the Chapter Treasurer. Chapter Checking Account Balance is \$1,026.65 as of 14 July 2010. Report was approved by the members, subject to audit. Report will be distributed to all required recipients.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Redstone Arsenal Military Retiree Council Meeting
1100, 15 July 2010, Retiree Services Center, RSA, AL
VP (Retired Affairs) will attend. Others are invited to attend.
- b. CASA Wheelchair Ramp Build
0700, 17 July 2010, 2033 Vanderbilt Dr., HSVL, AL
We will meet at Cracker Barrel, Drake Ave., HSVL, AL for Breakfast.
Plans, Photos and Direction emailed to the members.
- c. Veterans Day Parade IPR # 1
0800-0900, 20 July 2010, Café 401, Lockheed-Martin, Bradford Ave., HSVL, AL
Chapter President/Secretary will attend.

- d. RSA MWR Concert (Lambert/Shelton/Ford) IPR # 1
1430-1530, 21 July 2010, ROCC - Bob Howell Room, RSA, AL
Chapter President/Secretary will attend.
- e. North Alabama Veterans Fraternal Organizations Coalition (NAVFOC) Meeting
1900, 21 July 2010, American Legion Post 237, Drake Ave., HSVL, AL
Chapter President/Secretary will attend. All are encouraged to attend.
- f. Veterans Day Parade IPR # 2
0800-0900, 4 August 2010, Café 401, Lockheed-Martin, Bradford Ave., HSVL, AL
Chapter President/Secretary will attend.
- g. Next Chapter Meeting
1130-1300, 11 August 2010, ROCC, Downstairs Ballroom, RSA, AL
Check the Chapter website and your email for changes.

5. OFFICERS REPORT:

- a. **President's Report: (Mr. Max Bennett)** (Not Present.)

(1) No report.

- b. **Vice President's (Active Duty) Report: (Mr. Tony Caudle)** (Not Present.)

(1) No report.

- c. **Vice President's (Retiree Affairs) Report: (Mr. Joe Shiver)**

(1) Mr. Shiver provided information from a Retiree Information email (attached). Information included; Expanded Agent Orange-Related Illnesses, Possible Breakthrough in Treating Parkinson's Disease, Agent Orange – VA Adds Ships to Exposure List, Agent Orange Payment Delay, Claims Based on Herbicide Exposure in Thailand or Korea, New VA Benefits Claim Form – Just Six Pages, and Social Security Notch Reform.

- d. **Secretary's Report: (Mr. Johnie Keeter)**

(1) Chapter Monthly Volunteer Hours Report:

- June 2010 Volunteer Statistics:
 - Event(s): (2) Soldier Support Meal Event. (14 Jun)
CASA Projects (Ramp Build). (19 Jun)
 - Volunteers: (22) Members/Civilians
 - Volunteer Hours: (132) Hrs

(2) Chapter Memorabilia Status:

- WO Mouse Pads:
 - Sold: 0
 - On Hand: 15
- WO License Plates:
 - Sold: 4
 - On Hand: 14
- Warrant Officer Emblem Caps
 - Sold: 2
 - On Hand: 6

- Chapter Polo Shirts:
 - Sold: 0
 - On Hand: 2 (SM)
- Chapter T-Shirts:
 - Sold: 2 (1-LG, 1-MD)
 - On Hand: 26 (XL, LG, MD, SM)
- WO Rank Decals: (W1-W5)
 - Sold: 0
 - On Hand (W1-W5): 189

(3) Mr. Keeter reminded all this is a Chapter Election Year. Start thinking/considering replacements for our Chapter Officers. Nominations are being accepted until election day. Election will be in October with installation of Officers at the November AMM.

(4) Mr. Keeter stated he had mailed a Sympathy Card to the widow (Kay Smith) of Retired Warrant Officer (Pershing Warrant) named Gary Smith that passed away in Meridianville. Mr. Richard Christian attended the funeral service.

(5) Mr. Keeter mailed Get Well cards to two Chapter member spouses. Mrs Debbie Cunningham (Ed Cunningham) had surgery on 25 June and is recovering well at home. Mrs. Judy Storie (Rick Storie) was admitted to Crestwood Hospital for a blood clot problem on 9 July.

e. Treasurer's Report: (Mr. Rich Christian)

(1) Mr. Christian continues to investigate with the IRS the filing of Form 990-N for the Chapter's earning income over \$5,000.00 for 2008.

✓ Mr. Christian stated the rules (amount minimum) for submission had changed and he was still working the issue.

✓ IRS Form 990EZ has been started by Mr. Christian and passed to Mr. Bennett for review and completion. Once returned, Mr. Christian will submit to IRS.

✓ Mr. Christian has made contact with the IRS and has things rolling to correct this situation. Work continues to register/correct the Chapter address with the IRS. USAWOA National needs to include our Chapter EIN (Employee Identification Number) with the other sub-chapters when they submit their information. Email attached.

○ Mr. Christian states the end of July he will contact the IRS again to complete the IRS Form 990EZ issue. He states he will also contact USAWOA National to inquire about them including the Chapter EIN with the other sub-chapters in their information.

(2) Mr. Christian stated he had been in contact with Regions Bank reference the Chapter Checking Account. On the last statement it was noted that charges had been assessed to our account for the type account it was listed as. A requirement to obtain a Debit Card was addressed as well. Attached email was explained. This action is on-going.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Community Affairs: (Mr. Joe Shiver)

(1) Mr. Shiver thanked those that assisted with Huntsville Mayor Battle's Soldier Support event to start Military Appreciation Week on 14 June at Joe Davis Stadium. Chapter members assisted with providing food to the over 800 student soldiers assigned to Redstone Arsenal.

(2) Mr. Shiver stated our CASA Project (Ramp Build) on 19 June 2010 was a success and fun even with amid the rain storm. This was an eight section ramp built for a nice lady (Nurse) that has supported CASA efforts at the Senior Citizens Center. Sections were prebuilt by Joe Shiver. Although the design and layout were different from our previous projects, the challenge was there for another successful build. Assisting with this build were Ms. Ann Anderson (CASA Director) and Mr. Lauris Jones (CASA Ramps Coordinator). Details were provided by email to the members. The day started with breakfast at the Cracker Barrel off I-565 (Exit 8) in Madison. Photos taken by Ms. Lisa Jackman can be viewed on the Chapter website.

(3) Mr. Shiver provided information on the Blue Star Mothers of Madison County Pancake Breakfast held at Applebee's in Madison on 10 July. Thanks to the Chapter and family members that supported this event. Funds raised will be used to support the Blue Star Banner efforts provided by the Blue Star Mom's for the families of deployed soldiers.

(4) Mr. Shiver stated our next CASA Project (Ramp Build) will be 17 July 2010. This will be a small three section build. Joe Shiver will pre-build the sections. Joe and Don St. Germain will remove the old wooden porch and steps on Friday, 16 July. Details will be provided by email for those wishing to assist. The day will start at the Cracker Barrel on Drake Ave. in Huntsville for breakfast and then to the site.

(5) Mr. Shiver announced the Medal of Honor – Bridge Street Public Recognition Program – 28 August Agenda (attached). These festivities will precede the Medal of Honor Gala being held at the Davidson Center that evening. Event times are 1630-1740. Email information will be emailed to the members. Come show your patriotism and spirit.

b. Entertainment: (Mr. Max Bennett) (Not Present.)

(1) No report.

c. Membership: (Mr. Johnie Keeter)

(1) USAWOA Membership renewal/overdue renewal reminder emails are being sent by the Chapter Secretary.

(2) Those desiring to join USAWOA, or renew their membership, can do so by calling USAWOA National at 1-800-587-2962.

d. 2010 USAWOA AMM: (1-5 November 2010): (Mr. Max Bennett)

(1) The decision was made by the members for the Chapter to host the 2010 USAWOA AMM, Mr. Bennett passed to the members that Committees would be established to start the process of hosting the AMM. Updates are as follows.

✓ Mr. Bennett, Mr. Shiver and Mr. Keeter visited the Huntsville Visitors Center for available information. Center will provide packets, banners for Mr. Keeter to take to the April Southeast Region Meeting.

✓ Mr. Keeter received the items from the Huntsville Visitors Center for the 19 April 2008 briefing to the Southeast Region Meeting attendees.

- ✓ Mr. Bennett has requested and obtained videos clips from the Huntsville Visitors Bureau, Huntsville Mayor, and Redstone Arsenal Commander. Video clips will be consolidated into 1 short presentation for Mr. Bennett's presentation at the October 2008 USAWOA AMM.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett attended the 2008 USAWOA AMM and presented a video and slide presentation to those present on our Chapter hosting the 2010 USAWOA AMM. The USAWOA BOD voted and the 2010 AMM was awarded to our Chapter. Planning and committee appointments will continue.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett provided a rough-draft proposed Agenda for review.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett stated he was donating monthly to the 2010 AMM Escrow Fund and encouraged others who could do so, to contribute also.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett and Mr. Keeter discussed the 2010 AMM with USAWOA National Vice-President, Mr. Pete Hill during his visit to Huntsville on 3 March 2009.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett and Mr. Keeter held a meeting with Ms. Carolyn Robinson, of the Marriott Hotel on 6 March to discuss details of the AMM and to obtain a cost estimate for holding the AMM there.
- ✓ Mr. Alan Ruzicka stated he will join Mr. Bennett in a monthly donation (allotment) to the Chapter for the 2010 AMM.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett and Mr. Keeter held a meeting with Ms. Patricia Hurston, of the Holiday Inn on 13 March 2009 to discuss details of the AMM and to obtain a cost estimate for holding the AMM there. Cost estimate was provided for consideration.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett held a meeting with Ms. B' Lisa King, of the Embassy Suites on 21 March 2009 to discuss details of the AMM and to obtain a cost estimate for holding the AMM there. Cost estimate was provided for consideration. Requested dates for the 2010 AMM will conflict with another agency at the Embassy Suites. Details are being worked.
- ✓ Cost Estimates for the Holiday Inn were provided to the Regional Director, Gene Perrino for discussion at the April BOD meeting.
- ✓ Because of the availability of the Embassy Suites, a request to USAWOA was submitted by the Chapter President to change the dates for the 2010 AMM from 18-22 October 2010 to 25-29 October 2010. Request was approved.
- ✓ Negotiations continue with Embassy Suites on hosting the 2010 AMM. A signed contract should be available in a couple of weeks.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett attended the 25 July 2009, Southeast Region Meeting and provided an update on the planning for the 2010 AMM.
- ✓ Visits to the Embassy Suites, Bridge Street Towne Center and city locations provided to the Southeast Region Director (Gene Perrino) and wife Kathy during their 5-6 September 2009 visit to Huntsville.
- ✓ Request for support/donation (possible \$4,000.00) has been sent to Lockheed-Martin for the 2010 USAWOA AMM.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett will contact the area Reserve Centers about the AMM and their participation.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett provided an update to the 2009 USAWOA AMM at Salt Lake City, UT.
- ✓ Notification from USAWOA National that the days for the 2010 AMM were changed from 25-09 October 2010 to 1-5 November 2010.
- ✓ Members emailed to join the 2010 AMM Email List and pledge their support for the event.
- ✓ Embassy Suites Contract signed by the Chapter President.
- ✓ Page and link added to the Chapter website for those interested in sponsorship of the 2010 AMM.
- ✓ Mr. Bennett attended the SE Region meeting on 30 January 2010 and provided an update presentation.
- ✓ Efforts continue by Mr. Ruzicka to obtain a small bus for use during the AMM. Final decision between small bus or large vans will be made at the July meeting.
- ✓ AMM DRAFT Business/Events Calendars forwarded to National/Region for review/comments. Comments received and are being reviewed/incorporated.
- ✓ AMM website being prepared by conferencesbysigma.com. Website will be fully functional by 1 June 2010.
- ✓ Chapter President presented a detailed brief at the Southeast Region meeting on 22 May 2010.

✓ AMM Information/Registration website www.redstonewarrants.webeasysite.us/ on-line as of 25 May 2010.

○ A sponsorship check for \$1,000.00 was received from LogiCore "Readiness Accelerated". Chapter member, CW3 (Ret) Vinita Hughes is an employee of LogiCore and assisted with obtaining this sponsorship. A thank you letter will be sent from the Chapter President.

e. Chapter 2010 Scholarship: (Ms. Roz Barbee)

(1) As previously announced, an anonymous donor (\$1,000.00) as made it possible for the Chapter to award a scholarship this year.

✓ Ms. Roz Barbee was appointed Chairman by the Chapter President. Additional committee members volunteering are; James Booth, Ricky Cornelius, and Al Reed. An email will be sent to solicit one more Chapter member and a Chapter member Spouse.

✓ One additional Committee member (Vinita Hughes) volunteered. Appointment memo will be prepared.

✓ Three (3) packets have been received to date. A discussion was held to determine if submission deadline should remain 16 April 2010 or extended 30 days. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Keeter, seconded by Mr. Bob Borden to extend the submission deadline to 14 May 2010. Chapter Application and website will be changed to reflect the new date. Notification will be sent to local media and schools for announcement of the extended date.

✓ Five (5) packets have been received to date. Submission deadline is this Friday, 14 May 2010. Packets are ready for committee members. Distribution to Committee Chairperson and Committee members will be made on 18 May 2010. Packets must be reviewed/scored and returned to the Chairperson NLT 7 June 2010. Committee Chairperson must complete memo and Score Sheet for presentation to the Chapter President NLT 9 June 2010. Winner will be announced at the Chapter 9 June 2010 meeting.

✓ Nine (9) packets were received on or before the 14 May 2010 submission deadline. Packets were sanitized and provided (18 May) to the Chairperson and committee members for review and scoring. Chairperson provided results (Consolidated Score Sheet and Memo) of committee member's review and scoring to the Chapter President. Chapter President announced the Chapter's 2010 Scholarship winner as Mr. Jonathan K. Pigott, a 2010 graduate of Huntsville High School. Official notification (telephone and letter) by the Chapter President will follow. Presentation will be at the Chapter 14 July meeting.

○ Chapter Vice-President (Retired Affairs) presented the 2010 \$1,000.00 Scholarship to Jonathan K. Pigott. In attendance with Mr. Pigott was his father, LTC (Ret) Michael Pigott and mother, Karen Pigott. Mr. Pigott will be attending the University of Alabama in the fall majoring in Engineering. This committee action is closed. Scholarship letter and check (# 1270) will be mailed by the Chapter Treasurer to the university. Photos were taken.

f. Chapter Election: (Mr. Johnie Keeter)

○ Chapter Elections will be in October with installation of Officers at the November AMM. Nominations for Chapter Officers; President, Vice-President (Active Duty), and Vice-President (Retired Affairs) are officially open. Chapter Secretary will accept nominations until election date (13 October). Chapter members may nominate them self. Persons nominating other Chapter members should ensure nominated individual will accept the nomination before they nominate them.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Mr. James Joyner, a member of the Alabama National Cemetery burial team informed the members that a part of the burial is to provide a framed certificate with coin to the family of the person being buried at the Alabama National Cemetery. These are provided by the State of Alabama, but because of funding cuts the frame will no longer be provided. Mr. Joyner asked if the Chapter could provide monetary assistance with purchasing the frames. Each frame has a cost of approximately \$15.00. A discussion was held and information provided by Mr. Bob Borden that he would discuss this with a Redstone Craft Shop person (retired warrant officer) to see if the frame could be made there and if so, at what cost.

- ✓ Mr. Joyner provided a photo of the framed certificate and medal. This action was deferred until our next meeting at which time; Mr. Borden will provide an update.

- ✓ Mr. Borden stated that the Redstone Arsenal MWR Craft Shop (Boyce Allen) wants to help. Monetary, materials, manpower will be needed.

- ✓ Mr. Borden states the MWR Craft Shop has the example frame. He will build the frame and hopes coordination will allow producing the frame at no cost for materials.

- ✓ Mr. Borden briefed the members. Materials for the frames will be donated. Frames will be built at the MWR Craft Shop. Members (6 minimum) are needed to take certification classes for the use of machines and building techniques. The Craft Shop will offer all three classes for a price of \$20.00. Classes dates and times will be provided by email. Several members signed up for the classes.

- ✓ Classes have started. Once certified to operate the machinery, those volunteers will start preparing the frames. Members have started making pen/pencils for the upcoming Pen-A-Thon. Actions are underway to schedule additional certification classes.

- ✓ Work has started on the frames. Currently materials for 4-6 frames have been prepared. This action is ongoing.

- ✓ To-date, 8 frames are near completion and will be completed tonight, 12 May 2010. After completion, frames will be forwarded to the Alabama National Cemetery for use.

- Work continues on this project, 17 additional frames have been started. This action is ongoing.

b. Mr. Ed Banville stated he had been contacted about a planned celebration for the 59th Ordnance Brigade's departure from Redstone Arsenal to Ft. Lee, Virginia in 2011. Mr. Banville was asked if the Chapter would be interested in helping with the celebration and possibly a golf tournament. It was agreed since most the Chapter members had been members of the Brigade and the Brigade was a big supporter of the Chapter, we as a chapter should be included in the planning and support the celebration as we can. Mr. Banville will inform the Planning Committee of our choice and continue to monitor this action. This will remain an open action on the Minutes with updates noted as they occur.

- ✓ No update at this meeting.

c. Veterans Memorial Brick Paver. Mr. Johnie Keeter/Alan Ruzicka will inquire about locating individual purchased pavers with the Chapter paver.

- ✓ Mr. Ruzicka provided information that will be emailed to the members. All those want to purchase a paver and have it placed adjacent to the Chapter paver must do so by 1 September.

- Email sent to the members explaining the 1 September deadline for purchasing a paver to locate with the Chapter paver. An email link to the Veterans Memorial Foundation will be added to the Chapter website.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

a. None.

9. ADJOURNMENT: With our business concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 1246.

JOHNIE M. KEETER SR.
CW4 (Ret), USA
Chapter Secretary

/S/
MAX C. BENNETT
CW4 (Ret), USA
Chapter President