

HAWKEYE CHAPTER UPDATE – JANUARY 2010

Fellow “Hawkeye” members – I hope everyone got off to a great start for 2010. There will be many changes this year which I will address to the best of my abilities in this update. I will continue to solicit the growth of chapter and to get the word out on who we are and what we represent. Our objectives are clearly stated in the chapter bylaws which can not only be used to help recruit new members, but to also remind current members what we represent for USAWOA, the Army, and our community.

CHILI FEED - This is our first event of the year and if a success this will become an annual event for the chapter. As noted in this month’s meeting minutes the feed will take place in the Joint Forces Headquarters (JFHQ) atrium on the 3rd of February, 1030-1330. Seven members have volunteered to make the chili, with other members providing additional items again as noted in the minutes. Any other members who would like to participate/contribute to the chili feed are strongly encouraged. Got a “secret family” chili recipe you would like to bring? How about a homemade soup or other side dish/dessert? Bring it along we would love to try it! Payment for the food is on a donation basis only; whatever the consumer would like to contribute. At this time there is no confirmation on whether the raffle will take place. A special update will be sent out if the raffle is a go. A rental fee for the atrium will be paid for with chapter funds.

Chapter Officer Elections – I am proud to announce Ms. Penny Stoker as our new Vice-President, replacing CW2 Thomas White. Thank you Tom for your service and a job well done! The vote for Ms. Stoker was unanimous during January’s meeting and legitimate IAW the chapter bylaws. The secretary’s position, currently filled by CW2 Melissa Johnson, will be voted on during the February meeting. Anyone wishing to be nominated or knowing a member who would do well need to bring these members or names of members to the next meeting. Duties of the chapter secretary are to be in charge of all administrative records, minutes of meetings, distribution of literature and notices, and such duties as prescribed by the President. New officers will be sworn in at the next Officer Recognition Ball in March.

Chapter Mascot Design/Logo – CW2 Gillette has taken the helm and is the lead on drafting a “mascot” for the chapter. The intent is to develop an identity for our chapter. A “Hawkeye” theme is currently on the table, however input is needed from the members on to what exactly do we want to represent our chapter. Any and all ideas are welcome! A suspense date is not currently established, but will be determined during the next meeting. The mascot/logo that is chosen will be used for any memorabilia that is decided on by the chapter in the future, such as T-shirts, hats or coffee cups. Any ideas can be sent to me at brian.cleven@us.army.mil or call 515-727-3551.

Family Picnic – The plans for a chapter family picnic is at the ground stages for the April or May timeframe. The chapter meeting will be held during that event which will take place on a weekend. This will provide an opportunity for all members to be able to meet to include their families. In the future the goal is to have weekend meetings semi-annually for the purpose of providing accessibility for all members to the chapter meetings that cannot attend during the week. The next proposed semi-annual meeting is Retiree Day held during the August/September timeframe.

Website Input – Our webmaster CW3 Michael J. Danberry is still looking for ideas to improve the chapter website. A link for the “President’s Report” which is soon to be renamed “Chapter Update” has been added. The contact link has also been updated. Improvements will continue to be made as they are identified.

I am aware 2010 will be especially challenging for most Iowa Warrants due to scheduled and pending operations. However, for those that can support the organization, if even by renewing your membership and encouraging other warrants to join would make a tremendous difference in the strength of our organization. Our link is: <http://www.iowahawkeyewoa.org/>.

The Final Word – Some of you may or may not know, I’ve have come down on assignment for Germany. My last day in country is May 3rd, meaning I will not be able to finish my term as your chapter President. I was humbled by the nomination and election and it has been my honor to serve you. I looked forward to an exciting year for the chapter as this news was unexpected. The office position will be officially vacant in May with April being my last meeting. I am confident the chapter will continue to do well with everyone’s energy and unyielding support. I wish everyone the best with their future endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,
For the Corps!

CW3 Brian Clevon
Hawkeye Chapter 319
President