

## **CW5 Ron Galloway- Military Assistant to the Secretary of The Army**



As the Military Assistant to The Secretary of The Army, CW5 Ron Galloway provides Warrant Officer Representation at the most senior level of our Army. By working at the senior levels within the Army he has an opportunity to educate others on what warrants are and how we represent 15 branches within the Army. Having adequate representation at DA level and above is extremely important for us as warrant officers. This article provides a deeper look into who it is that represents us.

CW5 Galloway grew up in a ranch community in Merriman, Nebraska. He was the second to the youngest among four children. When he grew up there were no jobs in the area and his family could not afford to send him to college; although, attending college was not something his family considered. His father served during the Korean War and his brother served during the late Vietnam era in the Army, so joining the military was just something that was in the family tradition. His initial plan was to join for three years then get out and become a policeman.

During his tour, a Signal LTC had been encouraging him for a couple of years to submit a warrant officer packet. Instead he submitted a Drill Sergeant packet. He was turned down because they had too many AG Soldiers as Drill Sergeants that year. He then submitted his WO Packet out of frustration from not being accepted to Drill Sergeant School, and was accepted. This took him by surprise. He had never worked around warrant officers and really didn't know what they were all about. It worked out well for him, to say the least, and he often says the best career move he ever made was to become a warrant officer.

CW5 Galloway enjoys belonging to an elite group of individuals that can call themselves warrant officers and subject matter experts. Others often do not have an opportunity to make a difference in so many ways. He enjoys the fact that as an AG warrant, he can take care of Soldiers and their Families.

To Chief Galloway, it is the “best feeling in the world” to be called a Warrant Officer. He says, “Warrants do make a difference and our Soldiers, Family members and Warfighters need us. You must always stay abreast of the many changes that happen and have an attitude that the ‘Buck Stops with Us, the Warrant Officer’ in all missions you are tasked to accomplish.”

CW5 Galloway deployed to Iraq, as many of us have. He credits his office team with helping him succeed during his deployment. He claims he could not have accomplished everything that he did without the O-grade and enlisted Soldiers that worked with him. “During hard times, the team kept each other going”, he said.

Professional mentorship is extremely important to Mr. Galloway. He echoes familiar words we hear from many senior warrants, “We often talk about mentorship but do not mentor as well as we could. Mentorship is a two-way path, and we must all seek out mentorship to become the best that we can be and as we make rank we must be willing to reach out and mentor our young warrants.” Ron does his part by sending out emails to fellow AG warrants and maintains a list of deployed AG warrants that is posted on S1NET and WONET for other deployed AG warrants as a tool to share information in the deployed theater or for preparing to deploy. As an AG warrant myself, I can easily say that Ron goes beyond being approachable, he reaches out to the field and offers his assistance and support.

Many good mentors had some of their own and Ron is no different. He had many mentors, but two are foremost in his mind; First CW4 (Ret) Pat McElroy in Darmstadt Germany in 1992 when Ron was a brand new CW2. Pat spent many hours with him listening to his questions and educating him on how to be a true expert in the AG field. His second mentor was CW4 (Ret) Manual “Manny” Flores. He met Manny in 1995 at Fort Hood Texas where he was the Senior Warrant Officer working at 3<sup>rd</sup> Personnel Group. He has always considered it an honor to know them and they were the greatest of mentors to him. Ron has since strived to emulate them.

The senior leaders Mr. Galloway has run into over the years have influenced his career and his life. They provided sound counsel and pushed him to be the best he could be. He could easily list names, but so many influenced him over the years. If he tried to list them, the list would be entirely too long.

So where does Chief Galloway get his motivation? From his Family, other AG Warrant Officers and Soldiers. The assistance he is able to provide Soldiers and help them with assignments keeps him going. When he talks to the young warrants they are all ears and hang on to every word he says. They ask questions and Ron appreciates the great responses he gets back from some of them; thanking him for taking time out to listen to their concerns. Ron’s philosophy is, “You can never be too busy for each other.” Those are truly words to live by.

I asked Ron what he thought about his accomplishments, he responded, “I can honestly say that I can look in the mirror knowing I have given 100 percent every day. I am very humbled and do not believe that my accomplishments have been anything worth mentioning; but when you hear the warrants and enlisted in the field praise you, I guess maybe a person does more than they realize. Taking care of individuals like you want to be taken care of and treating Soldiers as if they were truly family is something I live by.”

Mr. Galloway's accomplishments and experience have helped him understand how the Army runs from the lowest to the highest levels. Knowing this helps him help others. Working at every level of our Army that has HR Soldiers provided him a better perspective on how to support our warfighters.

CW5 Galloway's tips to the field are: "No mission is that hard if you keep a good attitude. You will not always work around the best troops and may have bosses that seem they do not care about you or the Soldiers, but you can influence this by keeping a good attitude. You should be the lynch pin within your areas that keeps everything real. Never give up on the Soldiers that you are entrusted to take care of and remember you are the master trainer when it comes to your profession."

Of the many tools available to warrants, Mr. Galloway says professional forums are great. Chief Galloway uses them to keep up with what is going on and recent changes to policy. The S1NET is a good one. Although useful, he warns that they sometimes become a lazy person's way to find out information. Before actually researching something ourselves, we ask the question on these forums. The numerous forums our services have are great tools, but we should not be handicapped by them. "Not reading regulations and understanding our trade is not acceptable." The words "let me Google it" are used too often, in his opinion.

Ron has had a long and prosperous career, but his goal is to one day be able to spend more quality time with his family, who has given up so much over the years to support his career. He enjoys golfing but has done little golfing in the last few years and does not consider himself very good. He has frequently been away from his family due to mission requirements, so when he is off duty, he prefers to spend time with them. When he retires from the Army, he would like to volunteer to help the less fortunate, perhaps at a homeless shelter. He also plans to go on a church mission, maybe to a third world country, to support a community that is not as blessed as some of ours.

CW5 Galloway is not just a great warrant, but a great human being. It's comforting to have someone who sincerely cares about the individual warrant officer, as Ron does, in a position that represents our interests. Ron, we send a heart-felt thanks to you for taking care of our Corps. Whatever comes next in your career, we wish you the best!