



THE DEFENDER

A monthly publication of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association
www.nwfmoa.org

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Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services

APRIL 2014

Breakfast Meeting & Discussion

When: Wed., 2 April 2014

Time: Open: 0700; Bkfst: 0715;
Meeting: 0800-0900

Place: The Meridian at Westwood,
1001 Mar Walt Dr, FWB

Program: Edward L. Hubbard

Please:

• MAKE A RESERVATION

- Wear a name tag
- Bring proper change.
\$7.00 for everyone

Reservation deadline is Friday at noon prior to the meeting. Call Bill Van Hoesen at 225-2957 or send an email to: bvanhoesen@cox.net if you are attending.

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Edward L. Hubbard, Motivational Speaker

By Paul Singleton

We are fortunate to have Ed Hubbard as our 2 Apr NWFMOA program. Ed is an acclaimed international motivational speaker and a great individual. He spoke to our group about ten years ago. Colonel Hubbard is still in demand as a motivational speaker and our local talent usually commands some hefty honorariums. He was recommended by some of our members and we are indeed fortunate to get him.

Biography

“...Human potential is nothing more than a state of mind, and that potential is controlled by two things...”

— Edward L. Hubbard

Edward L. Hubbard, author, artist, and internationally known speaker is dedicated to helping others overcome any obstacle, handle any ordeal, and reach any goal by developing the correct state of mind. Building upon his adverse experiences during more than six and one half years of captivity in North Vietnam, Ed conveys a positive message for personal growth. After hearing his presentation, you will feel good about your country, yourself, and your own ability.

A product of the Midwest, Ed spent his childhood in the Kansas City area. At age seventeen he joined the Air Force Reserve and in 1962 entered active duty where he received

his navigator wings and commission through the Aviation Cadet program.

Ed culminated a twenty-eight-year active duty military career in August 1990 of which almost 25%(six years, seven months, and 12 days) was spent as a prisoner of war(POW). It was an experience that truly changed his life, and as a result, the lives of countless others.

Following his release from prison in 1973 Ed completed five college degrees in seven years in his spare time and at night. In 1976 his concept, after only eight days of implementation, increased the productivity of a \$350 million resource by 50%. He later inherited an organization designated “the worst managed” among fifty-eight units by an Air Force audit. Within four months he turned the unit around and demonstrated statistically significant improvement in 96% of the audited areas.

During his ten years as head of the largest safety organization in the Air Force they shattered all records. They achieved 30% to 70% improvements in all categories where a 3% improvement had long been the norm. His organization was recognized as “best in the Air Force” for ten consecutive years, and a previously accepted multi-million-dollar loss per year was reduced to less than fifty-thousand dollars per year.

In 1985 Ed began motivational speaking. Following his Air force retirement in 1990 Ed formed Positive Vectors, Inc., in order to share the

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President's Message

By Jeff Watson, Colonel, USAF (Ret.)

It's another sunny Saturday! Mardi Gras was last Tuesday and I have just finished reading the paper. ☺ Of course, I was looking for relevant news information before writing my column for the March Defender. I didn't read the "Pluggers" input so I may have missed the most important section of our local paper. If you read it, you know that it rates right up there with the "Pickles."



Jeff Watson

I "googled" March to see if I should apprise you of any world facts that are important but of uncommon knowledge. We all know that the vernal equinox is on the 21st of March and we all know that St. Patrick's Day is the 17th of March so there was not much to be found there. I read an interesting on line article by Adrienne Vogt on Daylight Saving Time, and by the time you read this, we all will be practicing our Daylight Savings (March 9th). However, closer to home, all of us know that March is the month for Spring Break! In this area, it begins next week and continues for the rest of the month as different colleges around the South and East release their students for a "well-earned" break. Cha-\$\$\$-Ching!

Many of us will say goodbye to Snow Birds as we welcome the Spring Breakers. I sat next to a mother and daughter (both older than me) at a Glenn Miller Orchestra performance last month. They were from Toronto (you mean that's a city in Ontario? Didn't know that) and enjoying their winter in Walton County. I hope all of you are getting out and enjoying the warming weather as there is a lot to do in the area. Just pick one and DO IT!

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PUBLIC RECORD

IN MEMORIAM: Col James H. Boykin, USA (Ret), 2/9/2014. Jim was a Chapter Life Member;

Col Bill Mann, USAF (Ret, 2/19/2014. Bill was also a Chapter Life Member and held several chapter positions to include president.

Col Alexander Metzner, Jr., USAF (Ret), 7/10/2013.

Cutoff For May Defender



Member Spotlight



Marie Wagner

We'll Miss Bill Mann

By Scott Berry

Bill died on February 19th. While his obituary covered the highlights of his entire life, I'm compelled to add my post script about his impact on me and this chapter.

I consider Bill a "quiet warrior." In his words and deeds I saw mostly the former but they were clearly driven by the discipline and focus of the latter. No job was too big or too small for him. On one end, he served as our chapter president, reluctantly, as was his demeanor, and on the other end purchased name tags for chapter members and also held various positions between those two extremes. Similarly, in his early military he commanded a horse which had one engine and much later flew a BUFF which had eight. What a spectrum of service for one man who was able to excel throughout!

He wasn't a person of many words although what he did say carried weight and sound advice. Like several members I've known in the chapter, he provided the voice of reason at board meetings that would pop the bubble of others pushing their hidden agendas, venting emotional rants, and/or applying faulty logic to the issue at hand—present company included.

At SOS, I studied "The Trip to Abilene" which describes a group of people traveling to Abilene. No one wants to go but is afraid of "rocking the boat" and going against what they perceive as group consensus so the trip continues. While the chapter board is certainly not that dysfunctional, I do see some parallels. My point is Bill would never have left the driveway on that trip to Abilene and strongly—yet quietly—advised others to adopt the same perspective. I chuckle to think about Bill telling everyone, "I have absolutely no desire to go to Abilene. Why do you?" He never said those words but, well, I hope you get my point.

Chapter president, name tag provider, and Abilene naysayer—just a few examples of how Bill enriched my life and those of his chapter. I will miss Bill but certainly have not lost him—nor have you—for like the "titans" who preceded him, Chuck Arpke, Frank Glunn, and Jim McCarthy, his permanent and indelible mark remains on this chapter as a legacy of where we have been and where we're able to go in the future.

Florida State Veterans' Homes

The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs operate six skilled nursing facilities and one assisted living facility. All facilities are licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration and inspected annually by AHCA and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The homes are supervised 24 hours daily by registered and licensed nurses. Under the IRS tax code, monetary donations to specific state veterans' homes are tax deductible. Per Florida Statutes, all such donations are being used for the benefit of the home and its residents.

Resident Admission

Basic admission requirements for all state veterans' homes include an honorable discharge, state residency for one year prior to admission, certification of need of assisted living or skilled nursing care as determined by a VA physician. For more information, call (727)518-3202, Ext. 5562

Veterans' Homes

The **Robert H. Jenkins Jr. Veterans' Domiciliary Home** in Lake City (Columbia County) opened to residents in 1990. Recently renovated 149-bed assisted living facility provides a special combination of housing, personalized supportive services and incidental medical care to eligible veterans. Call (386) 756-0600 for more information. Address: 751 SE Sycamore Terrace, Lake City, FL 32025

The **Emory L. Bennett State Veterans' Nursing Home** in Daytona Beach (Volusia County) opened to residents 1993. Recently renovated 120 bed facility provides skilled nursing care to its veteran residents. Call (386) 274-3460 for more information. Address: 120Mason Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32117.

The **Baldomero Lopez State Veterans' Nursing Home** in Land O' Lakes (Pasco County) opened to residents in 1999. The 120 bed facility provides skilled nursing care and can accommodate 60 residents with dementia/Alzheimer's disease. Call (813) 558-5000 for more information. Address: 6919 Parkway Blvd., Land O' Lakes, FL 34639

The **Alexander "Sandy" Nininger State Veterans' Nursing Home** in Pembroke Pines (Broward County) opened to residents 2001. The 120 bed facility offers skilled nursing care and can accommodate 60 residents with dementia/Alzheimer's disease. Call (954) 985-4824 for more information. Address: 8401 West Cypress Dr. Pembroke Pines, FL 33025

The **Clifford C. Sims State Veterans' Nursing Home** in Panama City (Bay County) opened to residents in 2003.

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Served With a Summons by Sarah A. Shirley, Ch, Lt Col, FLANG

A Roman Catholic priest friend admonished a group of clergy (including me) to cling deeply to our vocations as clergy. He told us to never forget why we were ordained, asserting that if we kept our original reasons foremost in our hearts and minds, we would not become discouraged and we would perform well as military chaplains as well as civilian clergy.

The word “vocation” is rooted in the Latin “vocare,” meaning to summon or call forth. It conveys the idea that our work, whatever our work, can be more than a job or a means to make money. In addition to those very important things, our work can be a way we fulfill our life’s purpose and make meaning of our time on earth. Our essential mission is summoned out of us and made manifest in the world through our vocations.

For some of us our vocations are not work-related; rather, we may be called to be a spouse or parent. Some of us who don’t need to work to earn money are called to be volunteers working to improve our communities. Many of us have dual vocations, being summoned by our spiritual selves or the transcendental Divine to be a spouse and a worker in a particular career.

My vocation became known to me almost 50 years ago when I experienced myself as a future priest. I saw a world in great need of healing and transformation, and believed the Gospel and Sacraments were the best means to that end I could imagine. My childhood coincided with the Vietnam conflict, and I wanted the Soldiers (I hadn’t a thought about Airmen or Sailors or Marines then, and had never heard of the National Guard!) to be treated with love and respect. While I couldn’t change the history being made in the 1960s and 70s, I felt summoned by the world and by God to become a priest and military chaplain to be a sacrament of God’s love and healing, a sign that change for the better is always an option.

As I learned more about the deep dysfunctions of the world and in my own life, I realized that effort toward change does not guarantee improvement. A sacrament is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. Grace is sometimes about living with character

traits, behaviors and circumstances that fall far short of our ideals. Marriage is one of the seven Sacraments of my church, and if you’re married you know that it takes a heavy dose of grace to have a happy and fruitful marriage. Grace allows us to love, encourage and forgive one another through all kinds of things. Without it I can’t imagine that any marriage would survive! All the Sacraments are about inviting divine grace into the ordinary things of our lives...birth, death, work, illness, community.

Priests in my church (The Episcopal Church) do three things:

- 1) gather people together to hear the good news of God (“the Gospel”);
- 2) nourish them with Sacraments: and
- 3) send them out to do God’s work of bringing peace, justice and love to the world.

I’m really glad I was summoned to do this work and live this life. So far it’s the only vocation I’ve received, but you never know...I’m not dead yet and may well hear another call! What summons have you received in your life? Are there new vocations waiting to be lived out, new purposes ready to emerge and be made manifest in the world?

Edward L. Hubbard (cont.)

Continued from page 1

lessons he learned during captivity and authenticated by his Air Force results. He has spoken to thousands of members of corporate America, government agencies, and non-profit groups. Ed’s desire to change the attitudes of individuals through a better understanding of true human potential remains his number one goal in life.

Today Ed is an acknowledged motivational speaker, management consultant, artist, and author. His book, Escape from the Box: The Wonder of Human Potential, was published in January, 1994.

I believe you too will be duly impressed, even if you have heard him before.

Paul Singleton, NWFMoa First Vice President

President's Message (cont.)

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Of course, this is the April edition so a word about April events. Easter is on the 20th this year and with Easter and spring comes all the greenery and colorful flora one could imagine. I suppose for some of you, it is also a time for allergy shots. On the bright side, though, you get a reduced power bill this time of the year in the lovely Panhandle (and no "skeeters" yet).

This past Wednesday, we had a superb presentation by Buddy Bowman, Lt Col, USAF (Ret.), on Quantum Light Energy. With Colonel Voss speaking to us on how to live to be 100 and Buddy informing us of the therapeutic value of light energy, we have started off the year on a healthy note. That, of course, is a great way to get in shape to tackle the spring-cleaning around the house and yard. Isn't it great being a homeowner? Just saying...

Anyway, we have some great speakers lined up for the rest of the year with motivational speaker Colonel (Ret.) Ed Hubbard speaking to us in April. We also talked about the upcoming annual meeting of the Florida Council of Chapters. It will be hosted at the Hilton St Petersburg Bayfront, in St Petersburg from 6-8 June 2014. I know there are a few of us from the chapter that will be attending but I hope more of you will come with us. You know, I mentioned baseball in the Defender last month, and attending a game is one of the proposed activities while we are in St. Pete.

It's amazing how effective we are as a group when we are of one voice on important issues. As I have attended several of these conferences over the last two years, I have gotten to know the Florida Council president, Lt Col (Ret.) Jim Conner and his vivacious spouse, Dottie, as well as other Council members and spouses. It's great to find that we all enjoy a common bond of service, volunteerism and fun! I hope you will consider marking the conference down on your calendars to join us.

Speaking of events, we had our largest turn out to date when we had our February Officers Call at Doc's Oyster Bar in Valparaiso. The oysters were delicious and the conversation was great! We need to see more of you, though, in our relaxed Panhandle get-togethers. It's a great way for us to discuss our mutual concerns/interests and try new food and beverage locations. Of course, we will

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Florida State Veterans' (cont.)

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The 120 bed facility provides skilled nursing care and can accommodate 60 residents with dementia/Alzheimer's disease. Call (850) 747-5401 for more information. Address: 4419 Tram Rd., Panama City, FL 32404.

The **Douglas T. Jacobson State Veterans' Nursing Home** in Port Charlotte (Charlotte County) opened to residents in 2004. The 120 bed facility provides skilled nursing care and can accommodate 60 residents with dementia/Alzheimer's disease. Call (941) 613-0919 for more information. Address: 21181 Grayton Terrace, Port Charlotte, FL 33954

The **Clyde E. Lassen Nursing Home** in St Augustine (St. Johns County) opened to residents in 2004. The 120 bed facility provides skilled nursing care and can accommodate 60 residents with dementia/Alzheimer's disease. Call (904) 940-2193 for more information. Address: 4650 State Road 16, St Augustine, FL 32092.

Information on Florida State Veterans' Homes forwarded from the Florida Veterans' Benefit Guide Published by the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs. www.FloridaVets.org

Gayle Norgaard, USAF, Ret
Personal Affairs Chair

Camaraderie on the Half Shell at Doc's Oyster Bar



Chapter members gather at Officers Call on 2/25.

LARGE NUMBERS DO COUNT

By Tom Churan

In our last Defender I stated that at both national and local levels “large (membership) numbers count... affect levels of influence”

This was cited graphically in a 15/16 February 2014 article in *The Wall Street Journal* titled



Tom Churan

HOW VETERAN GROUPS QUASHED PENSION CUT

Extracts of the article follow:

“A cut to military pension that was part of a broader budget deal took just two months for powerful veterans’ groups to dismantle, raising doubts about efforts to pare soaring military benefit costs.

Continued on page 7

Membership

By Rich Comer

1. Not since the Carter Administration has military readiness been under such tremendous budgetary pressure.
2. Not since the Carter Administration have military pay and benefits, the underpinning of the All-Volunteer Force, been under such pressure.
3. The MOAA is the strongest voice in Washington speaking up for readiness, compensation, commissaries, medical and retirement benefits.
4. What’s going on in Washington has direct effect on military morale.
5. We need more members to have an even stronger voice.
6. Younger members will help more and longer.
7. The first benefit of membership is fellowship. The second benefit is knowledge of what’s going on in Washington with an ability to affect it.

Please encourage your friends who are non-participating members or non-members to come back or to join.

President’s Message (cont.)

Continued from page 5

be competing with summer tourists soon so we may be looking for a locale on the north side of the bay. If you have a suggestion for our next Officers Call, let one of the officers or board members know.


I want to tip my hat to a couple of our volunteers before I close this article. First, our newest volunteer is Tom Godbold, Lt Col, USAF (Ret.). If you need a new nametag, he is your “go to” guy to place the order. He is an awesome fellow, but he does not pay for you, so please provide him the appropriate payment when he asks. As you know, that duty used to go to Col (Ret.) Bill Mann who passed away unexpectedly this past month. Volunteer recognition also goes to Mrs. Marilyn Smith, Col (Ret.) Roger Smith’s wife, who has helped me as the coordinator for our Junior ROTC cadet presentations at our monthly breakfasts. We started the year with Fort Walton Beach High School and are now back to the presentation of Colors by Choctawhatchee High School under the command of Major (Ret.) Scott Bates.

If any of you would like to volunteer to be our activity planning Chairperson, it would be super to start doing things like attending Art Center events or other fun activities as a group. If “fun” is your middle name, let us know and we’ll let you take charge of activity planning.

One last topic – if you know a member that has not renewed, please encourage them to renew today. For only \$25, the member and spouse get to continue getting the awesome Defender and our company! Okay, with that, I hope you are sufficiently energized and ready to go to our website to make your breakfast reservations for April 2nd at the Meridien at Westwood. See you there and

Until then, we are ADJOURNED!

Jeff Watson



Got a Chapter question?




Change in personal info?

Comment?

Don’t know who to ask?

Email: info@nwfmoe.org

We’ll get an answer for you.



Large Numbers (cont.)

Continued from page 6

The pension cut, which came in the form of a reduction to future cost of living increases for working –age military retirees, was contained in a bi-partisan two year budget deal that Congress approved in mid December

The provision set off immediate, intense lobbying efforts by veterans' organizations seeking to defeat it. They included the vast majority of the 33 veteran and military groups that are organized as the Military Coalition and claim more than five million members. The American Legion with 2.5 million members also joined in.

Veterans' groups cranked up grass-roots lobbying urging members to call, email and write to their representatives.

As a result, congressional support for the provision started to crumble even before the final Senate vote on 18 December. “

I believe the pension reduction provision was removed from the budget deal, reapproved by both houses and later sent to the President for signature.

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Make checks payable to NWFMOA or to Northwest Florida Military Officers Assn., Inc. Check here if you do not want your ☐ name, ☐ phone number or ☐ email address listed in printed chapter directories. **Membership includes a subscription to The Defender for the dues period.** We are a charter member of MOAA and recommend that our members belong to the national organization. Our association is also a member of the Florida Council of Chapters, itself an affiliate of MOAA.

****The spouse of a deceased life member automatically becomes an auxiliary life member.**

Membership Application/Renewal

New Members joining in 2014
receive membership through December
31st of next year for \$25.00.

Membership Renewal
1 yr - \$25.00, 2 yr - \$48.00, 3 yr - \$65.00
Life Membership Dues**

Age	Dues	Age	Dues
101+	Free	71-75	240.00
96-100	50.00	66-70	275.00
91 - 95	75.00	61-65	295.00
86 - 90	110.00	56-60	335.00
81 - 85	150.00	51-55	360.00
76 - 80	195.00	-50	395.00

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Pay one half of the above rates