



THE DEFENDER

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

Vol. 21 No. 08 Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services AUGUST 2015

Breakfast Meeting & Discussion

When: Wed, 5 August 2015
Time: Open: 0700; Bkst: 0715
 Meeting: 0800-0900
Place: The Meridian at Westwood
 1001 Mar Walt Dr, FWB
Program: Angelo C. Pearson
 "Building Homes for Heroes"

- Please:
- **MAKE A RESERVATION**
 - Wear a name tag
 - Bring proper change:
 \$8.00 for everyone

Reservation deadline is Friday at noon prior to the meeting. Register at www.nwfmoo.org, call Bill Van Hoesen at 225-2957, or send an email to bvanhoesen@cox.net if you are attending.

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Building Homes for Heroes is Doing Great Work for Our Wounded Vets

By Tom Godbold

At the August 5 meeting, NWFMOA will welcome Mr. Angelo Pearson, who will describe the excellent work Building Homes for Heroes is doing in the Panhandle area, as well as Florida-wide. Founded in 2006, Building Homes for Heroes has set the pace for providing both built-from-scratch homes, as well as custom modified existing homes to wounded veterans across the nation, at no charge to the recipient. Capt Nathan Nelson, one of the most recent local recipients of a home modified by Building Homes for Heroes, was a guest at our May 50th Anniversary celebration.

The first recipient of a Building Homes for Heroes home in the Panhandle area was SSgt Aaron Hale, who was wounded extensively while working as an EOD specialist in Afghanistan. His wife, Kelly Hale, continues to serve as an organizational liaison to local military member recipients. Kelly was originally to come and speak to us in August, but will be engaged with Governor Scott in Orlando with official activities that prevent her from attending our meeting. Mr. Angelo Pearson has graciously

agreed to come and tell us of this worthy organization.

Mr. Pearson, a 1997 graduate of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University with a B.S. in Professional Aeronautics, retired from the Air Force after 24 years combined service as an Aircraft Maintenance Specialist, and AC-130 Loadmaster Instructor Evaluator with over 5,000 flight hours. He currently serves as Associate Manager



and Field Engineer with Lockheed Martin Mission Systems and Training at Hurlburt Field, FL. He and his team are responsible for training our future warfighters by providing realistic training unavailable except in combat through a concept known as Distributed Mission Training (DMT). By linking high fidelity simulators located at Hurlburt with other simulators around the world, DMT provides the capability to fly and train realistically within a virtual battlespace.

Mr. Pearson was invited to the Building Homes for Heroes opening of their new office in Miramar Beach. After the ceremony he was introduced to Kelly

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From the President's Pen

By Scott Berry

Greetings! How's this for starters: "A republican government is slow to move, yet once in motion its momentum becomes irresistible." (Thomas Jefferson).

Whoa! I'm not pushing any political party. Note that "republican" isn't capitalized. What I'm really "pushing" is the importance of momentum and how it applies to our chapter.

As I'm now about halfway through my term as president, I thought it'd be beneficial to be more philosophical than normal and look back on where we've been over the last six months with the other eye looking to the future.

Momentum is the best word to describe what I see. We've added more new members than the past several years combined and we've added two in the last month. Monthly meeting attendance is up as well, we normally average about 40 people, and I'm seeing new faces. The number of chapter-sponsored activities other than the monthly meeting has increased significantly and given us great publicity. On-going events such as the Officer Calls have generated greater attendance. And people are volunteering for positions or just to help out without any bruises from being arm-twisted.

Statistically speaking, the chance of all these positive trends occurring at once is virtually zero so something is going in the right direction and very little of it happened by accident. In addition, these healthy accomplishments were not because of any one person's actions. From my perspective, this happened because of initiative by numerous members who saw a need and *committed to taking action*. When these individual actions are tallied up, I call that momentum.



Scott Berry

I'm excited to see this. For those still on the sidelines, I encourage you to be part of the action. Any board member or committee chair would be happy to discuss opportunities. Want to take it a little slower? Then just show up at an event. It's my hope that the momentum I see in the chapter will be validated by Jefferson's statement and that it will become "irresistible" for more people. We have Officer Calls, the Annual Military Ball, and 2016 positions on the board of directors on the horizon that all have opportunities to help/assist/lead in various ways.

A couple of short bursts before I sign off.

1. Our July speaker, Jeff Werner, wrote some very positive things about us in his 7/11/15 column and even answered some of members' questions again.
2. Congress is making some decisions about military benefits as I write this. Let your voice be heard and respond to the MOAA email which provided an easy and quick way to send your concerns to all three of our Washington legislators. It'll take less than five minutes.

Berry "OUT"

PUBLIC RECORD

NEW MEMBERS:

Loren E. Bartley Lt. Col. USAF
Claire (Jess) Evans Lt. Col. USAF
Robert J. Hawley Lt. Col. (RET) USAF
Christopher S. Sheffer, Lt. Col. USAF

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Building Homes for Heroes (cont.)

Continued from page 1

Hale and expressed a desire to get involved with Building Homes for Heroes and to help our Veterans. He will tell us of current activities and ongoing needs of this worthy group.

Be sure to join us for an informative presentation about an organization that directly supports wounded warriors in our area. See you there!*

*For more information on Building Homes for Heroes, please see their web site at <http://www.buildinghomesforheroes.org/>

To see a video about a recent recipient, MSgt Joseph Deslauriers, go to <http://www.buildinghomesforheroes.org/news/hannity-video-usaf-msgt-joseph-deslauriers-home-gifting>

Military Birthdays

According to the Department of Defense Directive 1005.8, the prescribed precedence of military flags is determined by service birthdays. The appropriate order is given below:

Army Birthday – 14 June 1775

Marine Corps Birthday – 10 November 1775

Navy Birthday – 13 Oct 1775 (Abolished Feb 1781 - Reinstated 7 Sep 1781)

Air Force Birthday – 18 September 1947

***Coast Guard Birthday – 4 August 1790**

*If, during wartime, the Coast Guard is called into service under the control of the Department of Defense, then the Coast Guard flag would come before the Air Force flag in order of precedence.

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Military Professional Reading Lists

Want to keep up with current trends in military affairs? Are you looking for classic military literature to inspire your thinking? MOAA's reviewer Col. William Bushnell, USMC (Ret), has put together a compilation of Contemporary Books and Vintage Books that will keep you turning the pages.

Each list is updated twice a year to provide a wide variety of subject and thought and to highlight books that might not appear on other professional reading lists. The contemporary list is updated in July and January; the vintage list is updated in April and October.

And there's more. At the end of these two lists, you will find MOAA's unscientific sampling of the reading lists from the JCS chairman, the service chiefs, and other national leaders. We've come up with some favorites, which are listed On Everyone's List.

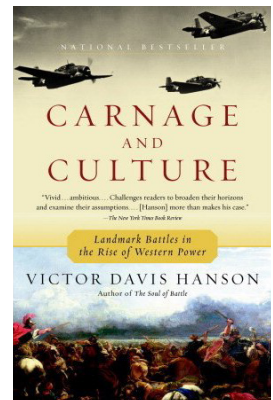
You also may want to check out the professional reading lists compiled by National Defense University (NDU). There you'll find recommendations from each military service and other prominent sources.

Order these books through MOAA's Amazon Store !

[Carnage And Culture: Landmark Battles in the Rise of Western Power](#)

By Victor Davis Hanson. Doubleday, 2001. ISBN 978-0-385-50052-1.

Classical military historian Victor Davis Hanson explores why Western values and armies have triumphed over non-Western values and armies for centuries, using nine battles to illustrate the martial superiority of Western cultural dynamism. With gritty battlefield descriptions and astute intellectual analyses, Hanson tells of the battles of Salamis, Gaugamela, Cannae, Poitiers, Tenochtitlan, Lepanto, Rorke's Drift, Midway, and Tet (Vietnam). This is outstanding military history that concludes: "It all comes down to the Western knack of killing."



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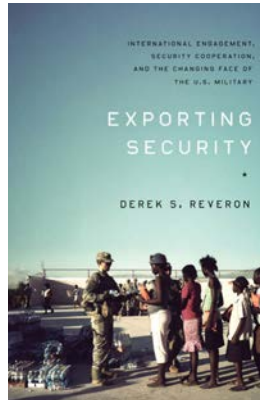
Reading Lists (cont.)

Continued from page 3

[Exporting Security: International Engagement, Security Cooperation, and the Changing Face of the U.S. Military](#)

By Derek S. Reveron. Georgetown University Press, 2010. ISBN 978-1-58901-708-5.

Professor of National Security Affairs at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., Derek S. Reveron discusses the roles and missions of the U.S. and its military forces in the 21st century, an era of changing security needs and opportunities, with greater reliance of technology, the fluid reliability of allies and security partners, and politicians' increased use of the U.S. military as a foreign policy tool (a blunt instrument, to some). Reveron argues security assistance to other countries means military personnel must be soldiers, builders, diplomats, and guardians — a delicate balance indeed.



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Auxiliary Corner: Surviving Spouse Corner

By Gail Joyce, Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee

Auxiliary Liaison Excellence Award

In April, members of the Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee voted to become the Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee (SSAC). This column was renamed to reflect that change. The Auxiliary Liaison Excellence Award also will be renamed following MOAA's annual meeting in October.

The Auxiliary Liaison Excellence Award is presented each year to a surviving spouse (formerly auxiliary) liaison who has demonstrated superior performance in recruitment and retention, representation, and leadership. Eleanor Layman, the 2014 recipient, represented both the Maryland Council of Chapters and the Fort George G. Meade (Md.) Chapter.

Last year, the SSAC received seven nominations for this award for outstanding service to a local chapter or council or both. Each nomination packet was excellent, making the final choice difficult.

Some liaisons spearheaded letter-writing campaigns about survivor legislative issues and served on the board of directors for their chapter or council. Other liaisons organized Veterans Day events and special

recognition dinners for surviving spouses, communicated by phone or email with chapter members and the committee, wrote articles for chapter and council newsletters, and recruited new members from other community organizations.

Members of the SSAC will review all of the packages and select the winner. MOAA will provide transportation, food, and lodging for the honoree to attend the 2015 MOAA annual meeting in Orlando, Fla., Oct. 30-31, where the winner will receive this special award. I can't think of a better way to say thank you to a valued member of your team!

Continued on page 5

Jeff Watson, Colonel (Ret.), USAF

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Auxiliary Corner (cont.)

Continued from page 4

The criteria and guidelines for this award include excellence in recruiting and retention, representation, and leadership responsibility. In the nomination letter for Eleanor Layman, the council president writes, “Suffice it to say, Eleanor gives new meaning to the term ‘value added’ when discussing the benefits of having auxiliary membership active in chapter and council affairs.”

No one knows the talents and leadership of our surviving spouse liaisons better than MOAA’s council and chapter presidents. Members of the national board of directors and SSAC members also may nominate a surviving spouse liaison. We encourage you to identify and nominate outstanding surviving spouses in your state’s council and chapter system. (Please note a former SSAC member must wait three years after leaving the committee before he or she can be nominated for the Auxiliary Liaison Excellence Award.)

Visit MOAA’s website to view and download the [criteria and nomination forms](#). The deadline to submit nomination packets is Sept. 10.

WELCOME HOME!

For at least the last eight years, Hurlburt Field has conducted a Homecoming event for deployed service members returning from overseas deployment. Part of the Homecoming consists of military and civic leaders gathering at the base of the aircraft’s exit stairs and welcoming each returning individual with a hearty handshake and a sincere “Welcome home, a job well done!”

A fresh representative is now needed to welcome home the Airmen and Soldiers on behalf of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association and the community at large. If you would like to participate in this very noble endeavor please contact Bill Van Hoesen, 850.225.2957.

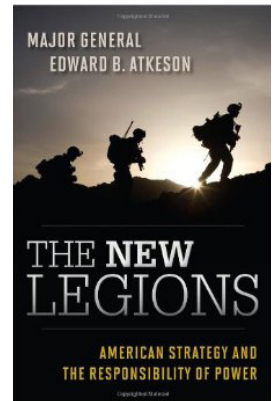
Reading Lists (cont.)

Continued from page 4

[The New Legions: American Strategy and the Responsibility of Power](#)

By Maj. Gen. Edward B. Atkeson. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2012. ISBN 978-1-4422-1377-7.

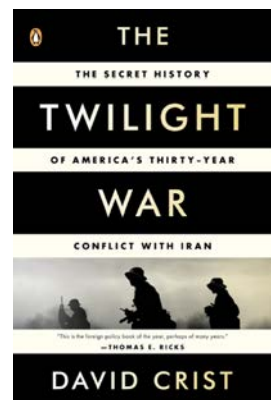
Facing the reality of depleted defense budgets, exhausted forces, and stalemate wars, Maj. Gen. Edward B. Atkeson presents a cogent and convincing argument that the U.S. needs to shift military missions to allies, other security partners, and a new legion of fighters. An attitude of “more of the same” is neither sustainable nor desired, he says; instead, the U.S. should invest in legions of indigenous fighters for mutual security. With the French Foreign Legion as an example, Atkeson discusses how such forces could be raised and employed in Latin America, Africa, the Balkans, and even the Middle East and Southeast Asia. This is an innovative and provocative approach to national and global security.



[The Twilight War: The Secret History of America’s Thirty-Year Conflict With Iran](#)

By David Crist. Penguin Press, 2012. ISBN 978-1-59420-341-1.

With timely analysis and vivid explanation, federal government historian David Crist offers a comprehensive and meticulously researched history of the U.S.-Iran conflict from the fall of the shah in 1979 to today. This is the most revealing book yet on U.S.-Iran relations, exposing just how close the two nations came to war on numerous occasions. Crist tells of the Iranian Revolution, the shadow battles of spies, terrorists, covert operations, intelligence failures, miscalculations by both sides, and Iran’s determined quest to obtain nuclear weapons. Crist also carefully and convincingly explains why “the Iran problem” cannot be ignored or marginalized. This is a very serious and well-written military-political-geostrategic history of a simmering conflict.



Scholarship Program

By Dave Parisot, Chairman

Although our scholarships for 2015 have been awarded to five graduating JROTC students of local high schools, our fund-raising is a continuous effort to be able to sustain this worthy program.

One way to financially support our Scholarship Fund which provides scholarships to promising JROTC students of our County high schools is by making a **bequest** – a gift made through your will or trust fund. Donations of this type allow you to retain control of your assets during your lifetime and distribute them as you wish upon your death. After providing for loved ones, many people choose to include a gift to non-profit charitable organizations in their wills. The NWFMOA Scholarship Fund fits this category. Some of the most common types of bequests include a fixed dollar amount, a specific property, a percentage of the estate, or the residual portion of the estate. A charitable bequest may reduce the estate tax. Consult an attorney when making or revising a will or trust plan to ensure compliance with state law and to minimize any applicable taxes.

For bequests to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund, your attorney may find the following wording useful: "I give and bequeath _____ (description of property) and/or the sum of \$_____ to NWFMOA Scholarship Fund, a Florida non-profit charitable organization (EIN: 59-3434498) that is tax-exempt under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. These funds are to be used for the college education of JROTC graduates under the guidelines of the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund, Inc."

Another way to assist raising funds for our scholarships upon your death or the death of a loved one is to request that anyone who desires to contribute to a memorial do so to the **NWFMOA Scholarship Fund**. NWFMOA members who have used this method in the past few years have raised over \$5,000 for our scholarship program.

A third method to help fund our scholarships is to become a member of the B/Gen Frank Glunn Century Club with a donation of \$100 or more. These donations may be made by sending a check with the "Scholarship Donation Form" or at our www.NWFMOA.org website using your credit card or PayPal on the Scholarship Fund page by clicking the "Pay Now" button. A new Century Club member for July is **Beryl Brenner** of Shalimar. Thanks, Beryl.

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Agent Orange Compensation Extended to C-123 Crews

The Department of Veterans Affairs extended coverage to airmen suffering certain conditions linked to repeated contact with contaminated C-123 Provider aircraft used to spray Agent Orange chemicals during Operation Ranch Hand in Vietnam, officials announced. "Opening up eligibility for this deserving group of Air Force veterans and reservists is the right thing to do," VA Secretary [Robert McDonald](#) said in a June 18 [release](#). The decision follows a 2015 report by the Institute of Medicine [detailing the health consequences](#) of exposure to dioxin-tainted aircraft, even years after their use in Vietnam, according to the release. "We thank the IOM for its thorough review that provided the supporting evidence needed to ensure we can now fully compensate any former crew member who develops an Agent Orange-related disability," added McDonald. The inquest found that as many as 2,100 Active Duty and Air Force Reserve Command aircrew, maintainers, and aeromedical personnel could have been exposed to harmful chemicals. AFRES personnel who served on the aircraft at Lockbourne/Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio, Westover AFB, Mass., Pittsburg IAP, Pa., or Active Duty airmen that served on C-123s at several bases between 1969 and 1986 are encouraged to submit compensation claims, according to the VA. (IOM [report](#)) (VA [interim final rule](#).) (See also [The Lingering Story of Agent Orange](#) from the January issue of *Air Force Magazine*.)

Novel Physics Laws

Law of Probability - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

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Scholarship Program (cont.)

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The winner of our 50/50 drawing at the July monthly breakfast was **Richard Secord**. Thank you to our meeting attendees for your support of the 50/50 fund-raisers. My personal thanks, also, to **Eileen Arpke** for helping with ticket sales.

2015 B/Gen Frank Glunn Century Club Donors: (\$100 minimum donation)

March 2015: Winfred Boyer; Mel Bryant; Dan Brown; Dave Parisot; Fred Westfall. **April 2015:** John Feldman; Eileen Arpke; Olive Clyde Locke; Larry Bush. **May 2015:** Samuel Lombardo. **July 2015:** Beryl Brenner.

2015 Business Gold Donors (\$500 minimum donation):

April 2015: Eglin Federal Credit Union; ZT Motors of Fort Walton Beach; Resort Quest Vacation Rentals; Michles & Booth Law Firm. **May 2015:** Wild Willy's Adventure Zone (In-kind).

2015 Business Silver Donor (\$250 - \$499): **Holiday Inn Resort** (In-kind)

2015 Business Bronze Donor (\$100 - \$249): **May 2015:** **Shalimar Pointe Golf Club** (In-kind)

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<p>Make checks payable to NWFMOA or to Northwest Florida Military Officers Assn., Inc. Check here if you <u>do not</u> want your <input type="checkbox"/> name, <input type="checkbox"/> phone number or <input type="checkbox"/> 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.</p>							

Membership Application/Renewal

New Members joining in 2015
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 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

Auxiliary Members
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