



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

August 2024

THE AUGUST LUNCH WILL FEATURE CHRISTINE KELLEY



Christine “Grinder” Kelley, Lt Col, USAF (RET), was the first woman to fly the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter in 2015. Prior to the F-35, she flew the F-15E Strike Eagle and led the first combat mission planned, briefed, launched, and flown entirely by women in 2011. She served for 20 years culminating as a Squadron Commander and then Deputy Group Commander.

Christine entered the Air Force in May 1997 after graduating from the USAF Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. She graduated Euro-NATO joint Jet Pilot Training in 1999 as a Distinguished Graduate and then went on to fly the F-15E at RAF Lakenheath, Seymour Johnson AFB, and Mountain Home AFB as well as the F-35A at Eglin AFB. She earned two Masters’ Degrees from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and Air University during her career.

Christine was an Instructor and Evaluator Pilot with more than 2800 military flight hours and has flown over 500 combat hours in Operations Southern Watch, Northern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. She currently works as a F-35 Contract Instructor Pilot for Lockheed Martin at Eglin AFB, teaching simulators and academics to F-35A pilots.

She now flies General Aviation aircraft to keep sane, which are mainly her Vans RV-6 and Cherokee Six. For her full bio and more pictures, click [**HERE.**](#)

Lunch Meeting & Discussion

When: Thursday **August 1**
Time: Gathering 1130, Lunch 1200, Program to follow
Place: Fort Walton Yacht Club
180 Ferry Road, NE, FWB
Program: **Christine Kelley,**
first female to fly the F-35..

MAKE A RESERVATION

- Reservations are Required
- Wear a name tag
- Bring proper change: \$16

Reservation deadline is Saturday at noon prior to meeting. Go to <http://nwfmoa.org> and select the link “Click here to make reservations”, or email nwfreservations@gmail.com, or call Fred Westfall at 850-609-8075 to make a reservation.

Table of Contents

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| President’s Pen ----- | 2 |
| 65 th Anniversary----- | 3 |
| Test Your Knowledge Quiz ----- | 5 |
| Chaplain’s Corner ----- | 6 |
| Officers Call ----- | 7 |
| Public Record ----- | 7 |
| Member Spotlight----- | 11 |
| Mascot of the Month----- | 14 |
| Community Outreach----- | 15 |
| Scholarship Fund----- | 18 |
| Legislative Corner ----- | 21 |
| Surviving Spouse’s Corner ----- | 21 |
| Advertisers ----- | 23 |
| Renew/Join Membership Form-- | 24 |
| Update Your Information ----- | 25 |

From the President's Pen

By Fran Hendricks



MOAA President to Visit NWFMOA

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Lt Gen Brian Kelly, USAF Retired, President, MOAA will visit NWFMOA from 4-6 September. General Kelly is coming to celebrate our 65th Anniversary and to congratulate the chapter on its many accomplishments. There will be numerous opportunities for Chapter Members to engage him directly. He will be our guest speaker at our September luncheon, Thursday September 5th. That evening we will host a community reception at the Air Force Armament Museum from 1800-2000. A more detailed itinerary of his visit follows.

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

TBD Arrive FWB

TBD Dinner at local restaurant (NWFMOA Board Members and Spouses)

Thursday, September 5, 2024

0700 Crispy Warrior Breakfast at Cracklings, Destin (Group of Veterans (all Services/Ranks) that meet every Thursday morning for breakfast)

0930 Victory Village Brief (Air Force Enlisted Village/Bob Hope

Village)

1130 NWFMOA Monthly Luncheon (Fort Walton Yacht Club)

1400 All Hands Call...address local retirees and Veterans on MOAA's Areas of Focus and Accomplishments (Location TBD)

1600 Free Time (Activities as Desired)

1800 NWFMOA 65th Anniversary Reception (Air Force Armament Museum)

Speak (20 Minutes)

Friday, September 6, 2024

0700 Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce First Friday (First Baptist Church...NWFMOA will have spotlight table (Gen Kelly will be invited to address all in attendance for 5 minutes)

1000 Depart FWB

I am excited for Gen Kelly to meet each of you and to see firsthand why the NWFMOA is one of his 5-Star Chapters.

H2S,

Fran Hendricks, Brig Gen, USAF Retired

President, NWFMOA

A graphic with a dark blue background featuring abstract geometric shapes like cubes and hexagons. A white rectangular box in the center contains the text "TECH UPDATE" in large, bold, white capital letters.

TECH UPDATE

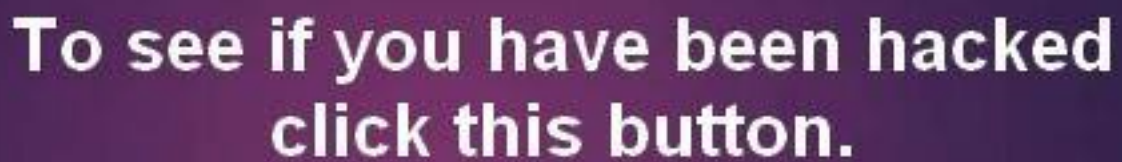
A black rectangular box with the text "YOU HAVE BEEN HACKED !" in bright green, pixelated, all-caps font, resembling a digital display or terminal output.

YOU HAVE BEEN
HACKED !

Have you been hacked? Do you even know if a data breach has left you vulnerable? Just last week, AT&T announced that over 110 million of their customers had been hacked. The average home and all its internet-connected devices experience about *10 attacks* every 24 hours. Everything from your smart light bulbs to your smart thermostat is a way in. The answer isn't to throw your hands up or ditch your smart gear. You just need to know how to protect your home the right way.

Check out this website to see if your email address and password has been hacked and your data has turned up on the dark web. Just enter your email address and see the result. If there is a problem, it will show you from where the data was hacked and what steps you should take to fix any problem.

It is way better to be safe than sorry!

A dark purple rounded rectangular button with white text.

**To see if you have been hacked
click this button.**

We cordially invite you to join us
in celebrating our 65th year of
Service to our Community

1959 - 2024



How can you join our celebration?
If you donate you will to be placed on the marquee (above)
and listed in the *Defender* for up to 12 months

Individuals...minimum \$25

Businesses...minimum \$50

Each donor will also receive a commemorative, numbered RMO!



Click here to donate to our
65th Anniversary Celebration

Below is an example of the banner. Click it to see it on our webpage.



Donors so far include:

- 919 SOW First Sergeants Council
- The Mistys
- Zaxby's Chicken
- Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce
- L J Schooners' Restaurant and Oyster Bar
- Doc's Oyster Bar & Grill
- Merrill – Tess Bass & Associates
- Faith Independent Baptist Church
- Hurlburt First Sergeants Council
- Cut-Off Barber Shop
- Advanced Fire Protection Services, Inc
- Melinda Wickham
- Ron "Westy" Westenbarger
- Marcus D. Chambers
- Lt Col Bert Everhart
- Marian K. McBryde
- Major General Don Litke
- Dr. (Col) Teresa Skojac
- Doug and Judy Stauffer
- Rod and Sue Gerdes
- David Jeffcoat
- David Hadzima
- Pat and Mary Kluever
- Bob Allen
- Jeff and Judy Watson
- Al and Carol Stearns
- Howard and Irene Fisher
- Karl and Charlotte Eschmann
- Steve Bond
- John Murphy
- Ron and Nancy Birchall
- Scott Berry
- RADM Richard Buchanan
- Paul Chlebo
- Dick and Dulce Solt
- Chris Beam
- Bob and Karen Gramm
- Kevin Kirby and Victoria Hansen
- Chris and Richard Hallion
- Fred Westfall
- Dave Parisot
- Fran Hendricks
- Hopefully, many more

Click on the link above to donate and get your name on the banner.

Test Your Knowledge

Take the quiz for a chance to
win a free lunch at our next
meeting.



This month the quiz is about some important military history. When you click on the link below, you will see a single question and a place to give your answer and name. If your answer is correct, you will be entered into the drawing at the monthly meeting (you have to be present to win your free meal at the next meeting). You may answer the question multiple times but only the correct answer will count for the drawing (so answering the question correctly 5 times will not give you more chances to win). We don't tell anyone that they got it right or wrong until we disclose the winner at the meeting. At the meeting, we state the answer and how many got it right. Then we pull the one winning entry from the hat.

Last month we had no meeting so we will have two drawings at the August meeting.

Click the link below to get to the quiz. The winner will be announced at the next meeting. The person must be present to win.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Time To Pay Your Dues

If you haven't done so already, it is way past time to pay your 2024 dues. Please make a check for the amount payable for the next year or beyond.

- Not sure if you owe dues? Click **[HERE](#)**. If your MOAA ID is listed, you owe dues.
- Don't know your MOAA ID? Click **[HERE](#)**.
- If you owe dues, click **[HERE](#)** to fill form and send it along with your check to
Treasurer, PO Box 1213, Shalimar, FL 32579.
- You can also now pay your dues by **credit card**. To do that, click **[HERE](#)**.

Never Stop Serving

Chaplain's Corner

By: Chaplain Ray Alexander

“Pro Deo et Patria” (For God and Country)

29 July 2024 will mark the 249th birthday for the United States Chaplain Corps



As long as armies have existed, military chaplains have served alongside soldiers, providing for their spiritual needs, working to improve morale, and aiding the wounded. The Bible tells of the early Israelites bringing their priests into battle with them. Pagan priests accompanied the Roman legions during their conquests; as Christianity became the predominant religion of the Roman Empire, Christian chaplains administered to Roman soldiers. In fact, the word chaplain is derived from *cappa*, the Latin word for cloak.

The U.S. Army Chaplain Corps is one of the oldest and smallest branches of the Army. **The Chaplain Corps dates back to 29 July 1775, when the Continental Congress authorized one chaplain for each regiment of the Continental Army**, with pay equaling that of a captain. In addition to chaplains serving in Continental regiments, many militia regiments counted chaplains among their ranks.

Since the War for Independence, chaplains have served in every American war. Over that period, the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps has evolved, with the addition of Roman Catholic chaplains in the Mexican War, and Jewish and African American chaplains during the Civil War. The position of chaplain assistant was created to support the work of chaplains. In January 1979, the Army commissioned its first female chaplain. Today, some 1,300 active duty Army chaplains and 1,200 in the reserve components, representing five major faiths groups (Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist) and over 120 denominations, administer to soldiers and their families.

While their duties are primarily focused on spiritual and moral issues, many chaplains have also demonstrated tremendous bravery. Stories abound of chaplains administering the last rites to fallen soldiers, oblivious to the fire around them, or dashing out into the open to rescue the wounded without regard to their own lives. Five chaplains earned the Medal of Honor for their bravery, the most recent award made posthumously to Chaplain (MAJ) Charles J. Watters in November 1969. Dozens of other have made the ultimate sacrifice, living up the Chaplain Corps motto, *Pro Deo Et Patria* (For God and Country).

Article from the Army Historical Foundation

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Defender is a monthly publication of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association. The purpose of this publication is to communicate with, inform, and educate chapter members. The national MOAA, this local chapter, and this publication are totally nonpartisan.

Officers Call

Our next officers call will be on August 29 starting at 1700,
[Doc's Oyster Bar, 303 Glen Ave, Valparaiso, FL](#)
(behind the Compass Rose).



PUBLIC RECORD

In Memoriam

None 😊

New Members

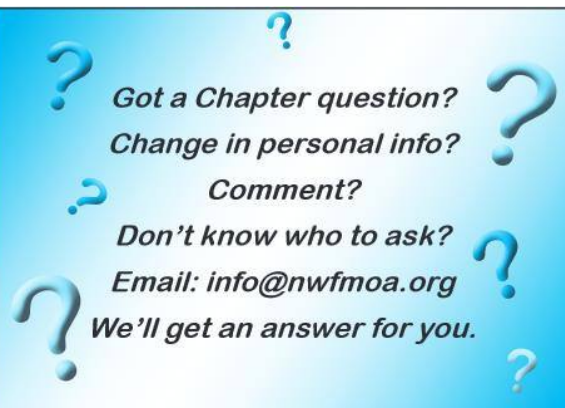
None 😞



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Save the date

Annual MOAA Military Ball Reminder, 12 December 2024

Our annual Military Ball will resume this year again and is scheduled to be on Thursday, 12 December 2024 at the FWB Yacht Club. The dinner menu will be similar to the last Ball in December 2023. This year we will again be charging our members and guests \$60 per person. The ticket order form will be in the digital Defender starting in September. Just a reminder: the dress for the men at the Ball is Mess Dress (if it still fits), formal, tuxedo or business suit. For the ladies it is Gown or Cocktail Dress.

The Band at our Ball will be the Brighton Street Band. They are led by Doug Chambers and are composed of three Band Members. They have agreed to perform again for four hours from the start of the social hour, through dinner, and after dinner dancing. They play all types of music, not real loud, some Christmas music, and also patriotic songs. A good fit for our crowd. So if anyone has any specific questions about the Ball, please email either Karl Eschmann, phanfix@cox.net or Dick Solt at richdulce@aol.com.

Just to refresh everyone's memory on the Ball Night's program, it will look like this:

- 1800: Social Begins; Pay as you go Bar; Soft Band music (Raffle begins)
- 1845: Call to Dinner
- 1900: Opening Remarks by the MC, Invocation, presentation of colors, Pledge of Allegiance, President's Remarks and toasts
- 1920: Dinner is served (soft music by the band)
- 2000: Break
- 2015: Dancing to Brighton Street Band music
- 2100: Raffle winning tickets announced
- 2115-2200: More dancing to music

We hope to see as many of you all as possible this year, as well as active military and other guests at our event! We need your attendance and support for the Ball to have a good social setting for our members to start the Christmas Season! Please send in your checks and ticket forms by the end of November so we can turn in the estimated number of meals for the yacht club staff.

We will be soliciting for items and gifts from businesses and individuals for the Raffle fundraiser event during the Ball. Starting in October, please bring any items of donations into the luncheon and we will collect them. We do need to fill our adult beverage crates so we have several to auction!

To sign up for the ball, click here



NWFMOA Shirt Purchase Options

**Order your NWFMOA
POLO Shirt today.**



Click this box for an order form.



Wear your shirt proudly.

Here is another option...

Looking for a NWFMOA Chapter shirt. In addition to ordering a shirt, you can also buy your own polo shirt (short or long sleeve) and take it to [American Athletic Uniforms, Inc](#) ([90 Eastview Ave, Valparaiso, FL](#)) to have it embroidered with our patch and your name. Cost of embroidery (Patch + Name) is \$15.



SUPPORT MOAA

Do what you can to support our national organization. To learn what's going on and to find out what you can do go to: <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/> We all will benefit from your efforts.



Never Stop Serving

**If You Belong to the NWFMOA, You ARE
Part Of The Solution**

[Click here to join the NWFMOA](#)



The Council Communiqué

Florida Council of Chapters
Military Officers Association of America

[Click to read the FCoC Communiqué](#)

Member Spotlight

A Legacy of Service, Dedication and a Remarkable Journey: Meet Hometown Hero Patt Maney

By Pastor Doug Stauffer *

Published in FWB Life – May 2024

In the tapestry of American public servants, few threads are as colorful and resilient as that of General Judge Representative (GJR) Patt Maney. From military battlegrounds to the judicial bench and into the halls of the Florida State House, Patt Maney's life epitomizes leadership, patriotism and an unyielding commitment to minister. Maney's military tenure as a Brigadier General in the United States Army honed his leadership skills and ingrained a profound sense of duty in him. His service across various global hotspots, including Panama, Haiti, Bosnia, and Afghanistan, equipped him with unique insights and experiences that would later refine his approach to governance and public service.



Blown up by an Improvised Explosive Device

Patt Maney's military legacy took a pivotal turn following a near-fatal encounter with an IED in Afghanistan. The blast left him with a TBI (traumatic brain injury), testing his resilience and reshaping his future. Fortunately for Patt, he married his college sweetheart, Caroline, almost 50 years ago, and she became his caregiver. "He became a 56-year-old/6-year-old, and I had to learn how to deal with him and help him," Caroline Maney said. "I was his full-time caregiver, and he needed assistance daily to get him from place to place."

Despite the daunting challenges of his recovery (20 months at Walter Reed Medical Hospital), which included over 80 hyperbaric oxygen therapy dives and multiple surgeries, Maney's spirit remained unbroken. His profound personal struggle and subsequent recovery not only restored his capabilities, but also deepened his empathy and commitment to fellow veterans facing physical and invisible life-changing injuries.

Upon returning to his duties as an Okaloosa County judge, Maney initiated the county's first Mental Health and Veterans Treatment Court, recognizing veterans' unique challenges in the justice system. This court, the first of its kind in the state, has become a transformative platform for rehabilitation and reflects Maney's dedication to serving those who have served, ensuring they receive the support and understanding needed to reintegrate into society successfully. The Florida statute establishing a Veterans Treatment Court system statewide is named after Maney, as is the street around the Okaloosa County courthouse.

Transition to Civilian Impact: The Legal Chapter

After retiring from active military service, Maney's journey did not decelerate. He shifted his battlefield to focus on the courtroom in Okaloosa County. For nearly three decades, he served as a judge, where his decisions were guided by fairness, empathy, and an ever-present commitment to justice. His legal career allowed him to directly impact his community, addressing local issues and making judicial decisions that resonated well beyond the courtroom walls.

A New Arena: Political Aspirations

In 2020, General Maney transitioned to another realm of public service by entering the political arena. His election to the Florida House of Representatives was not just a change of career but a continuation of his lifelong commitment to service. As a representative, Maney brought with him the discipline of a military leader and the judicious calm of a seasoned judge.

Current Contributions and Legislative Focus

Today, Maney serves with distinction, focusing on key policy areas, including education, employment, public safety, veterans' affairs and mental health. Notably, his work on mental health reform—spearheading significant legislation like the transformative Mental Health and Substance Abuse bill—showcases his dedication to improving the lives of Floridians. This legislation modernizes Florida's Baker and Marchman Acts and was PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Maney introduced this groundbreaking bill every year during his time in office. These changes mark the first updates in 53 and 30 years, respectively!

Collaborative Efforts and Bipartisan Leadership

Maney is known for his ability to collaborate across the aisle. His efforts in co-sponsoring bills and working within committees highlight his pragmatic approach to governance, focusing on shared goals and mutual respect. His legislative success is due mainly to his ability to engage with peers and constituents, ensuring that his policies have broad support and real-world impact.

Looking Ahead: The Path Forward

As Maney continues his work in the Florida House, his future initiatives promise to enhance further the state's infrastructure, healthcare, and environmental policies. His ongoing commitment to veterans' affairs and public safety remains unwavering, driven by personal experience and professional dedication.

GJR Maney's journey from the military to the judiciary and now to the Legislature is a powerful testament to a life well-lived in service to others. For those who know him and those he serves, Maney is not just a representative but a steadfast guardian of their welfare and a tireless advocate for their rights.

Too Many Awards to List Each One

Representative Maney was honored as the national 2019 DAV Outstanding Disabled American Veteran and named Military Order of the Purple Heart National Patriot of the Year in 2010. He was also given the United States Army War College Outstanding Alumni Award (2019) for his community service after military retirement. Rep. Maney was inducted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame (2018) and appointed to serve on the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame Council (2019) for making significant contributions to the State of Florida after military service.

In District 4 and beyond, General Judge Representative Patt Maney's legacy is not merely in the laws he has helped pass but in the lives he has touched—a true embodiment of leadership, service, and unwavering commitment. I count him a true friend, an outstanding patriot, and one worth emulating.

* - Doug Stauffer is an Associate Member of the NWFMoa

Never Stop Serving

Mascot of the Month

Below is a picture of Watson, proud owner of our President, Fran Hendricks. Watson, is a 3 year old rescue Lab mix. He is honored to be featured as the NWFMOA Mascot of the Month. His running mate, May, looks forward to her turn in *The Defender*.



Please submit a picture of you and your special animal friend by sending an email to nwf.defender@nwfmoe.org.

Welcome New 96th Test Wing Commander



Photo of NWFMOA President Fran Hendricks welcoming the new 96 Test Wing Commander (Brig Gen Mark Massaro) and his bride to Eglin after his change of command on 3 July. The ceremony took place at the McKinley Climatic Laboratory.

Photo credit goes to Doug Stauffer, NWFMOA Member.

Old Timers Supper Club

Col Marvin Bridgman is shown below helping to prepare a meal for the “Old Timers Supper Club”. This Supper Club has been in existence for well over 50 years. Also helping to prepare the meal and not pictured were NWFMOA members: Dr (Lt Col) Howard Fisher, Lt Col Paul Singleton, Capt Jim Shoff, Emil Pagliari, and Brig Gen Fran Hendricks. Col Larry Bush is also a member of this cook team.



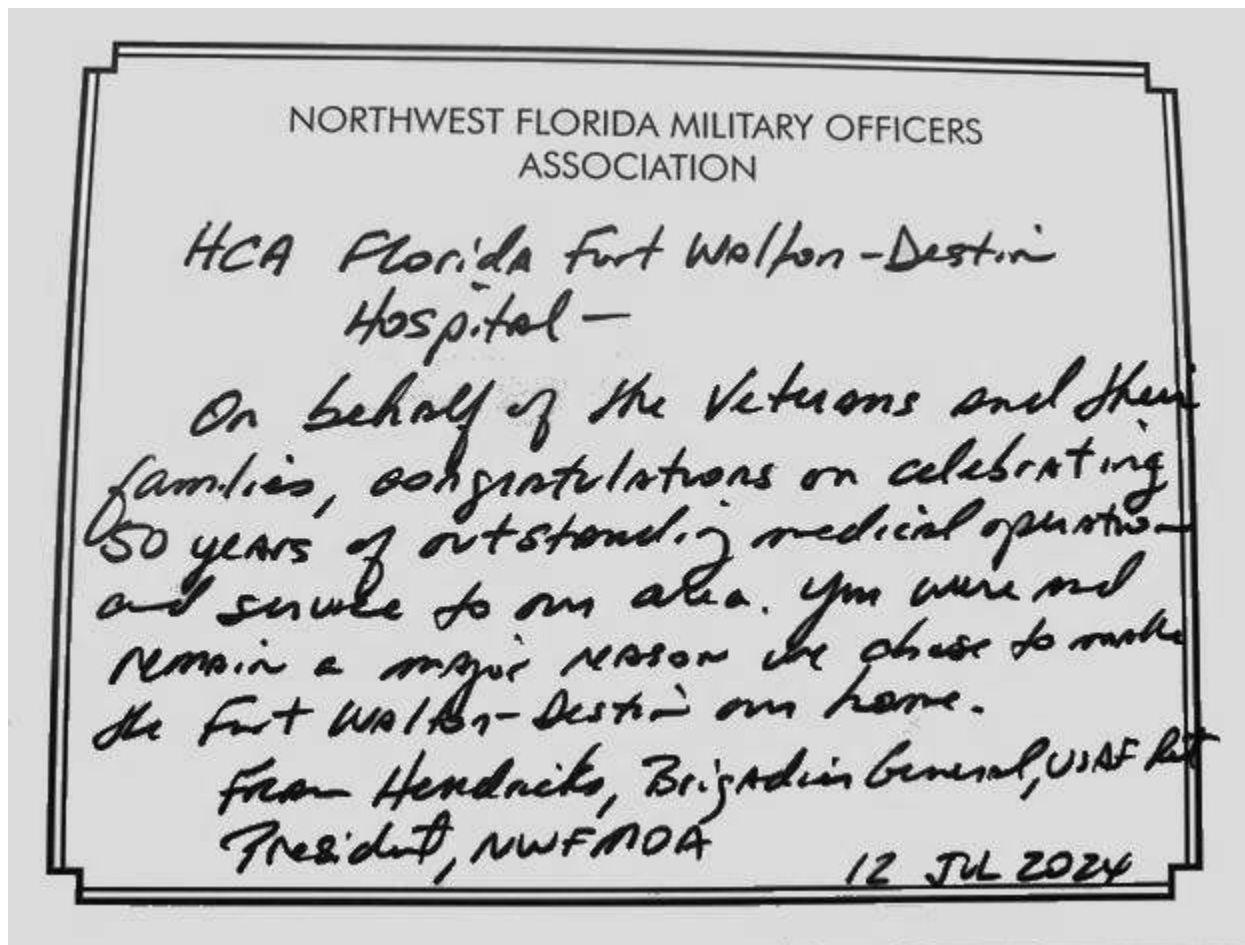
Victory Village Deed Signing

On Friday, July 12, 2024 the USAF Vice Chief of Staff, Gen James Slide, Asst Secretary of the Air Force for Energy, Installations, and Environment, Dr Ravi Chaudhary, and CMSgt Brooke McLean, Air Force Enlisted Village President and CEO signed the deed and transferred land from Eglin AFB to AFEV for the future construction of Victory Village. Victory Village will be a blended community comprised of wounded warriors and their caregivers, surviving spouses of retired enlisted Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, and Guardians, and retired enlisted couples. Fellow NWFMOA members, State Representative (BG ret) Patt Maney, Mayor of Fort Walton Beach (Col ret) Dick Rynearson, former Okaloosa County Commissioner (Maj ret) Dave Parisot, and NWFMOA President (Brig Gen Ret) Fran Hendricks were in attendance and recognized. (Photo below).



HCA Florida Fort Walton Destin Hospital Celebrates 50 Years Serving Our Area

On Friday July 12, 2024 HCA Florida Fort Walton Beach- Destin Hospital celebrated 50 years serving the local community. Brig Gen Fran Hendricks attended their recognition reception and provided them with a note of congratulations from all local Veterans and their families. The note from NWFMOA will be added to their time capsule for future residents of the area to read when the capsule is opened many years down the road.



Scholarship Fund

by Dave Parisot



Welcome new Board member; Answers to some questions about the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund

I want to welcome LTC **Kevin Kirby**, USA, Ret., to the Board of Directors of the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund. Kevin is a Gold Club donor since 2021 and expressed interests in how he could further assist with the scholarship program and interfacing with the high school JROTC programs. Welcome aboard, Kevin.

Over a period of time, I have been asked some questions about the Scholarship Fund by NWFMOA members, and thought perhaps others may have the same questions. Thus, I will address those questions in this article.

Question 1: Are there any relationships or funding associations between the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund and the national MOAA Scholarship program? Answer: No. The NWFMOA Scholarship Fund is its own non-profit IRS 501c(3) organization with no affiliation with the MOAA scholarship Fund. Any donations to either organization are separate.

Question 2: What happens to the monies donated to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund? Answer: All donations are deposited at the Eglin Federal Credit Union and are used primarily for scholarships to local JROTC cadets and local ROTC cadets. Scholarship funds are paid directly to the scholarship winner's college (on the student's behalf) only after we receive written verification from the student's college of full-time enrollment and enrollment in the college's ROTC program. In addition, we offer an Educational Support Grant (ESG) of \$500 per year to each of the local JROTC units we support. (Please go to www.NWFMOA.org and click on the Scholarship Fund to read about the ESG program.) Very minor funds are also used for our extremely low administrative costs.

Question 3: How many board members are there and do they receive any compensation? Answer: There are currently seven Chapter members on the Scholarship Fund board of directors (BOD) as follows: Dave Parisot, President (10 years); George Colton, Secretary-Treasurer (10 years); Bob Allen (12 years); Fred Westfall (9 years); Karl Eschmann (2 years); Charles Farmer (JROTC Rep.) (2 years), and Kevin Kirby (new member). Board members all serve as volunteers without compensation. The Scholarship Fund BOD is separate from the Chapter BOD. We also have a non-voting financial advisor (Tess Bass) with the Merrill Lynch Company.

Question 4: Are donations to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund tax deductible? Answer: Since the Scholarship Fund is registered with the IRS as a non-profit Chapter 501c(3) organization, donations are tax deductible as the IRS tax laws allow. For any donations of \$200 or higher, the

donor will receive a letter for their tax files stating the name of the donor, the date and amount of the donation, and that the donor received no services as a result of their donation.

Question 5: How can I donate to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund? Answer: We have tried to make it very easy to donate in multiple ways. 1) Biring a check or cash to a Chapter luncheon/meeting and give it to Dave Parisot (President) or George Colton (Secretary-Treasurer); 2) Mail a check using the donation form in the Defender or on the NWFMOA.org website; 3) Donate by credit or debit card using the procedures on the Chapter website www.NWFMOA.org and click on the “DONATE” button at the top of the page. (For a detailed discussion of our recently implemented credit/debit card donation procedures, see my “Scholarship Fund” article in the May 2024 issue of The Defender.) Donations may be made at any time.

Below is the complete list of our **Endowed Scholarships**, our **Gold Century Club** members (\$500 cumulative minimum donation) and our **BG Frank Glunn Century Club** members (\$100 minimum donation) for the most previous 12 months, along with our **Business Donors**. Your support is greatly appreciated. All of these donations are used to fund our scholarships. [Note: (D) means deceased and (R) means Renewal of membership.]

Endowed Scholarships: Lt Col Jim and Mrs Una Heavener Memorial Scholarship (D) (via their estate, effective 2018); Dave Parisot in memory of his wife, Chong Cha (Kim) Parisot) (effective 2017); Dr (Lt Col, USAF, Ret.) Howard and Mrs. Irene Fisher Scholarship (effective 2022); Dr. (Lt. Col., USAF, Ret.) Fred and Mrs. Jan Westfall Scholarship (effective 2023); and, Col. (USAF, Ret.) Karl and Mrs. Charlotte Eschmann Scholarship (effective 2024).

Gold Century Club: Bill Ryan (Feb 2016); Ruth Cullen, (D) (Oct 2016); Dave Parisot (Feb 2017); Janet Taylor (Mar 2017); Chris Beam (Mar 2017); Bob Garcia (D) (July 2017); Rod Gerdes (Nov 2017); Larry Bush (Nov 2017); Dr. Howard & Irene Fisher (Nov 2017); Eileen Arpke (Feb 2018); Fred & Jan Westfall (Apr 2018); Clyde Locke (D) (Apr 2018); WWII, Korea, and Vietnam Veteran Sam Lombardo (D) (July 2018); Dennis Phillips (Aug 2018); Karl & Charlotte Eschmann (Oct 2018); Carol Baker (Jan 2019); Ann Adelsperger (Feb 2019); Don Litke (Aug 2019); Fred Boyer (D) (Aug 2019). Dr. Keith & Elizabeth Kulow (Nov 2019); Al Bills (Nov. 2019); Kay Dent (Nov. 2019); Dr. Roger Riegenbach (Dec 2019); Robert “Pete” Peterzen (Dec 2019); Nick Marotta (Oct 2020); Kathy & Jesse Bush (Dec 2020); Patt & Caroline Maney (Dec 2020); Kevin Kirby (Apr 2021); Scott & Janet Berry (May 2021); Douglas Hardin (D) (Sept 2021); Patrick & Mosla Boab (Dec. 2021); Bob Allen (Feb 2022); Bobbi Hanson Garcia (Mar 2022); Joy Houck (Mar 2022); George Colton (May 2022); Bob Secrest (May 2022); Brig. Gen Fran & Mrs Connie Hendricks (Oct 2022); Les Matheson (Feb 2023); Dan Brown (April 2023); Tess Bass (August 2023); Bob Gramm (Dec 2023); and Larry Tashlik (Dec 2023) [Note: 42 total members]

BG Frank Glunn Century Club (past 12 months) (R=Renewal): August 2023: Dan Brown (R); Christine Hallion; Kevin Kirby (R); Dick Solt (R); Dave Parisot (R) (In memory of Col. ‘Skip’

Harrington and Col. Bill Byerley); **Tess Bass** (R); October 2023: **George Colton** (R); November 2023: **Pat Johnson**; **Pete Peterzen** (R); **Dave Parisot** (R)(In memory of Chong Parisot); **Keith & Elizabeth Kulow** (R); **Tess Bass** (R); December 2023: **Les Matheson** (R); **Jeff Watson** (R) (In memory of Maj. John Besten, USAF, Ret.); **Karl and Charlotte Eschmann** (R); **Bob Gramm** (R); **Brig. Gen. Fran & Connie Hendricks** (R); **Larry Tashlik** (R); **Kay Dent** (In memory of Troy Dent and Larry Kettter); and, **Janet Ryan Taylor** (R) (In honor of Major Bill Ryan); February 2024: **Rod Gerdes** (R); March 2024: **Don Litke** (R); **Kevin Kirby** (R); April 2024: **Fred Westfall** (R); **Dennis Phillips** (R); and **Dr. Keith Kulow** (R); May 2024: **Bob Secrest** (R); **Al Bills** (R); and **Dave Parisot** (R) (In memory of Phil Krajeck); **George Colton** (R).

2023/2024 Business Platinum Donors: (\$1,000+): Dec. 2023: **Bass, Byrd & Associates at Merrill Lynch of FWB** (R); March 2024: **Florida Power & Light**



2024 Business Gold Donors (\$500 - \$749): April 2024: **Eglin Federal Credit Union** (R); **GSS Gear FWB, LLC**; May 2024: **Step One Automotive Group** (R)

2024 Business Silver Donors (\$250 - \$499): April 2024: **Lisa Jo Spencer, PA** (R).

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Legislative Corner



For 95 years MOAA has worked to safeguard our earned benefits. They are in constant contact with elected members of both the Senate and House of Representatives addressing MOAA's legislative agenda. In April they went to Capital Hill accompanied by Chapter Members from MOAA's over 600 Chapters for their annual Advocacy in Action engagement (previously known as "Storming the Hill"). The report card assessing our effectiveness as an organization in protecting the earned benefits of those who are presently serving and who have served is the captured in the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The bill has cleared the House and is working its way to the floor of the Senate. I am attaching an Executive Summary of the Senate version for your info. Please know this, there is still time to go to the MOAA Legislative Action Center and have your voice heard on the many topics MOAA is fighting for us. Just go to our website and hit the Take Action Button...it will take you there. Never Stop Serving...Never Stop Fighting for what was promised those who have answered our Nation's call to service.

Please view the proposed FY25 Executive Summary by clicking [HERE](#).

H2S,

Fran Hendricks, Brig Gen, USAF Ret
President, NWFMOA

Surviving Spouse Corner

Chaplains Ray Alexander and Tom Azar have created a number of excellent resources for Surviving Spouses and it is on our website. Be sure to check it out by clicking on the link below. Or visit our [website](#) and click on the Member area.

[**Click here for Surviving Spouse Information**](#)



The Council Communiqué

Florida Council of Chapters
Military Officers Association of America

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P.O. Box 1213, Shalimar, FL 32579

AN INVITATION TO YOU: The membership of NWFMOA extends a sincere invitation to join us in our social cultural, professional and service activities that extend for the local to national levels.

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**New Members joining this year
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Make Checks payable to NWFMOA or to Northwest Florida Military Officers Assn. Inc. Check here is you do not want your ☐ name, ☐ phone number, or ☐ email address listed in the 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 is automatically an auxiliary life member

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Click on the form to fill out and pay by mail or credit card.



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What

What to Click

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Is Your Personal Information Up to Date?

If any of your vital information has changed, like if you've moved and have a new mailing address, or a new phone number or email address, please use the Update Your Information link on our NWFMOA website.

The link is http://nwfmoa.org/info_update.html

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