



# THE DEFENDER

A monthly publication of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association  
[www.nwfmoa.org](http://www.nwfmoa.org)

Vol. 18 No. 10 Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services OCTOBER 2012

## Breakfast Meeting & Discussion

**When:** Wed, 3 October 2012  
**Time:** Open: 0700; Bkst: 0715;  
 Meeting: 0800-0900  
**Place:** Eglin Bayview Club  
**Program:** Dr Ty Handy, NWFSC President

### Eglin Bayview Breakfast

- Please:
- Make a reservation
  - Wear a name tag
  - Bring proper change.  
 \$7.00 for Club Members  
 \$9.00 for Non-Members

Reservation deadline is Friday at noon prior to the meeting. Call Ken Wright at 582-6442 or send an email to: [bvanhoesen@cox.net](mailto:bvanhoesen@cox.net) if you are attending.

## Officers & Directors

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## Twenty-fifth Amendment - Part II

Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

## Class Is In Session This Month

By Ken Wright

With the help of our very own Eileen Arpke, we will be having Dr. Ty Handy, President of Northwest Florida State College, as our guest speaker for our October 3, 2012 meeting. Dr.

Handy was selected by the college's governing Board of Trustees to lead the college following a six-month national search which attracted 76 candidates from 30 different states. He is the third president in the college's more than 47-year history. Dr. Handy is a Florida native and most recently served as the president of Vermont Technical

College, a public associate and baccalaureate institution. He also previously served as chancellor of Ivy Tech Community College in Southern

Indiana, a comprehensive two year community and technical college in the Ivy Tech Community College System. Dr. Handy earned his doctorate (Ed.D.) degree from the University

of Memphis in Higher Education Administration, an MBA in Accounting and Finance from Drexel University, and a baccalaureate degree in finance from Western Kentucky University. Other academic positions Dr. Handy has held include vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Arkansas Community College - Batesville, dean of academic affairs at Elizabethtown

Community College in Kentucky, and dean of business technologies/social sciences at Jefferson Community College, Ohio.



Dr Ty Handy

# President's Corner

## “Semper Paratus”

By Ken Wright



Ken Wright

I want to thank the membership for their participation in the September 5, 2012 monthly meeting at the Northwest Florida Regional Airport. The room was filled with both existing members and a number of potential new members who listened to Senator Nelson's position on sequestration, Eglin AFB missions, and the RESTORE Act. We received an enormous amount of press exposure from the Northwest Florida Daily News, WEAR-TV, Bay Beacon, and a TV Station from Mobile, AL. This was a great opportunity to bring our organization to the forefront in people's minds concerning the influence and leadership we have to shape the military posture in our local area and around the country. Some asked me why we were promoting Senator Nelson at a meeting during a political season. I can assure you, we did not seek him out; he sought us out. To have a U.S. Senator recognize the impact our organization has on the local community and want to speak to us and hear our concerns speaks volumes of the trust and respect he gives our organization in the local community. He is just one of many who have found out what our organization means to the defense of our country. We continue to welcome politicians, Federal, State, and Local, and community leaders to our organization to speak and hear our concerns. This respect is because of you.

I have recently appointed Dan Cobbs as our Chairman of the Nominating Committee. He is looking for a Few Good Men and Women to join the leadership of our organization for 2013. I have heard a few folks stepping up to the plate and making a difference in the lives of our service men and women, past, present, and future. As I leave this year, I can tell you, it has been a very rewarding opportunity to lead the organization to set the course for future great things.

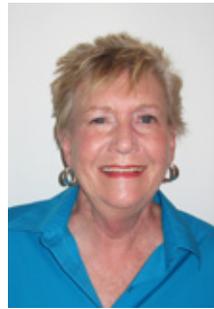
If you didn't come to the last Officers Call, you missed a good one. Prop's Brewery and Grill is owned by a couple of C-130 Gunship Pilots at Hurlburt and they opened their doors to their establishment and let us enjoy the

Continued on page 6

# Personal Affairs

## Functions of the Personal Affairs Committee

By Gayle Norgaard



Gayle Norgaard

It is my pleasure to have the honor of being the NWFMOA Chapter Personal Affairs Committee Chair. This committee is the organization's support service for the membership not only at the time of illness or death but other assistance that is listed below.

1. Provide information to members and survivors on their entitlements.
2. Help members and survivors in submission of inquires, applications, and government agencies claims.
3. Keep members informed of locations and phone numbers of agencies they may need to contact through chapter newsletters.
4. In case of serious illness or death express sympathy to next of kin and offer assistance.
5. Other needs would be providing transportation, for example:
  - a. To a pharmacy to pick up medications
  - b. Appointments, grocery store, and to our NWFMOA meetings if they are not unable to drive
  - c. Visit members who may be home bound, in Rehabilitation, skilled nursing facilities, or hospitals

This is our way to reach our members who may need assistance.

To accomplish this I'm asking members to contact me if they are able to help. It is infrequent that you'll be called upon, but we need volunteers. The biggest need is for drivers. I'm asking our members to notify me if you know of someone who is home bound, hospitalized, ill, or has died. Please call me at cell:850-259-1155, Email: gayleret@cox.net, If I'm not available contact Ginny Mills at 850-609-1179.

You'll be helping someone in need and I guarantee you'll feel better as well.

## Privileged to Serve

**By Sarah A. Shirley, Chaplain, Major, FLANG**

I beg your indulgence as I take a moment of personal privilege to share how thrilled I was to be at the September NWFMOA luncheon. It had been several years since I was able to attend, and it was good to get reacquainted as well as meeting new friends. Activity in a community of colleagues is beneficial to the individual and to the community.



**Chaplain Shirley**

Community service is the heart of who we aspire to be as military officers, retired military officers, family members, and American citizens. Our September luncheon speaker, Senator Bill Nelson is an icon of community service. His apparent delight at representing the people of Florida is inspiring, and helps ward off cynicism about our brethren who offer themselves up to the political and electoral process.

I was especially pleased to meet Senator Nelson because his staff helped me get necessary medical care when I was on my mid-tour break from Afghanistan in January of last year, and I wanted to thank him. Although my doctor and I had done everything TRICARE had asked of us to ensure my surgery would be authorized when I was stateside, I arrived at the hospital to be told the insurance authorization had not been received and my surgery was being cancelled.

This would have sent me into a bit of a tizzy if I had been allowed to drink coffee that morning, but I was too thirsty and sleepy (yes, bordering on cranky) to go there. Instead, I handed the admissions person my credit card with one hand and dialed Senator Nelson’s office with the other. I explained my dilemma while the hospital was putting a several thousand-dollar charge on my account. Senator Nelson’s aide told me he would look into it, and I went into surgery.

I figured it would take weeks to straighten out the financial mess caused by paying for my medical care

Continued on page 4

**By Dan Cobbs**



**Dan Cobbs**

The NWFMOA Board of Directors continue to place greater emphasis on meeting your vision as a “military thought leader.” Our focus is on helping our Chapter to be recognized as a “military thought leader for military officers and their dependents.” For the last two years this was Ken’s vision for NWFMOA. We want to be the go-to authority on these issues in Northwest Florida. This is how we can continue to serve our membership, our profession, and working with business leaders and community policy makers.

As a “military thought leader” we have staked out our position through the engagement of leaders and policy makers in our monthly membership meetings.

We expanded our efforts with the design and implementation of a NWFMOA website. On the technology front we continued to provide high quality information with optimal convenience for the user on our website home page. It is designed to be user friendly to access the content of our services. NWFMOA has a Facebook page that has proven to be popular. A special thank you was given and well deserved for Cathy LaValle and Erica Wright who developed these sites for NWFMOA – website and Facebook page respectively.

We have a blue print for looking forward in NWFMOA’s strategic plan. The following goals were accepted by the NWFMOA Board of Directors:

1. Increase NWFMOA Membership at Chapter Level
2. Promote the Retention of Current Membership
3. To be a Recognized Leader in Florida and with National MOAA Organization
4. Improve Communication Opportunities for Membership
5. Ensure Financial Soundness
6. Recognition
7. Update NWFMOA’S By-Laws

If you know someone who may be interested in serving on the Board of Directors or as an Officer of the Board please call me – (850) 685-9415. I will gladly talk to them taking the time to share their leadership with our Chapter.

# Officers Call: A Time for Suds and Stories



Continued from page 3

when TRICARE was supposed to pay for it (months later I had a similar event and it took almost a year, many phone calls, and talking about lawyers and Congressmen to get the money I paid refunded). Thanks to an excellent admissions agent and Senator Nelson's staff, my payment was refunded shortly after I work up in the recovery room.

Senator Nelson's staff helped me. It's their job of course, but still, they helped me. Listening to Senator Nelson's speech at our luncheon, I saw how delighted he is to help Florida and Floridians. His delight was familiar to me, since I experience something similar when I am of service to others, and often witness joy in others when they are of service.

We know instinctively that service of any kind is important and even holy, and that service that has limited if any apparent reward is noble. That is part of the reason that people in uniform are offered many signs of appreciation by a grateful nation. I've been trying to learn to say simply, "you're welcome" when strangers stop me to say, "thank you for your service." I read somewhere that is the appropriate response. After hearing Senator Nelson's speech and witnessing his joy in serving his constituents, deflecting any praise to his staff and his colleagues, I'm changing my response back to what it used to be: "It's an honor." It is indeed an honor and privilege to serve. If you need more joy and delight in your life, look outward. Find a new way to serve. It's a privilege.



## Member Spotlight



Larry "I want more lunch mtgs" Sidel and his wife Millie



Heidi Blair, Director, USO Northwest Florida, accepts donation from President Ken Wright

# TAPS – In Memoriam

# Sen Bill Nelson speaks at chapter lunch

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Died</u>
Col Harold C. Lindley, USA (Ret)	September 6, 2012
Mrs Margaret A. Simpson, (AUX and Life member)	September 12, 2012

On behalf of NWFMOA, we express our sympathy to the families of those who have passed to their eternal rest. We wish comfort for all those who grieve.



## MEMORIALIZATIONS

The following individuals made contributions to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund in memory of Boyd J. (Joe) Cameron:

Lt Col Winfred R & Judith H Boyer

The following individuals made contributions to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund in memory of BG Frank Glunn, USA (Ret):

Baywinds Golf Estates Homeowners Assn., Inc.

Lt Col Winfred R & Judith H Boyer

William & Ruth Cullen

Ms Marilyn K Deames

Jean C Dutton

Richard C & Liselotte Dwinell

John E & Juanita G Feldmann

Taylor & Francis Group

MG Henry M & Suzanne W Hagwood Jr

Frank W. & Margie H. Mann

David Rone

The following individuals made contributions to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund in memory of Col James A. McCarthy, Sr., USA (Ret):

John E & Juanita G Feldmann



## President's Corner (cont.)

Continued from page 2

atmosphere. A number of young officers who frequent the place got to meet some fellow officers who have retired and shared stories. This was just another opportunity for us to be in the community as a group to share the NWFMOA story and what we do in the community. Hope to see you at the next one which should be in January.

Have you got December 6, 2012 circled on your calendar? The Annual Military Ball will be at the Emerald Grande with the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund sponsoring an auction to benefit the Scholarship Fund. Details will be forthcoming. If you have suggestions or would like to assist in the setting up and planning, please give me or Bill Van Hoesen, the new Scholarship Fund president, a call. Our phone numbers are on the front page.

In recent months, Jim Connor, President of the Florida Council of Chapters, has met with me and others in the organization. Our organization has received the reputation of getting it right by letting our local area understand the importance and influence a local chapter can have in a community by helping our service men and women of the past, present, and future. Because of this, a few members have been sought out to serve on the Florida Council of Chapters. Congratulations need to go out to Scott Berry, who they have sought to serve as Area Vice President of Northwest Florida Chapters, and Gayle Norgaard as the Personal Affairs Chair for the Florida Council of Chapters. If you get a change give them a salute for a "Job Well Done".

In closing, the Board of Directors completed their 2013 Strategic Plan which will be highlighted in the November issue. It was a great meeting with a lot accomplished and should keep the ship on course. It's a nautical thing. Bravo Zulu to the Board for their efforts and dedication to an organization we hold dearly.

## Time Management

Because we cram so much into our lives, we tend to schedule our headaches. We live on a sparse diet of promises we make to ourselves when all the conditions are perfect!

## The ABCs of Our Scholarship Fund

By Bill Ryan



Bill Ryan

The Northwest Florida Military Officers Association, Inc. (Club) is required to perform community service as a part of its commitment to being a tax exempt veteran's organization. The principle community service the Club has chosen is supporting the high school JROTC programs in Okaloosa County. The Club incorporated NWFMOA Scholarship Fund, Inc. (Fund) as a 501(c)3 organization making donations tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Our Fund has been operating since about 1981. Jack Sirney was president of the NWFROC (our former mnemonic) during the Fund's inception. Cliff Jordan was one of the early presidents and served for about 20 years. Bill Cullen, Frank Glunn, and others were on the board when the Fund incorporated in 1997. In 2002 Frank Glunn became president and served until his recent death. Bill Van Hoesen is the current president, Bill Ryan is secretary-treasurer, and Bob Padden, Norm Blakley, and Bob Allen are directors.

Okaloosa County JROTC students are the beneficiaries of the Fund's awards; each year one junior and one senior from each high school JROTC class receives an award plus one senior going on to college and continuing in ROTC gets a scholarship. This past year the Fund provided five \$250 awards, five \$500 awards, and one \$3000 scholarship award. All of these winners, and selectees from DeFuniak Springs H.S., also receive a MOAA certificate and medal. The cost of last year's awards and administration exceeded \$7,000. How do we afford that?

In 1997 an effort was established to accumulate \$100,000 through member donations and community support. The plan was for the Fund to be self-sustaining, after all, with

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## Idiot-Syncrasies

I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.

## The ABCs (cont.)

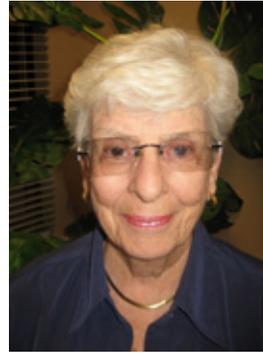
Continued from page 6

5.5% interest and awards then totaling about \$2,000 it was doable even with inflation. Currently though, interest is 0.8%, and that only brings in \$912 for our \$114,000 in CDs. For many years the Club has donated money, amounting to around \$1,000, raised by sponsoring the annual Military Ball. The Fund took the opportunity to solicit merchants and get goods and services to auction at the Ball, thus another \$1,000 was raised. Direct contributions, memorials, 50-50 Club, and the 100 Club make up the difference.

Volunteers assist the Fund each year during the holiday season fund raising period; volunteers do not have to be Club members although most are. Volunteer workers are most active in October and November. The Fund has an established list of merchant donors and we solicit new donors, but we need help in face to face contact. If you can spare some time in advance of the holiday season and directly assist the youth of our county, contact Bill Van Hoesen (bvanhoesen@cox.net or 225-2957) or Bill Ryan (wmfryan@cox.net or 314-7862).

You'll be glad you did.

## Final Call



**Eileen Arpke**

**By Eileen Arpke,  
Bylaws Committee Chair**

The NWFMOA bylaws have been under revision for over 18 months. As far as possible they reflect all necessary aspects of governmental management of the our organization.

At each printing for member input the committee has taken under consideration all suggestions for

improvement and consistency with actual current actions and descriptions of MOAA. The bylaws have been made available on the Web site for all members to see and copies have been available at monthly meetings for those who don't "do" computers. The committee has now met all requirements for bylaw adoption and will be presenting them to the membership for a general membership vote at the October meeting. Please call me at 678-3446 if you have any questions.

# WE SALUTE YOUR SERVICE.

**Now it's our turn to serve you! Come Live With Us!**

Those of us at Westwood Retirement Resort would like to say to all our veterans, "Thank you for your service. Thank you for protecting our freedom."

And should the time come that you wish to make the move to a retirement community, it would be our honor to serve you. At Westwood Retirement Resort you can enjoy the best years of your life and have access to our on-campus Healthcare Center for short-term rehab or long-term care.



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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 2012**  
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

**Auxiliary Members**  
Pay one half of the above rates