



THE DEFENDER

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

Vol. 19 No. 9 Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services OCTOBER 2013

Breakfast Meeting & Discussion

When: Wed., 2 October 2013
Time: Open: 0700; Bkfst: 0715; Meeting: 0800-0900
Place: Westwood Retirement Resort, 1001 Mar Walt Dr, FWB
Program: Col Douglas Dudley, 1st SOW

- 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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The Air Force Special Operations with 1st SOW – “Any Time, Any Place”

By Jeff Watson

We had just finished an Officers Call at Soundside Club with the wing commander and all of us in the 1st SOW were congregating around the drinking hole (a keg) when I struck up a conversation with the airfield manager. I don't remember his name now but he was poised and polite when I asked him about the planes on the airfield. His response was something like “planes come, planes go” ... conversation was over. The next thing I knew I was being corralled by my boss ... no clue what I said that was wrong.

Well, that was 24 years ago, and my introduction to special operations and the “Quiet Professionals.” We had the opportunity last month to hear from the 24th SOW and Special Tactics. For this next breakfast we will hear from the 1st SOW, my old unit. Colonel Douglas S. Dudley is the 1st Special Operations Mission Support Group commander at Hurlburt Field, Florida. He is responsible for ensuring the readiness of the special operations wing.

I will turn the microphone over to him to tell us how the 1st SOW gets things done. I note in his official biography that he is a cyberspace specialist, so bring your “net” questions and be ready to hear the rest of the story. He has Information Assurance in his background as well as Infrastructure Strategy. In fact, take the time to study his assignments, they are nothing short of awe-inspiring!

Though it isn't a Special Ops question, I will be interested in cyberspace as a battlefield environment. With all of the missions and backgrounds each of you has, I'll bet you have a question or two that you can present to the Commander. I am so glad Hurlburt Field has accommodated my requests for speakers, come on out and hear what the Air Commandos are up to now.

I remember a time when a slogan like “Death from Above” and a title like “Ghost Riders” were trademark Special Operations. Maybe they still are. Come find out the latest and mark your calendars for 2 October 2013 to hear Col Douglas Dudley, 1st SOMSG/CC.

BIOGRAPHY

Colonel Douglas S. Dudley is the Commander of the 1st Special Operations Mission Support Group, Hurlburt Field, Florida. The six



President's Message

By Jeff Watson

Wow! Can you believe we have waved goodbye to summer? As I write this, we still have 90 degree weather but you can tell the humidity is dropping. September has always been special. It is the advent for fall and, of course, October, but it is also that time of year when kids go back to school, tourists leave, and the craziness



Jeff Watson

of road rage seems to settle down (unless you drive to Crestview between four and six p.m.). There is innocence to September and October like they weren't given to the rough and tumble of summer or the harshness of winter. If you don't believe me, go watch a sunset at the beach – you may have an unobstructed view and a peaceful moment. Then again, you can go to a local high school on Friday night to find your favorite football team fighting to claim championship bragging rights for the next year with all of the rivalries that we have in Okaloosa county. Follow that with college football on Saturday through Thanksgiving; makes you proud to be an American!

Let's have another Officers Call! We have been to Props and the Compass Rose. How about Pandora's? Judy and I went there on a Wednesday night and found an awesome one-man performance with tunes that I enjoy. I picked a Thursday last time that conflicted with Daedalians; don't want to do that again because I want you to join us! Make plans to meet fellow members and share your stories. It's fun!

We had a superb presentation by AFSOC's combat controller extraordinaire – Mr. Wayne Norrad, Command CMSgt (Ret), USAF. Next up we get to hear from the 1st SOW! We have the special operators right here with us and I want to hear what they are up to. Come to our next breakfast and find out for yourself. I have an idea of what I want in a speaker for November, and then we finish out the year with Opus One!

We are working hard on the Military Ball in December so mark your calendars to attend on Thursday, 5 December 2013. It will be held at the Emerald Grande for the third year in a row. Maybe next year we'll let area venues

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Annual Military Ball

By Gayle Norgaard

MARK YOUR CALENDER

THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER, 2013 6:00PM

Annual Military Ball to Benefit the Scholarship Fund
Emerald Grande at Harbor Walk Village Socialize,
have dinner and dance to the music by
the Retroactive.

Tickets will be available by the end of October and
early reservations can be made by contacting Gayle
Norgaard, PH 850-259-1155, or Email: gayleret@cox.net.

Each table seats eight.

More information will be published in the November
Defender and on the web.

www.NWFMOA.org

OFFICERS CALL

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

1800 until ??

PANDORA'S

1226 Santa Rosa Blvd, Ft. Walton Beach

Live entertainment

Come out and enjoy the camaraderie!

Got a Chapter question?
Change in personal info?
Comment?
Don't know who to ask?
Email: info@nwfmoa.org
We'll get an answer for you.

Continued from page 1

squadrons and approximately 1,900 Airmen in the group ensure the mission readiness of the 1st Special Operations Wing, Headquarters Air Force Space Command and 38 tenant units from six separate major commands located in more than 1,000 facilities on a 6,000 acre installation. The group is responsible for facility construction and maintenance, housing, environmental management, fire protection, base defense and law enforcement, communications, manpower and personnel, lodging, recreation, food service, contracting, supply fuels, transportation, logistics, aerial port operations, and other base services for approximately 39,000 active duty, civilian, dependent, and retired personnel.

Colonel Dudley received his commission in 1990 through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Baylor University. Throughout his career, Colonel Dudley has held a variety of positions in cyberspace support and operations from base- to Air Staff-level in eight separate major commands, as well as three joint assignments. He and his wife Lisa have been married for over 20 years and have five children: Alicia, Rebecca, Margaret, Russell and Kathryn.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. August 1991 – May 1993, Software Engineer, 513th Test Squadron, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska
2. May 1993 – October 1994, Chief, Configuration Management Branch, 513th Engineering and Test Squadron, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska
3. October 1994 – February 1997, Command Center Communications Team Chief, Operations Directorate (J-3), United States Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska
4. February 1997 – March 1999, Mission Systems Flight Commander, later, Information Systems Flight Commander, 17th Communications Squadron, Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas (June 1998 – October 1998, Support Flight Commander, 4418th Airlift Squadron (Provisional), Seeb Air Base, Sultanate of Oman)
5. March 1999 – May 1999, Deputy Squadron Commander, 43d Communications Squadron, Pope Air Force Base, North Carolina
6. May 1999 – March 2000, Executive Officer, 43d Support Group, Pope Air Force Base, North Carolina



Scott Berry

Greetings!

He's baaaaaack! Well, kind of. Ima Cheatum, the spouse of one of our chapter members, Col Wayne Cheatum, USAF (Ret), has kindly stepped forward to be the new Defender Editor. Thanks, Ima. No one appreciates that more than me as you've read in my previous columns. I'm now down to wearing only three hats!

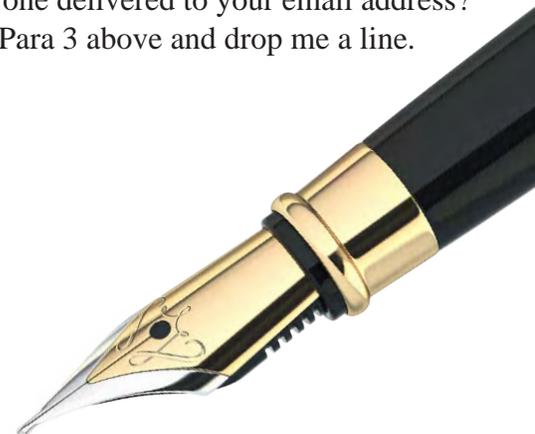
I keep busy at my secretarial duties. One of them is maintaining the chapter membership roster. In this electronic age, an email address is becoming increasingly important. Now if that isn't your cup of tea, that's okay. I respect that. However, I suspect there are many out there who haven't provided the email address. If you haven't received an email from NWFMOA recently, I don't have yours.

Why is that important? Because we send out a lot of information that lends itself to email. A monthly meeting reminder for one. Time sensitive information about Beltway Bantering from Mother MOAA for another. Want an invite to the Annual Military Ball? You'll get one delivered to your inbox.

Please take the time to share your email address with me. I promise I won't share/sell/loan it to anyone. You'll be glad you did.

The latest chapter membership roster was emailed out recently. Hard copies are available at the monthly meeting. Didn't get one delivered to your email address? Hmmm. Please see Para 3 above and drop me a line.

Berry "OUT"



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Auxiliary Corner

Officers For Next Year – Are You Willing?

On July 16, the Holiday Inn in Alexandria, Va., was a bustle of activity as nearly 100 surviving spouses and other supporters from 20 states, including members of the MOAA Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee (AMAC), MOAA staff, and surviving spouses from various military organizations, gathered to prepare for the July 17 AMAC Storming the Hill event. The focus of this historic MOAA-sponsored event was to educate the 113th Congress about the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)/Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) offset and garner cosponsorship for H.R. 32 and S. 734, which would repeal the offset.

MOAA President Vice Adm. Norbert R. Ryan Jr., USN (Ret), thanked attendees and recognized MOAA staff and the AMAC for their efforts to make the event happen. “Successful organizations and successful people never give up,” Ryan said. He assured everyone MOAA would never give up.

MOAA Government Relations Department Director Col. Mike Hayden, USAF (Ret), and Deputy Director Col. Phil Odom, USAF (Ret), led a pre-Storming brief, while attendees mingled with their teams. During dinner, teams studied the materials in their leave-behind packets, which featured the Vow of Honor brochure, an SBP/DIC fact sheet, and testimonials from five surviving spouses.

On July 17, surviving spouses headed to a congressional breakfast at the Rayburn House Office Building. Ryan introduced Rep. Joe Wilson, who spoke about the injustice of the offset. Sen. Bill Nelson, who could not attend, was represented by Rebecca Lange, military fellow, along with other staff members. Traci Voelke and Suzanne Gerstner, surviving military spouses, delivered compelling testimonials on the impact of the offset in their lives and other surviving spouses. Odom delivered the education piece of the program to the legislative assistants and military legislative assistants in attendance. Then, four teams tackled the Senate offices and 38 teams, with up to three people a team, headed for the House offices to deliver their materials and the message to repeal the SBP/DIC offset and ask for cosponsorship.

While we have seen a gain in cosponsorship for both bills, we still need more legislators to sign on. You can help!



Bill Van Hoesen

By Bill Van Hoesen

Greetings to all NWFMOA members – Jeff has asked me to chair the nominating committee for the purpose of developing a slate of officers to serve this next year. Positions to be filled are President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two director positions.

We really need help, folks. Jeff has had to manage the organization this year with three vacancies, first and second vice-presidents and treasurer. This hasn't been fair to him or to the organization. The next president shouldn't have to take office under those conditions, but only you can correct the situation. NWFMOA can only exist with the voluntary service of its members and it isn't right for just a few to be continually saddled with the work while the rest get to benefit from their contributions. Many of our members have served in the past, but many haven't!

We're not talking about a huge time commitment when the work is spread among a number of members, five to ten hours a month depending on the position. None of us are so busy that we can't donate that small amount of time. However, when just a few are taxed with doing all the work, it does get to be burdensome.

Please consider volunteering to help by serving in one of the positions I mentioned above. Please contact me at 850.225.2957 or bvanhoesen@cox.net. I also have copies of “job” descriptions for each position. I will be happy to send them to you if you're able to serve.

Many thanks,

Bill Van Hoesen

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Hearts and Words
 By Sarah A. Shirley, Ch,
 Lt Col, FLANG



Chaplain Shirley

Every month I write a little “spiritual resiliency tip” package for my Air National Guard Fighter Wing. Nothing fancy, just a spiritual practice folks might want to try, a quote from a non-religious source (message: spirituality is life and spiritual lessons are found everywhere; life is spiritual and just about everything can have spiritual import if we seek the sacred in each moment) and a brief commentary from yours truly. The September 2013 tip of the month was “study: memorize sacred texts or readings.”

I had decided I would use a quote from the Airman’s Creed:

I am an American Airman.
 I am a warrior.
 I have answered my nation’s call.

The Airman’s Creed is relatively new. General T. Michael Moseley, then Chief of Staff of the Air Force, introduced it in 2007. We were a nation at war and General Moseley wanted to develop the warrior culture among his Airmen. He wanted to unify and inspire his women and men, and a creed was a way to do that.

You may be thinking, “I thought she said ‘sacred texts.’ Shouldn’t that mean the Bible or the Upanishads or something like that?” That word sacred sometimes gets us into hot water. What is sacred to you isn’t necessarily sacred to me and vice versa, and suddenly we’re in a screaming match (think Alabama vs. Auburn).

Sacred is a word with depth and breadth of meaning. Words are dicey things, so easily misunderstood and so powerful. For those of you that are Christian you may remember that “the Word” is said to be God and to have created all things. That’s pretty powerful.

“Sacred” is not all about religion. When we hold something sacred we regard it with reverence and are devoted to it. Most of us are devoted to our branch of the military (the Air Force in my case), and hold our

membership in it and service to it with great reverence. Many of us also follow a specific spiritual path and study sacred writings from our own tradition. The word “creed” means a codified statement or system of beliefs or principles and does not have to be associated with religion. Its origin is the first word of the Apostle’s and Nicene Creeds which means roughly, “I give my heart to [object],” in the case of the Airman’s Creed, being an Airman and all that entails.*

Back to my story. I was going to offer the Airman’s Creed as a shared example of “study”: sacred text memorization. My spiritual resiliency tip package format includes a slide for my commander’s monthly standup. The slide goes like this: 1) tip; 2) benefits; 3) relevant quote. I was typing the slide (I always do this before writing my mini-article which is a brief paragraph, not a real article) and suddenly realized I had no clue how to describe the benefits of study.

It was 9:45 am. I had lots of other work to do. At 11:15 am I had to be co-facilitating the wrap up of an important two-day training, and at 12:30 had to be in the car headed to the airport to join a TDY that was already well into its second day. And I was tired. Enter the Holy Spirit in the form of a minor disaster in the day of a petty bureaucrat—my CAC card, required to use any government computer stopped working! Being a mature and spiritually advanced woman, chaplain and field grade officer, naturally I panicked. I tried other CAC readers, concluded it was a bad card, and told the Chaplain Assistant whose desk I was using that I was going to go get a new card and he should wish me luck as well as praying for my success.

Why the prayers and luck? Lines to get new cards are long under normal circumstances, and this day the Secretary of the Air Force was on base so many of the Airmen normally working this process would be at his speech.

I (literally) ran to the building that houses the customer service desk. No one was at the desk save the two people ahead of me in line to check in. The lobby was 80% full of waiting customers. Still hopeful I looked around eagerly and anxiously for a staff member to appear. The people ahead of me graciously ceded their priority to me and a Senior Airman emerged from the back and took me straight to the CAC station. Confirming my card had gone bad, he looked me up in system, took my picture, and explained that the process would take seven full minutes during which time there was nothing productive for us to do. We talked over different options his shop had

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considered (and rejected) for recapturing that downtime and then I asked, “Did you have to memorize the Airman’s Creed when you were at Basic?”

“Yes, ma’am, I did,” he answered. Just thinking of that his shoulders squared a bit and he sat up a little straighter. “Did you find that helpful?” I asked. “Oh, yes,” he replied, “it was great. It gave us pride, energy, hope, unity, increased our commitment, and really turned us into Airman.”

The Holy Spirit lit up the room embodied in that Senior Airman. He wrote my tip of the month. Study and memorize readings and texts from traditions and communities you hold dear. Recall and recite them. Doing so will make you proud to be who you are. It will give you energy when you’re tired and hope when you’re discouraged. You’ll be reminded you are part of a larger community. You’ll become more committed to that community.

Most important, you’ll become more of who you are.

Notes:

*(creed. (n.d.). Online Etymology Dictionary. Retrieved September 15, 2013, from Dictionary.com website: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/creed>).

Auxiliary Corner (cont.)

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Call your legislators’ offices toll-free via (866) 272-6622, MOAA’s direct line to the congressional switchboard. Ask the capitol operator to connect you with your legislator’s office, ask to speak with the legislator’s legislative assistant or military legislative assistant, and let them know why they should cosponsor either H.R. 32 or S. 734 to end the injustice to military surviving spouses.

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7. March 2000 – March 2002, Chief, Information Assurance and Configuration Management Branch, Automated Information Systems Division, later, Chief, Information Assurance Division, Directorate of Command, Control Communications and Computers (J-6), Joint Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina
8. April 2002 – January 2003, Assistant Chief, Knowledge Engineering Office, Directorate of Operational Plans and Joint Force Development (J-7), the Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.
9. January 2003 – July 2004, Deputy Chief, Operations Division, Office of the Chief Information Officer, the Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.
10. August 2004 – June 2005, student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama
11. July 2005 – May 2007, Chief, Command, Control, Communications and Computers Resources Branch, Communications and Information Directorate, Headquarters United States Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Airbase, Germany
12. June 2007 – June 2009, Commander, 61st Communications Squadron, Los Angeles Air Force Base, California
13. July 2009 – June 2010, student, National War College, Ft. Leslie J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
14. June 2010 – December 2010, Deputy Chief, Cyber Infrastructure Strategy Division, Network Services Directorate, Secretary of the Air Force Office of Warfighting Integration and Chief Information Officer, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
15. January 2011 – April 2012, Deputy Chief, Network Systems Division, Cyberspace Operations Directorate, Secretary of the Air Force Office of Warfighting Integration and Chief Information Officer, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. (April 2011 – October 2011, Chief, Enterprise Operations, Directorate of Command, Control, Communications and Computers (J6), United States Force-Iraq, Baghdad, Iraq)
16. April 2012 – July 2012, Chief, Cyberspace Policy Division, Air Force Office of Cyberspace Operations, Secretary of the Air Force Office of Warfighting Integration and Chief Information Officer, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
17. July 2012 – Present, Commander, 1st Special Operations Mission Support Group, Hurlburt Field, Florida

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President's Message (cont.)

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compete for the opportunity to have us! We plan to have live music, dancing and dinner as well.

We had the JROTC Honor Guard from Fort Walton Beach High School post the colors for our breakfast attendees this past month. They have agreed to come again with their Detachment Commander, Lt Col Trexler. They were superb under the command of Cadet Fite. Choctaw JROTC supported us for many years; maybe we can get Niceville to do the same in the future. It is a pleasure for us and it gives them an opportunity to show their pride, passion and professionalism.

As our politicians return to Congress next month, how about letting them know how much you appreciate what they do for us? We are going to be hearing a lot more about "exchanges" in October so you may want to stay close to your MOAA sources and communicate your experiences to your representative and senators. One of my doctors has already let me know they had training last week preparing for next month.

Remember the auburn hue of fall as October ushers in low humidity, a harvest moon and snowbirds! Until we meet for a sidebar, we are adjourned! - jww

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 2013 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