



THE DEFENDER

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

Vol. 22 No. 10 Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services OCTOBER 2016

Lunch Meeting & Discussion

When: Thur, 6 October 2016

Time: Gathering 1130, Lunch 1200
Program to follow

Place: Ft. Walton Bch. Yacht Club
180 Ferry Road, NE, FWB

Program: Bob Heist, Editor
NW Florida Daily News

Please:

• MAKE A RESERVATION

- Wear a name tag
- Bring proper change:
\$13.00 for everyone

Reservation deadline is Friday at noon prior to meeting. Go online at www.nwfmoa.org and select the link where it says "Click here to make reservations", or email Dick Prater at nwfpreservations@gmail.com, or call 850-613-6080 if you are attending.

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Meet the Press

By Scott Berry

To the best of my knowledge our guest speaker this month, Bob Heist, is the first newspaper editor to speak to us. Several years ago the Daily News publisher spoke to us but I think that is as close as we got.

He is the executive editor of the Northwest Florida Daily News, the Destin Log, the Walton Sun, the Crestview News Bulletin and the Santa Rosa Press Gazette. Heist came to the Daily News on Sep. 28 from Mountain Home, Arkansas, where he was managing editor and head of operations for The Baxter Bulletin.

He has more than 30 years of experience in the journalism industry, and during his time in Arkansas, his newsroom was recognized with numerous writing awards. He increased online readership dramatically and created media partnerships with local radio stations. His previous experience also includes a stint at the sports editor at the Pensacola News Journal so he is not a newcomer to the area.

Bob graduated from California State College in California, Pennsylvania, with a bachelor of arts degree in business administration in 1981. He and



his wife, Cathy, a registered nurse, have three grown children.

I'll be interested to hear his perspective on journalism as it compares to when he first started in the business. You can hear his perspective as well but making the a lunch reservation is the first step. The second step is to of course show up. We have problems with the second step occasionally.

See you there!

Get your tickets, have a Ball!

From the President's Pen

By Scott Berry

Greetings!

I think the scorching heat and humidity is finally behind us—much to my relief. I can now sit out in our Florida in the early morning and evening without immediately breaking out in a full sweat. The autumns and springs here are by far my favorite times of the year.



Scott Berry

Identity theft is an issue that continues to get a lot of publicity and for good reason. One of our speakers earlier this year, Brian Macneel, gave some good preventive tips to avoid that. This month one of our chapter members, Errol Doberman, follows up with an article about freezing your credit report as an additional barrier to identify theft. May not be applicable to you right now but I found information in the article that was very useful. I've had to cancel several credit cards in the last year because someone kept making small charges under \$9 to on-line companies thinking I wouldn't double check my purchase receipts. Hah! But in talking to the credit card person at my bank I was amazed at the amount of credit card scamming that goes on. This, of course, is in addition to my long lost relatives in Nigeria who have millions waiting to send me if I'll just supply a little bit of personal information.

Our annual military ball to raise funds for the Scholarship Fund isn't far off in the future. Planning is already in full swing and I'll have tickets available for sale at the monthly meeting. ***I ENCOURAGE YOU TO BUY YOUR TICKETS EARLY.*** Last year we maxed out our attendance so latecomers may not find a seat available. Details on all that are elsewhere in this newsletter or on our website.

Elections are also just around the corner. Want to further the accomplishments and goals of MOAA? Contact me for details. You'll be glad you did.

Berry "OUT"

PUBLIC RECORD

New Members:

Nicholas Marotta, Maj, USAF, RET
Claud (Van) Fuller, Col, USAF, RET
Julia Bond, CAPT, USN, RET

HAVE A BALL

**Ticket Order Form for the
NWFMoa Annual Military Ball
to benefit the Scholarship Fund**

WHEN: 6 December 2016

WHERE: Fort Walton Beach Yacht Club

DRESS: Mess Dress, Gown or cocktail dress, formal or business suit.

SOCIAL HOUR: 1800; Pay-as-you-go bars will be open.

DINNER: 1900; **DANCING:** 2000 until 2200 with "Retroactive."

Dinner will include:

First Course: House Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette

Choice of Entrée:

(1) 8 oz Beef Filet

(2) Chicken Marsala

Sides: Loaded Mash Potatoes and Broccoli with Cheese Sauce

Dessert: French Silk Pie

Dinners served with rolls, butter, iced tea, and coffee

Ticket Purchaser's name: _____

CHOICE OF ENTRÉE: _____

Number of tickets: _____ times **\$45.00** = \$ _____ with check enclosed.

(Price includes Meal & Gratuity)

Spouse/Guest's name: _____

CHOICE OF ENTRÉE _____

When paying with cash, please provide full mailing address.

When ordering by mail include a **stamped self-addressed envelope**,
a check payable to NWFMoa, and this form to:

NWFMoa, PO Box 1213, Shalimar, FL 32579.

Allow sufficient time to get your tickets returned by mail.

Ticket Order Form must be **RECEIVED** by **November 25, 2016.**

Table reservations may be made for groups of eight by contacting

Scott Berry at (850) 582-0839 or email: swberry@cox.net.

List names of people at your table. If you are to be seated at someone's
reserved table please coordinate with the reservation holder.

+++++

You are encouraged to make a charitable contribution to the
Scholarship Fund by supplying an additional check made payable to:
NWFMoa Scholarship Fund.

*All proceeds from raffle ticket sales go to providing scholarships for
JROTC cadets.*

Raffle tickets & Silent Auction are CASH or CHECKS only, please.

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/](http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/) We all will benefit from your efforts.

Air Force Turns 69

1949 – Present: Air Force Historic Events

The official date of the founding of the US Air Force is 18 September 1947. It was a momentous event that over six decades later has demonstrated the achievement of an Air Force second-to-none, yet the Air Force's history and heritage goes back a lot further.

From the time that the US military purchased its first aircraft in 1909 up to 1947, the US Air Force did not exist as a separate and independent military service organization. It went through a series of designations: Aeronautical Section, Signal Corps (1909); Aviation Section, Signal Corps (1914); United States Army Air Service (1918); United States Army Air Corps (1926), United States Army Air Forces (1941).

WWII illustrated the value of airpower, and the need to change the basic organization of the US Military Forces. The result was the creation of a single Department of Defense with a strong Joint Chiefs of Staff with Army, Navy, and Air Force chiefs. In 1947 President Truman signed the National Security Act which established this new defense organization, and along with it the creation of the US Air Force as an independent service, equal to the US Army and US Navy. The official birthday of the US Air Force is 18 September 1947.

Through the years history has shown the wisdom and foresight of the creation of a separate Air Force. The US Air Force emerged quickly from its cradle and began to create its own history and heritage.

1949: The flight of the “Lucky Lady II” demonstrated the Air Force’s capability to fly, non-stop round the world, showing it could take off from the U.S. and drop bombs anywhere in the world.



1950-1953: USAF engaged in the first completely jet aerial combat During the Korean War. The F-86 Saberjet scored impressive aerial victories against the enemy MiG-15.

Surviving Spouse Corner

Building Community in the Local Chapter

By Anne Hartline,
Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee member

For the past two years, the Greater Birmingham (Ala.) Chapter has sponsored biannual ladies’ luncheons for spouses, surviving spouses, and female military officers to socialize, disseminate information, and increase membership and attendance at chapter meetings. In addition to sending invitations to women already associated with the chapter, invites are sent to members of the Birmingham Officers Wives Club, an independent organization, wives of MOAA Alabama Council of Chapters officers, and surviving spouse liaisons in Alabama.

During the luncheon, attendees receive updates on legislative issues along with information about benefits such as discounts for cell phone service, restaurants, and stores. Many have expressed great appreciation for the information and materials they have received. In addition, an Alabama’s Survivor Outreach Services coordinator always attends and discusses how she can assist, especially when a death occurs, and I provide MOAA updates, such as a preview of Storming the Hill; review the benefits of both local and national MOAA membership; and give an overview of MOAA’s publications.

At the last luncheon, a representative from the Jefferson County Veterans Service Office for the Department of Alabama spoke on VA benefits and eligibility.

As a result of these luncheons, several attendees have encouraged their husbands to join the local chapter, and some also have started to attend chapter meetings. Additionally, as luncheon attendees get to know each other, they want to attend chapter meetings to see friends, and they bring their spouses. Plus, surviving spouses seem more comfortable attending meetings, and some now carpool together.

The engagement provided by the ladies’ luncheons is helping to solve the membership and attendance challenge many MOAA chapters face.

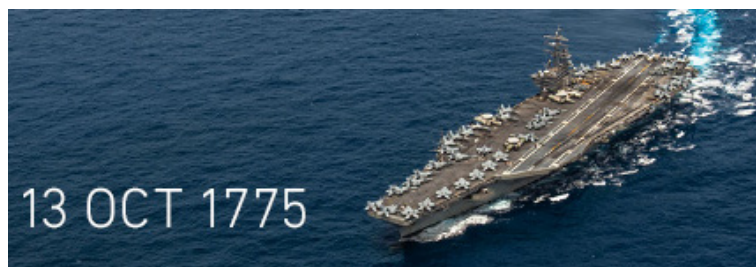
Continued on page 5

NAVY TURNS 240

The U.S. Navy traces its roots back to the privateers that were employed to attack British commerce in the early days of the revolution. On October 13, 1775, the Continental Congress established a naval force, hoping that a small fleet would be able to offset the uncontested exercise of British sea power.

The early Continental navy was not expected to take on the British navy for control of the seas. This small naval force was designed to work with privateers to wage tactical raids against the transports that supplied British forces in North America. To accomplish this mission the Continental Congress purchased, converted, and constructed a fleet of small ships--frigates, brigs, sloops, and schooners. These navy ships sailed independently or in pairs hunting British commerce ships and transports like prey, avoiding whenever possible fights with Royal Navy men-of-war.

The Continental navy faced several obstacles both during and after the revolution – mostly political and economic. Two years after the end of the war, the money-poor Congress sold off the last ship of the Continental navy, the frigate Alliance.



In the 1790's Europe began to relax many mercantile commercial restrictions and the U.S. trade and the shipping industry expanded accordingly. However, as the number of U.S. ships increased so did the possibility increased attacks by the European powers and pirates. In March 1794 Congress responded by calling for the construction of a half-dozen frigates. And, once again, the United States had a navy.

Although the Continental navy was later dismantled, October 13, 1775 remains the U.S. Navy's official birthday.

From these humble beginnings, the world's most powerful naval force was born. With thousands of ships and aircraft serving worldwide, the U.S. Navy is a force to be reckoned with. To learn more about the early years of the U.S. Navy, visit the U.S. Naval Historical Center website.

Lending a Helping Hand

By Scott Berry

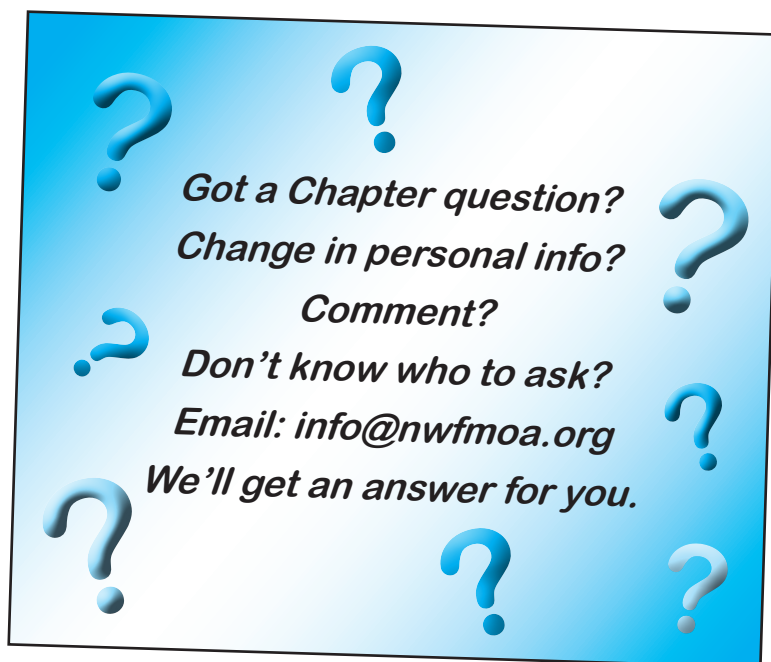
Election Day, Tuesday, November 8th is not far away. Thank goodness! The spam in my mailbox and email in-box will drastically decrease, friends will be talking to each other on Facebook in a polite manner, and hyperventilating talking heads on TV will go away if not at least reduce in number.

That having been said, some of us may have difficulty getting to our polling location or one of the early voting locations.

Here's where **YOU** come in. Would you be willing to give a fellow NWFMoa chapter member a lift to a polling location so they can exercise their constitutional right? I thought so.

So all you have to do is send me a note expressing your willingness to do so. All my contact information is on the front page of this newsletter. I'll match up drivers with people who need a ride by location.

Thanks in advance



Air Force Turns 69 (cont.)



Continued from page 3

1954: The first B-52 Stratofortress came into the USAF Inventory and has served in every conflict since its appearance.

1960s: The development and deployment of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) as a major component of the aerial defense capability of the United States.

1964-1973: War in Vietnam

1970s: The development of laser-guided bombs and TV-guided air to ground missiles. Air mobility took a major step forward with the introduction of the C-5 Galaxy in the Air Force Inventory. Other aircraft systems introduced in this decade were the F-15, A-10, AWACS, and F-16.

1980s: Stealth Technology was revealed advent of the F-117; strategic bomber capability was increased with the deployment of the B-1.

1990s: USAF played a major role in the swift defeat of the Iraqi military forces in the first Persian Gulf War: The Air Force underwent a major reorganization with the formation of Air Combat Command, Air Mobility Command, and Air Force Materiel Command. The USAF supported the war in the Balkans, and the US intervention Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti.

2000 -- Present: The Expeditionary Air Force concept was a major transition in how the Air Force employed forces. The Global War on Terrorism brought the USAF into Operation ENDURING FREEDOM and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

(Editor's Note: Considering that the birthday of the US Air Force occurred during the month of September, I should have included this article in last month's Defender. My apologies!)

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.

By Chaplain Tom Azar, USAF Retired

What is true religion?

Recent research of American's evolving perspectives on organized religion has revealed some interesting shifts. Many who lived through the 60's and now have adult children and grandchildren find themselves facing death without a solid truth and fellowship to give meaning to self and support to others.

What the sociologists notice is that Gen X'ers moved away from organized religion because the rituals, traditions and theology were missing the mark. They now have sought out a relationship to God through small group Bible study, outreach through mission trips or volunteering in para-church organizations.

My added observations are that we are born with a 'spiritual gene'. It feels natural for us to worship so we can be with like minded believers. In fact after we 'get our spiritual and emotional tanks' filled, we naturally desire to go out and share it with family and friends. The word religion means to re-bind us to God and others.

So if you believe that we are hard wired to be communal and you enjoy good company, then lets add to our faith by building a more meaningful connection with friends and acquaintances who are in need. Both the Old and New Testament writers posit true religion by underscoring compassion for orphans, widows and downtrodden.

In similar fashion, one of the many admirable qualities we all experienced as military members is how we rally together to support those who experience loss and suffering. Now more than ever we should step up to the plate and participate more actively in meeting the needs of others - visit them, bring them to an appointment, or help with shopping and cleaning.

In conclusion all one needs to do is notice that the first four books of the New Testament are the Gospels, and they are followed by the book of ACTS! I encourage you to study, pray and act.

Scholarship Fund

By Dave Parisot, Chairman

At recent chapter meetings I have been asked some questions in regard to any relationship between our NWFMOA Scholarship program and that of the national MOAA. Do we receive any scholarship money from MOAA? If I donate \$100 or more to the MOAA scholarship program, why am I not listed in the **Defender** and on our www.NWFMOA.org website? Are our JROTC cadets at the Okaloosa County high schools eligible for the MOAA scholarships? Do we send any of our donations to our NWFMOA Scholarship program to MOAA?

In a nutshell, the two scholarship programs (NWFMOA and MOAA) are separate and distinct from each other. All donations to and funds raised by our NWFMOA Scholarship Fund are used to support our local program of offering five scholarships annually (totaling \$9,000) to JROTC cadets of our five local high schools. [Please see the **Scholarship Donation Form** in the **Defender** to donate.] We do not send any funds to the national MOAA program, nor do we receive any scholarship funds from MOAA. Also, I am not notified when a member of NWFMOA makes a donation to the MOAA program. Those donations are listed periodically in MOAA's **Military Officer** magazine.

Yes, our local JROTC cadets are eligible for the national MOAA scholarships if they meet MOAA's criteria. They must submit a separate application (available on the MOAA website) and follow MOAA's rules for information and documentation. The criteria and application for our NWFMOA scholarships can be found on the Scholarship pages at www.NWFMOA.org.

Both scholarship programs are very worthy and provide financial assistance to JROTC cadets as they attend college. I hope the above information clarifies the two scholarship programs.

The 50/50 raffle at the September luncheon was won by Ron Reed with \$62 going to the Scholarship Fund. Thank you to all who bought raffle tickets.

Here's the complete list of Century Club members (\$100 minimum donation) for the most previous 12 months of 2015/2016 along with our Business Donors:

Learning about Our Air Force History

Contributed by Dan Cobbs and Scott Berry

Black Angels Over Tuskegee, Layon Gray's acclaimed Off-Broadway play about the heroic Tuskegee Airmen will appear at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center at Northwest Florida State College on Friday, October 7, 2016 at 7:30 PM. central time.

The award-winning, docudrama has performed to rave reviews across the nation, including notable appearances at the Smithsonian Institute and WWII Museum in Washington DC. Based on true events, six men explore their collective struggle with Jim Crow, their intelligence, patriotism, dreams of an inclusive fair society, and brotherhood, as they become the first African-American fighter pilots in the U.S. Army Air Forces during WWII.



Single tickets sales for the October 7th evening performance are available now for \$37.50 each. The evening event tickets sales for Black Angels over Tuskegee are sold exclusively through the Mattie Kelly Arts Center Box Office by phone, web or in-person. Call (850) 729-6000 or toll free 1-888-838-ARTS (2767) or purchase online at www.MattieKellyArtsCenter.org.

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Scholarship Fund (cont.)

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BG Frank Glunn Century Club: October 2015: **Frederick Rall**. November 2015: **Dick Prater**. December 2015: **Carol Baker**; **Karl Eschmann**. January 2016: **Clyde Locke** (Renewal); **Dan Brown** (Renewal). February 2016: **Mel Bryant** (Renewal); **Charlie Brown**; **John Holt**; **Bill Ryan**. March 2016: **Fred Westfall** (Renewal); **William Colgan**; **Dave Parisot** (Renewal). May 2016: **Kristine Sams**. June 2016: **Fred Boyer** (Renewal); **Eileen Arpke** (Renewal); **Larry Bush** (Renewal). July 2016: **Beryl Brenner** (Renewal). August 2016: **Tom Churan** (Renewal).

2015 Business Platinum Donor (\$750 minimum donation): April/November 2015: **Eglin Federal Credit Union**

2015 Business Silver Donor (\$250 - \$499): May/December 2015: **Shalimar Pointe Golf Club** (In-kind); December 2015: **Indian Bayou Golf & Country Club** (In-kind).

2015 Business Bronze Donor (\$100 - \$249): November 2015: **Merrill Lynch Wealth Management**; May/December 2015: **Tommy Mattonie's Coastal Café** (In-kind); December 2015: **Tammy's Journeys** (In-kind); **Mary's Kitchen** (In-kind).

Please support our local businesses that have contributed to our scholarship program.

NWFMOA Scholarship Fund, Inc.: "Helping to build future military officers and leaders."

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Gotta a Bridge Gripe?

By Scott Berry

I'm writing this immediately after returning from the September meeting and returning the reading glasses that one of our speakers, Van Fuller, left at the Yacht Club.

Van is our newest chapter member! As we were talking in his office, he also encouraged me to inform chapter members that he welcomes their questions or comments about any Mid-Bay Bridge issue. I told him I'd do one better than that: I'd write an article for our next newsletter. So here I am.

Want to contact Van? His email address is van.fuller@mid-bay.com. He phone number is 850-420-2340. His office is in BWB's Merchants Walk next to the vet clinic. If your question or comment has a broad applicability, we'll publish it and his answer in a future Defender.

The rest is up to you

SCHOLARSHIP DONATION FORM

Please accept this gift of \$_____ to support the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund (Donations of \$100 or more will be recognized in the B/Gen Frank Glunn Century Club).

Donor Information (if not printed on check):

Name _____

Address _____

Gift is tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

☐ This gift is a memorial in honor of: _____

☐ Please inform the following of this gift:

Name _____

Address _____

City, ST ZIP _____

Make payable to: **NWFMOA Scholarship Fund**, and mail to: David Parisot, President; 56th 11th St, Shalimar, FL 32579

NWFMOA Scholarship Fund, Inc is a 501c(3) corporation. Donations are tax exempt as provided by law. Registration # CH20374. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the FL Dept of Agriculture & Consumer Services by calling toll free (800) 435-7352 within the State of Florida or via their website of www.800helpfla.com. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State.

N.W. Florida Military Officers Assn., Inc.
P. O. Box 1213
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Northwest Florida Military Officers Assn., Inc. P.O. Box 1213, Shalimar, FL 32579		Membership Application/Renewal	
 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 from the local to national levels.			
Last Name		First Name Initial	
Spouse		Phone	
Address		City State & Zip	
Email Address			
Rank	Service	MOAA Mbr. No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve	<input type="checkbox"/> National Guard	<input type="checkbox"/> Active Duty <input type="checkbox"/> Retired
This application is for:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Auxiliary <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____			
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 is automatically an auxiliary life member.			
New Members joining this year receive membership through December 31 next year for \$25.00.			
Membership Renewal 1yr—\$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 half of the above rates			
Join Us Today			