

NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
LUNCH MEETING
2/2/2023

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Our February meeting was called to order by President Fran Hendricks at the Fort Walton Yacht Club at 1205. Fran started the meeting with a tribute to Don Panzenhagen and thanked the members who attended his funeral service. Chaplain Tom Azar gave the invocation and then Patrick Johnson led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Fran then recognized Jake Bush who celebrated his 100th birthday last month. That was followed by Jake and Kathy Bush cutting a birthday cake in Jake's honor.

Following lunch President Hendricks introduced our guest speaker, CAPT Frank Michael, MOAA's Program Director for Council and Chapter Affairs. CAPT Michael spoke about MOAA's need to advertise the existence of local MOAA affiliate chapters around the nation, noting that of MOAA's 355,000 members only 38,000 belong to local chapter affiliates. He mentioned that many chapters are having difficulty with getting leaders to step up but that the NWFMOA was a "model chapter". He said MOAA understands that it needs to appeal to the younger demographic but currently focuses primarily on the 40 to 60 years old group, those "newly retired". CAPT Michael then outlined MOAA's 3 strategic focus initiatives for 2023, those being Tricare-pharmacy availability, restoration of BAH, and the All-Volunteer force. He then discussed community outreach and again stressed that the NWFMOA is "a model chapter" in those efforts. Following his prepared remarks, he fielded questions from the members. One dealt with social media to which he noted that MOAA has a person (his daughter) who is in charge of social media and has lots of help available to those who wish to pursue social media initiatives. Fran then presented CAPT Michael with the NWFMOA challenge coin.

OTHER TOPICS

Fran presented Mike Griffith and Elvira Chiccarelli with Past President's pins and Mike with a leadership plaque from the FCoC. Fran also reminded the group of the February 14 Valentines for Veterans event and invited members to participate. He also announced that there will be an Officers Call held in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the release of Vietnam Prisoners of War to be held at the Air Armament Museum on March 9. Fran encouraged members to pick up our new recruiting trifold brochure, to take it with them to recruit new members or business ads for the Defender and that the trifold is also available online. He then introduced our newest member, Craig McCartney and welcomed him to the Chapter. Fran announced that our March speaker will be Lt Col Anderson, Commander, 3d Battalion/7th Special Forces Group (Airborne).

Attendance for the lunch was 46. The meeting was adjourned at 1322.

Following the meeting Dave Parisot held the 50/50 raffle drawing. The winner of \$105 was Terry Jensen. Total contribution to the scholarship fund was \$105.

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FRED WESTFALL, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)
Secretary
NWFMOA Chapter FL 19

Distribution: Email to board members and non-board members in attendance.