

NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
LUNCH MEETING  
1/5/2023

**LUNCH MEETING**

Our January meeting was called to order by President Mike Griffith at the Fort Walton Yacht Club at 1200. Chaplain Tom Azar gave the invocation and then Mike led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. This was our annual installation of the new Officers and Board of the NWFMOA. Mike turned the meeting over to Major General Rich Comer, USAF (Ret), who conducted the installation ceremony. The officers and board members present were then sworn in by General Comer. The elected officers inducted at today's ceremony were: President Fran Hendricks, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Karl Eschmann, Treasurer George Colton, and Secretary Fred Westfall. Board members inducted were Ray Alexander, Bob Allen, Bob Gramm, Don Panzenhagen, and Dick Solt. Following the swearing in ceremony, Maj Gen Comer returned the program over to Fran Hendricks.

Following lunch President Hendricks announced that our February speaker will be CAPT Frank Michael from MOAA headquarters. He then recapped some of the chapter's accomplishments to include: the success of the Military Ball (thanking Karl Eschmann and Dave Parisot for their efforts), revised bylaws to be voted upon in March, benefits that are coming in the next year to include a free meal during the member's birth month, a "Member Spotlight" in the Defender and encouraged the members to read about our first Member Spotlight, Jake Bush, the winners of the first two military quizzes in the December and January Defender and a revamped website. He also mentioned our involvement with Wreaths Across America and announced the newest community outreach project, Valentine for Vets, which we will be partnering with Longwood Elementary school and Bob Hope Village.

**OTHER TOPICS**

Les Matheson thanked members for their assistance when he had a medical issue during the Wreaths Across America event in December. Karl Eschmann reminded the group that we purchased \$495 worth of Wreaths Across America during the period when your contribution was matched and that will give us 66 wreaths for next year's event. Bob Gramm announced he is drafting a letter to the Eglin hospital commander expressing our concerns about pharmacy issues and asked anyone with specific problems or issues to contact him and provide details that he will use in the letter.

Attendance for the lunch was 35. The meeting was adjourned at 1305.

The Board meeting which is normally held after the meeting was instead held on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

**//signed//**

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

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