

NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
LUNCH MEETING  
5/5/2022

**LUNCH MEETING**

The annual Scholarship Fund awards meeting was called to order by President Mike Griffith at the Fort Walton Yacht Club at 1200. The Choctaw High School Honor Guard presented the colors. Chaplain Steve Voyt gave the invocation. Dr. Howard Fisher then led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mike then turned the meeting over to Dave Parisot, President of our Scholarship Fund. Dave introduced the Scholarship Fund committee, the members of the Color Guard and then introduced those new members of the Gold Century Club. Following lunch Dave reminded those present of the envelopes on the table for donations to our MOAA Grant to provide gift cards for enlisted personnel in the rank of E4 and below. Contributions this year were \$907. Dave then acknowledged and thanked our business donors for their significant contribution to our Scholarship Fund. Dave then began the awards ceremony starting with the award of the MOAA medals followed by the award of the Scholarship Fund awards.

Dave asked B/Gen Fran Hendricks to present the MOAA medals to 7 JROTC cadets. Those were: from Baker School, Cadet Jared Raybon, from Choctawhatchee High School, Cadet Brody Nichols, from Crestview High School, Cadet James Johnson, from Fort Walton Beach High School, Cadet Carter Von Ahnen, from Navarre High School, Cadet Coltyn Young, from Niceville High School, Cadet Daniel Mikus, from Walton High School is Cadet Perla Gonzalez (in absentia).

Following those award Dave presented the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund awards. This year 4 awards totaling \$13,500 were given out. Our four \$3,000 scholarship winners for 2022 were: Cadet Quin Gable, Choctawhatchee JROTC, projected to attend University of West Florida with a major in General Business, Cadet Connor Dagele, Niceville JROTC, projected to attend Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University with a major in cyber security, Cadet John Harmon, Niceville JROTC, projected to attend Norwich University with a major in cyber security, Cadet Naomi Barr, Crestview JROTC, projected to attend the University of West Florida with a major in pre-med biological science. The final scholarship for Lt Col James and Mrs. Una Heavener Memorial scholarship of \$4,500 was Cadet Ashleigh Siren, Niceville JROTC and is projected to attend the University of New Orleans majoring in mechanical engineering. The names of the cadets receiving the awards are in the May *Defender* and their pictures as well as the other awardees will be published on our website.

This year we also honored those students who have been accepted to the various military academies. Mike Griffith presented each appointee with a certificate of recognition and congratulations on their appointment. Those present were Zachary Hruby from Niceville High School who will be attending West Point, Deantae Brown from Navarre High School who has an appointment to the US Naval Academy, Spencer MacKenzie of Fort Walton Beach High School who will be attending the US Coast Guard Academy, James McFrand of Niceville who will be attending The Citadel, and six students who have been accepted into the US Air Force Academy. Those are: Gavin Unterreiner from Navarre, Leanne Gujski from Niceville, Charles Sherwin III from Niceville, Mikala Urenda from Niceville, Page Doloff from Niceville, and Massimo Grisotto also from Niceville (in absentia). As students came forward they were accompanied by NWFMOA members who also attended those academies. Dave also announced our newest scholarship opportunities. These are two scholarships for local area graduates who attend the

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University of West Florida and who have met certain requirements through their Army or Air Force ROTC programs. These will be awarded during the 2022-2023 academic year. Dave then recognized Chris Beam, George Colton, Scott Berry and Bill Van Hoesen for establishing a strong foundation for the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund.

Following the awards presentation Dave turned the meeting back to Mike Griffith. After a few concluding remarks Mike asked Chaplain Voyt to give the benediction which was followed by the group singing God Bless America. Attendance for the lunch was 79. The meeting was adjourned at 1350.

**//signed//**

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

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