

NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
LUNCH MEETING
10/7/2021

LUNCH MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Griffith at the Fort Walton Yacht Club at 1200. Mike read the invocation prepared by Chaplain Tom Azar and then led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mike asked for visitors to introduce themselves and also new members. New member Lori Fluker introduced herself and said that her husband, Mark, was still working but that they were both looking forward to being with our group. Mike then gave an informative talk about the Second Amendment to our Constitution, pointing out some issues of contention that persist in today's environment. Just prior to lunch, Karl Eschmann reminded the audience that the registration form for our Military Ball is in the Defender and available online. He also stated that he and his wife are looking for volunteers to help with Wreaths Across America which takes place on December 18. Les Matheson provided some additional information about the event. Following lunch, Mike introduced our guest speaker, the chapter's own Col Karl Eschmann, who gave the second in a two-part series on Operation Linebacker. He started with a recap of his presentation of Linebacker 1 and then transitioned into Linebacker 2. He pointed out the flawed planning for the first 3 days of missions, how adjustments were made, the overall success after the entire 18-day operation and the impact it had on ending the war and the release of our prisoners of war. He concluded his presentation with the lessons learned from Linebacker 2. Following his presentation Karl gave the microphone to George Mickey, a chapter member and an EWO on a B-52 involved in Linebacker 2. George gave several personal examples of his experiences while aboard the B-52.

Terry Jensen, Hurlburt's Retired Activities Director, said there would be a Wing Commander Retirement celebration and that the details are in the email recently sent to our members.

OTHER TOPICS

In Dave Parisot's absence, Fred Westfall conducted the 50/50 raffle. The winning ticket pulled by Karl Eschmann was Chris Beam, who donated his winnings back to the Scholarship Fund. The raffle brought in \$158 so that entire amount went to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund.

Mike Griffith then asked the officers, board members and any members present if they had any further comments. None were made.

Attendance for the lunch was 53. The meeting was adjourned at 1320.

Following the lunch meeting was a Board meeting.

//signed//

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

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