



THE DEFENDER

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

Vol. 30 No 7

Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services

July 2024

THE NWFMOA JULY LUNCH MEETING IS CANCELLED



Since our July meeting falls on July 4th, when many of us will be with family and friends, it has been decided to cancel the lunch for July.

Have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July. Do something fun...you deserve it.



Lunch Meeting & Discussion

When: Thursday **July Cancelled**

Time: Gathering 1130, Lunch 1200, Program to follow

Place: Fort Walton Yacht Club
—180 Ferry Road, NE, FWB

Program: **None.**

MAKE A RESERVATION

- Reservations are Required
- Wear a name tag
- Bring proper change: \$16

Reservation deadline is Saturday at noon prior to meeting. Go to <http://nwfmoa.org> and select the link "Click here to make reservations", or email nwreservations@gmail.com, or call Fred Westfall at 850-609-8075 to make a reservation.

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From the President's Pen

By Fran Hendricks



2024 Mid-Year Progress Report

As we enter the second half of 2024, our 65th year serving the community, I thought I would give a brief recap of what we have done and what we have scheduled for the second half of the year.

January...The NWFMOA Board was sworn in. First Sergeants from our surrounding installations joined us for lunch in January and provided feedback regarding the impact of the Commissary Gift Cards for Junior Enlisted Families. RECAP: Through your generous donations and those of other likeminded military associations, Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Councils, and local businesses coupled with a \$1,800 grant from the MOAA Foundation, we purchased 300 \$25 Commissary gift cards (totaling \$7,500) and had the First Sergeants distributed them to Junior Enlisted Families in need. We participated in the American Legion's Oratorical Scholarship program as guest judges and tabulators. Also in January, NWFMOA Members began receiving their 65th Anniversary Commemorative Coins. If you haven't received yours yet, all you need to do is attend a NWFMOA event. Each coin is numbered.

February...We held our first of four Officers Calls at Doc's Oyster Bar. For planning purposes, every month that there is a fifth Thursday, we will hold an Officers Call. We conducted our Second Annual Valentines for Veterans tribute at Bob Hope Village in conjunction with Longwood Elementary School. We submitted a grant proposal in support of our Junior Enlisted Gift Card Program to the MOAA Foundation.

March...We were notified by MOAA National that the Chapter, Website, and our newsletter (*The Defender*) received its highest rating...5 Stars for 2022. We submitted our 2023 Level of Excellence submissions to MOAA National for 2023.

April...We once again participated in the Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce's Military Family Appreciation Day at the Landing. This year we partnered with Zaxby's and gave away gift cards to their restaurant. Our partnership with Longwood Elementary expanded to our participating in their Read Across America program. We participated in seven local high schools JRTOTC Award Ceremonies where we recognized deserving Cadets in front of their families, teachers, and fellow Cadets. We introduced a new feature in *The Defender*...Mascot of the Month. We welcome all pets to be featured...just send us a photo of your pet.

May...We held our Annual Scholarship Luncheon where we recognized 10 JROTC and 2 ROTC Cadets with scholarships totaling \$39,500. At the Florida Council of Chapters Annual Convention, NWFMOA was recognized again as a premier MOAA Chapter earning 5-Star Awards for the Chapter, our newsletter (*The Defender*), and website for 2023. We held our second Officers Call at Doc's Oyster Bar.

June...Our June meeting fell on the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. It was truly fitting that our lunch speaker, Lt Col Steve Snow, USAF Retired, former Air Force One pilot, shared during his presentation pictures of him being at Normandy with President Reagan for the 40th Anniversary. Fellow NWFMOA Members Jeff Watson and Al Bills were in France during the 80th Anniversary. The MOAA Foundation notified us we were awarded a \$3,000 grant for our Junior Enlisted Gift Card Program. In our grant submission, we stated we would match their grant award amount. All proceeds from our monthly 50/50 will go towards this specific community outreach endeavor. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

As we look to the second half of the year, our 65th Anniversary, we have more great speakers on tap, two more officer calls, our Junior Enlisted Gift Card Program at Thanksgiving, Wreaths Across America, our Annual Military Ball, and a visit by the MOAA National President. I look forward to joining you at each of these events.

H2S (Here to Serve),

Fran Hendricks, Brig Gen, USAF Retired
President, NWFMOA

We cordially invite you to join us
in celebrating our 65th year of
Service to our Community

1959 - 2024



How can you join our celebration?

If you donate you will to be placed on the marquee (above)
and listed in the *Defender* for up to **12 months**

Individuals...minimum \$25

Businesses...minimum \$50

Each donor will also receive a commemorative, numbered RMO!



Click here to donate to our
65th Anniversary Celebration

Below is an example of the banner. Click it to see it on our webpage.



Donors so far include:

- The Mistys
- Zaxby's Chicken
- Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce
- L J Schooners' Restaurant and Oyster Bar
- Doc's Oyster Bar & Grill
- Merrill – Tess Bass & Associates
- Faith Independent Baptist Church
- Hurlburt First Sergeants Council
- Cut-Off Barber Shop
- Advanced Fire Protection Services, Inc
- Melinda Wickham
- Ron "Westy" Westenbarger
- Marcus D. Chambers
- Lt Col Bert Everhart
- Marian K. McBryde
- Major General Don Litke
- Dr. (Col) Teresa Skojac
- Doug and Judy Stauffer
- Rod and Sue Gerdes
- David Jeffcoat
- David Hadzima
- Pat and Mary Kluever
- Bob Allen
- Jeff and Judy Watson
- Al and Carol Stearns
- Howard and Irene Fisher
- Karl and Charlotte Eschmann
- Steve Bond
- John Murphy
- Ron and Nancy Birchall
- Scott Berry
- RADM Richard Buchanan
- Paul Chlebo
- Dick and Dulce Solt
- Chris Beam
- Bob and Karen Gramm
- Kevin Kirby and Victoria Hansen
- Chris and Richard Hallion
- Fred Westfall
- Dave Parisot
- Fran Hendricks
- Hopefully, many more

Click on the link above to donate and get your name on the banner.

Test Your Knowledge

Take the quiz for a chance to win a free lunch at our next meeting. ←

This month the quiz is about some important military history. When you click on the link below, you will see a single question and a place to give your answer and name. If your answer is correct, you will be entered into the drawing at the monthly meeting (you have to be present to win your free meal at the next meeting). You may answer the question multiple times but only the correct answer will count for the drawing (so answering the question correctly 5 times will not give you more chances to win). We don't tell anyone that they got it right or wrong until we disclose the winner at the meeting. At the meeting, we state the answer and how many got it right. Then we pull the one winning entry from the hat.

Last month we had two drawings since we did not have a drawing in May. The first winner was Chris Beam who was not present and the second winner was Dick Solt

Click the link below to get to the quiz. The winner will be announced at the next meeting. The person must be present to win.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Time To Pay Your Dues

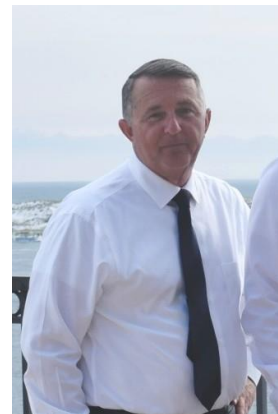
It is time to pay your 2024 dues. Please make a check for the amount payable for the next year or beyond.

- Not sure if you owe dues? Click [HERE](#). If your MOAA ID is listed, you owe dues.
- Don't know your MOAA ID? Click [HERE](#).
- If you owe dues, click [HERE](#) to fill form and send it along with your check to
Treasurer, PO Box 1213, Shalimar, FL 32579.
- You can also now pay your dues by **credit card**. To do that, click [HERE](#).

Never Stop Serving

Chaplain's Corner

By: Chaplain Ray Alexander



HOW GREAT A LOVE

Jesus found great pain and agony in the events in and following the Garden of Gethsemane. There was betrayal, public trials and humiliation, beatings, carrying of the cross and the certain death while hanging there on that hilltop. Here is where I see a great love for us that is only witnessed here in the history of mankind. The following little things reveal the example and definition of love that all of us need to adopt and exemplify.

Jesus knew that it was his time for his death on this Passover even before he prayed in the garden. He had the last supper with his disciples and revealed Judas as the betrayer. Later that night in the garden, he deals with the disciple who tries to hinder the will of God by using violence. Jesus does not allow it. He heals the man reattaching his ear.

In the garden, we find a person in agony struggling for life and yet his words reveal his great love. It is not just his struggle. He is concerned about the work of salvation in the world. His concern is not for himself but for the unity of these and future disciples sent into the world. He prays for the disciples that God protects them, makes them holy and that the love of God for him will be in the disciples. John 17 reveals much more as you take time to study it.

Let us take one more glance at a few other actions that manifest his character and love. He carries his cross and passes women who are crying. He comforts them with his prophetic words. And on the cross, his love for truth of God finds place in the heart of one of the men hanging there with him. Finally, he shows love for his mother.

He dies surrendering his life back to God. No greater love!

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.

Officers Call

Our next officers call will be on August 29 starting at 1700,
[Doc's Oyster Bar, 303 Glen Ave, Valparaiso, FL](#)
(behind the Compass Rose).



PUBLIC RECORD

In Memoriam

None 😊

New Members

Catherine Perry, Col, USAF (Ret)

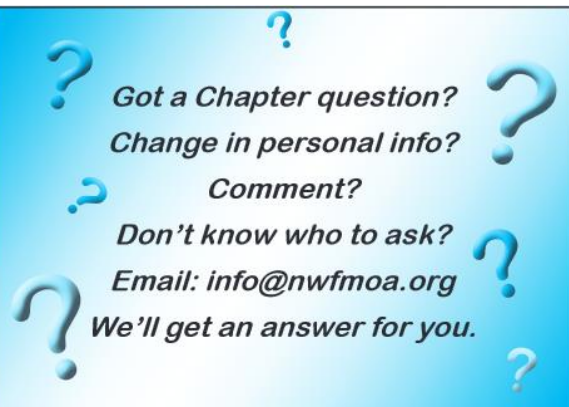
Jim Reece, Lt Col, USA (Ret)



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NWFMOA Shirt Purchase Options

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Wear your shirt proudly.

Here is another option...

Looking for a NWFMOA Chapter shirt. In addition to ordering a shirt, you can also buy your own polo shirt (short or long sleeve) and take it to [American Athletic Uniforms, Inc](#) ([90 Eastview Ave, Valparaiso, FL](#)) to have it embroidered with our patch and your name. Cost of embroidery (Patch + Name) is \$15.



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/> We all will benefit from your efforts.



Never Stop Serving

**If You Belong to the NWFMOA, You ARE
Part Of The Solution**

[Click here to join the NWFMOA](#)



The Council Communiqué

Florida Council of Chapters
Military Officers Association of America

[Click to read the FCoC Communiqué](#)

Mascot of the Month

No Entry This Month

Please submit a picture of you and your special animal friend by sending an email to defender@nwfmoa.org.

Member Spotlight

Dick Solt, Col, USAF (Ret)

Born 1938 in small town of 3,000 people in Palmerton, Pa. Graduated from Palmerton High where I played quarterback, pitched baseball and was the 1956 Senior Class President. Went to Penn State, then about 40,000 students, was selected for Advanced Air Force ROTC, and graduated as a 2nd Lt USAF IN 1960 and the start of a 30-year career that was far different from most other Air Force officers. From a start in logistics at Maxwell AFB in Montgomery, Alabama, with a side duty as mortuary officer, which caused me to volunteer for an overseas assignment in Incirlik, Turkey. My boss there was Colonel Travis Hoover, who flew the second bomber off the USS Hornet on the Doolittle raid. We had B-47 bombers there with nukes, on alert to strike Russia during the Cuban Missile Crisis. For some reason all senior logistics officers were canceling their assignments to Incirlik during this period and as a 1Lt I had charge of all logistics. Colonel Hoover really liked me and referred me to HQ Tactical Air Command to work for his friends Generals Sweeney and Disosway. They were two tough Generals and I was sent to chemical biological school at Dugway, Utah, and on multiple rapid deployments and exercises worldwide. They awarded me the Tactical Air Command Langley AFB Junior Officer of the Year. And then sent me to Vietnam on New Year's Eve of 1968! I was there during the first and second TET offensives, working various projects in support of all fighter and gunship aircraft, the Quiet Bird, and forward air controllers. During the first TET our base, Tan Son Nhut, was nearly overrun with over 200 VC killed on base. During the second TET we had constant 122MM rocket attacks with one blowing the roof off my office and knocking me over. My boss and tennis partner, General Worley, went off on a RF-4 RECCE mission and never came back. But he did work an assignment for me before he was killed, to go to HQ PACAF IN Hawaii to follow up on the projects I was working in Vietnam and Thailand, which meant years of returning to the war zone. Then Air Command and Staff College followed by a tour to the Air force Military Personnel Center at Randolph AFB, Texas. A challenging job making assignments and career development for over 1000 officers. Was on the briefing team that went around the world, including briefing the B-52 crews flying death missions, and alerting them that the rating criteria was changing and not all could receive top ratings. Had quarterly meetings with senior generals in the



Pentagon to report on success/problems faced by my officers. Reported the dissatisfaction with the new rating system, which was totally wrong during wartime conditions. From there to Kelly AFB, Texas, working with Northrop Aircraft to put over 1,300 F-5 fighter aircraft into foreign countries. First involved with Iran, but when the regime changed, focused on Saudi Arabia who purchased 120 F-5 aircraft. Saudi selected Northrop to build and upgrade several bases for the F-5s. My job became one of constant travel between Northrop in Hawthorne, CA., Saudi Arabia, the Pentagon, HQ AFLC, Wright- Patterson AFB, Ohio, and my home base. Northrop was good at making the F-5, but not good at building air bases, with constant construction delays and cost overruns. A most interesting pressure job, with Saudis offering me a second wife if I didn't get it fixed. But I did, and was selected to go to Canberra, Australia, to attend their Defense College. As the only American student, I was considered a foreign student along with others from Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Canada, England, New Zealand. While at the school was coerced to work with the CIA to track a Soviet student of interest to the U.S. who was in my dorm at the Master's House at the University of Australia. Had fun doing that and got great accolades from the Ambassador for my help. Attending this school required a follow-on assignment to Camp Smith, Hawaii, to work for the Navy Commander in Chief of the Pacific. Also assigned with me was Army Brig General Norman Schwarzkopf. We became good friends. I worked on the bridge for three different Commanders in Chief of the Pacific: Admirals Wiesner, Long and Crowe. For 5 years I assisted with briefings, and murder boards in preparation for Senate and Congressional Armed Service Hearings. At the hearings I was the one person in uniform behind the Admiral, with papers to hand to him if needed. Lots of pressure, especially when flying on the plane from Hawaii to Washington with nervous Admirals asking me Navy questions. When asked why they kept an Air Force guy in this job, was told I was easier to fire than a Navy guy. Got assigned all sorts of jobs while at CINCPAC. Was assigned to support President Carter's Ambassador in charge of the Micronesia Status negotiations, involving all the islands in Micronesia, Palau, Kosrae, Saipan, Tinian, Peleliu, and Yap. Was selected to escort American Samoans assigned to Pearl Harbor to attend American Samoa Day in American Samoa. Flew over on a P3, that also was assigned to drop off 6 Army paratroopers to kick off American Samoa Day. It did, but returned with a low pass and attempted to fly under a swinging bridge, got caught in the cable and crashed into the hotel where we all were staying. All five aboard were killed. So, I became the CINCPAC man on the scene and remained in American Samoa to assist the casualty and investigative teams. Sad. Also, at CINCPAC, worked with General Schwarzkopf to put on an extravagant change of command for Admirals Long and Crowe. it was a Cecil B. DeMille performance at Hickam AFB inside the two large hangers, and may never be equaled. I really liked my time at CINCPAC but told them I had to get back in the Air Force. So I was assigned to the Pentagon in the Secretary of Defense Office under Caspar Weinberger for 2 years, and saw little daylight. Normal work day was 6am to 6pm. But rewarding experience like getting a master's degree in the workings of Washington. Then finally, I got selected as a Division Chief on the Air Staff in international programs, supporting countries in the Americas involved with the Contra War. I had 12 fighter pilots in my division and made constant trips to the Americas assisting their air forces with aircraft and support. Personally worked with Israel to provide spares to Honduras for their Super Mystere aircraft needed against Nicaragua tanks to avoid an escalation of Russian aircraft upgrade in the region. Had a C-141 move a Quonset hut of spares from Israel to Honduras, with help from the SECDEF and Air Force Chief. Final assignment was as Commander of foreign military training, with HQ Air Training Command, Randolph AFB, Texas, which included foreign military pilot, navigator, technical and language training. Upon retiring headed to Saudi Arabia where he assisted the Royal Saudi Air Force with their F-15S program during Desert Storm. Again, linked up with General Schwarzkopf. Ended up remaining in Saudi Arabia for 11 years with Boeing for the delivery of 72 F-15S aircraft and logistics support, and continued working as Saudi Arabia consultant with Boeing until 2016. I

received the Defense Superior Service Medal from the Secretary of Defense, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, National Defense Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Vietnam Service and Campaign Medals, Vietnam Gallantry Cross, and a multitude of Air Force Outstanding Unit, Commendation and Organizational Excellence awards.

To View more pictures of Dick, click [HERE](#).

Community Outreach

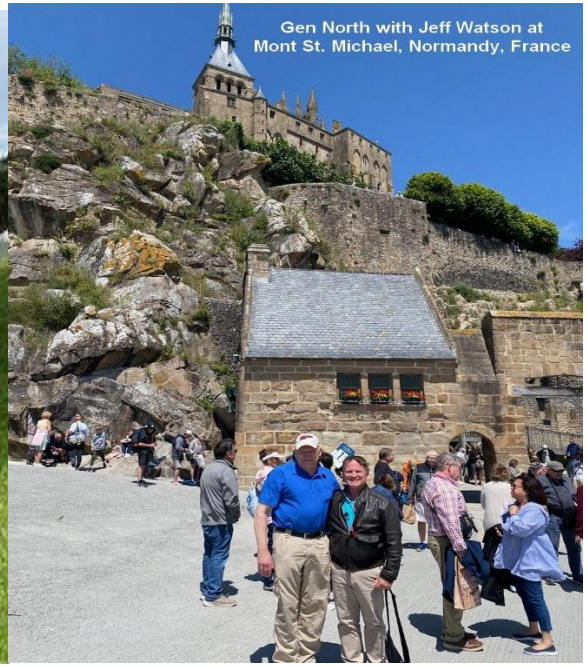
Contributions
from various
members.

Brig Gen Patt Maney Speaks to Okaloosa County Commission on the Status of Women (June 14, 2024)



NWFMOA member and Florida State Representative, Brig Gen Patt Maney discussed legislative updates to the Baker Act and their potential impact on Florida's mental health system at the Okaloosa County Commission on the Status of Women.

D-Day Remembrance (June 6, 2024)



Member Colonel Jeff Watson visits Normandy on the 80th anniversary of D-Day. He is joined by General North, Chairman of the Board, MOAA.

View all the pictures by clicking [HERE](#).

June NWFMOA Lunch Meeting (June 6, 2024)



Above: The NWFMOA members at the lunch gathered to celebrate the award of the 5-Star awards for 2023: the MOAA Level of Excellence award and the Marvin Harris Communications awards for the NWFMOA website and our monthly publication, *The Defender*.



Steve Snow talks about Air Force One

Above: Member Steve Snow gives a presentation about his time flying Air Force One and Two while assigned to Andrews AFB.

Below: Scholarship Fund President Dave Parisot presents certificated to Bob Gramm (upper picture) and Larry Tashlik (lower picture) for their entry to the Gold Century Club.



NWFMOA Officers Call (May 30, 2024)



We celebrated the second Officers Call this year at Doc's Oyster Bar. The event was well attended by 20+ members a great time was had by all. A couple of members relayed interesting stories of their days on active duty. In the above picture are (left to right) Les Matheson, NWFMOA President Fran Hendricks, Bert Everhart and Al Stearns.

[To view additional pictures, click HERE.](#)

Never Stop Having Fun

President Fran Hendricks Receives 5-Star Awards for the Chapter, the Website and our newsletter, *The Defender* (May 14, 2024)



This photo is from the 2024 Florida Council of Chapters (FCoC) Military Ball where NWFMOA President Fran Hendricks is flanked by Col Steve Bond, US Army Retired, new FCoC President and Col John Murphy, USAR Retried, new FCoC Vice President. NWFMOA was recognized with three separate 5-Star Awards...one for the Chapter, *The Defender*, and the Website.

Dave Parisot Attends Commissioning Ceremony (May 3, 2024)

Dave Parisot attended the Commissioning Ceremony on May 3rd of two former NWFMOA scholarship recipients at the Mission Anglican Church in Pensacola. **Anthony Rodas** and **Kathryn Dunn** took their oaths of office as second lieutenants following completion of the Army ROTC program at the University of West Florida.

2LT Rodas graduated from Crestview H.S. and its Army JROTC program in May, 2020, and was awarded a \$2,500 scholarship by the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund. He entered the University of West Florida in the fall of 2020 and graduated from UWF and the Army ROTC in May 2024. He will serve on active duty as an Air Defense Artillery Officer.

2LT Dunn graduated from Crestview H.S. and its Army JROTC program in May 2021, and was awarded a \$2,500 scholarship by the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund. She entered the University of West Florida in the fall of 2021 as a sophomore due to participating in dual enrollment in high school. She will serve with the Army Reserves as a Military Intelligence Officer. Kathryn plans to go to Law School and eventually join the Army Judge Advocate General.

We wish both of these new Army officers great success and well-being as they enter service to our country.



2LT Anthony Rodas and **2LT Kathryn Dunn** were congratulated on their commissioning by **Major Dave Parisot**, President of the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund

Scholarship Fund

by Dave Parisot



Taking some vacation time; Scholarship Program is getting results; Recent Donations

The summer months are kind of slow as to Scholarship activities, so I am taking some time off. When the fall college semesters starting in August and September, George Colton and I will be sending out scholarship checks as we receive verification from the colleges and ROTC units confirming full-time enrollment by our scholarship winners. NOTE: We accept donation checks at any time!

I want everyone to be aware of the results we have gotten from our Scholarship program: Sixty-five percent (65%) of our paid-out scholarship winners between 2015 – 2020 have been commissioned as officers in our Armed Forces. I use 2020 as my cut-off year as these cadets have been in college for four years to get their degrees. How do I define a 'paid-out scholarship'? These are scholarships where we sent checks to colleges on a student's behalf. Unfortunately, not all of the JROTC cadets to whom we award a scholarship to in the spring (May) of each year claim them. Most of the 'non-claimed scholarships' are due to the student not enrolling in ROTC at college. Remember, there are two 'must' criteria for the scholarships to be paid: full-time college student and enrolled in ROTC. We had five cadets commissioned in 2023, and five were commissioned in 2024 (our two best years) with some 'onesies' and 'twosies' in prior years. We should have at least two more commissioned in 2025.

I remember my high school chemistry teacher's philosophy when it came to doing chemistry experiments: "You gotta get results!" Well, we are getting results, and we need your financial support to keep doing so. We are fulfilling our motto of the Scholarship Fund: "Helping to build future military officers and leaders!" Please keep writing those checks to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund. (Please see donation form in The Defender or donate on-line via credit card.)

A recent recurring donation to the BG Frank Glunn Century Club was made by **George Colton**. We also received a Business Bronze donation from **Eye M.D, of Niceville, LLC**. We thank each of you for your financial support and our scholarship awardees will also appreciate your support. Thank you George and Eye MD. **Chuck Merkel** won the Chapter 50/50 drawing at the June luncheon and donated his winnings of \$64 to the Scholarship Fund in memory of **LTC Sam Lombardo, USA, Ret**. Thank you, Chuck.

Below is the complete list of our **Endowed Scholarships**, our **Gold Century Club** members (\$500 cumulative minimum donation) and our **BG Frank Glunn Century Club** members (\$100 minimum donation) for the most previous 12 months, along with our **Business Donors**. Your support is greatly appreciated. All of these donations are used to fund our scholarships. [Note: (D) means deceased and (R) means Renewal of membership.]

Endowed Scholarships: **Lt Col Jim and Mrs Una Heavener Memorial Scholarship** (D) (via their estate, effective 2018); **Dave Parisot** in memory of his wife, **Chong Cha (Kim) Parisot** (effective

2017); **Dr (Lt Col, USAF, Ret.) Howard and Mrs. Irene Fisher Scholarship** (effective 2022); **Dr. (Lt. Col., USAF, Ret.) Fred and Mrs. Jan Westfall Scholarship** (effective 2023); and, **Col. (USAF, Ret.) Karl and Mrs. Charlotte Eschmann Scholarship** (effective 2024).

Gold Century Club: **Bill Ryan** (Feb 2016); **Ruth Cullen, (D)** (Oct 2016); **Dave Parisot** (Feb 2017); **Janet Taylor** (Mar 2017); **Chris Beam** (Mar 2017); **Bob Garcia (D)** (July 2017); **Rod Gerdes** (Nov 2017); **Larry Bush** (Nov 2017); **Dr. Howard & Irene Fisher** (Nov 2017); **Eileen Arpke** (Feb 2018); **Fred & Jan Westfall** (Apr 2018); **Clyde Locke (D)** (Apr 2018); WWII, Korea, and Vietnam Veteran **Sam Lombardo (D)** (July 2018); **Dennis Phillips** (Aug 2018); **Karl & Charlotte Eschmann** (Oct 2018); **Carol Baker** (Jan 2019); **Ann Adelsperger** (Feb 2019); **Don Litke** (Aug 2019); **Fred Boyer (D)** (Aug 2019). **Dr. Keith & Elizabeth Kulow** (Nov 2019); **Al Bills** (Nov. 2019); **Kay Dent** (Nov. 2019); **Dr. Roger Rigggenbach** (Dec 2019); **Robert "Pete" Peterzen** (Dec 2019); **Nick Marotta** (Oct 2020); **Kathy & Jesse Bush** (Dec 2020); **Patt & Caroline Maney** (Dec 2020); **Kevin Kirby** (Apr 2021); **Scott & Janet Berry** (May 2021); **Douglas Hardin (D)** (Sept 2021); **Patrick & Mosla Boab** (Dec. 2021); **Bob Allen** (Feb 2022); **Bobbi Hanson Garcia** (Mar 2022); **Joy Houck** (Mar 2022); **George Colton** (May 2022); **Bob Secrest** (May 2022); **Brig. Gen Fran & Mrs Connie Hendricks** (Oct 2022); **Les Matheson** (Feb 2023); **Dan Brown** (April 2023); **Tess Bass** (August 2023); **Bob Gramm** (Dec 2023); and **Larry Tashlik** (Dec 2023) [Note: 42 total members]

BG Frank Glunn Century Club (past 12 months) (R=Renewal): June 2023: **Dave Parisot (R)** (In memory of Maj. Bill Van Hoesen); August 2023: **Dan Brown (R); Christine Hallion; Kevin Kirby (R); Dick Solt (R); Dave Parisot (R)** (In memory of Col. 'Skip' Harrington and Col. Bill Byerley); **Tess Bass (R);** October 2023: **George Colton (R);** November 2023: **Pat Johnson; Pete Peterzen (R); Dave Parisot (R)**(In memory of Chong Parisot); **Keith & Elizabeth Kulow (R); Tess Bass (R);** December 2023: **Les Matheson (R); Jeff Watson (R)** (In memory of Maj. John Besten, USAF, Ret.); **Karl and Charlotte Eschmann (R); Bob Gramm (R); Brig. Gen. Fran & Connie Hendricks (R); Larry Tashlik (R); Kay Dent** (In memory of Troy Dent and Larry Kettter); and, **Janet Ryan Taylor (R)** (In honor of Major Bill Ryan); February 2024: **Rod Gerdes (R);** March 2024: **Don Litke (R); Kevin Kirby (R);** April 2024: **Fred Westfall (R); Dennis Phillips (R); and Dr. Keith Kulow (R);** May 2024: **Bob Secrest (R); Al Bills (R); and Dave Parisot (R)** (In memory of Phil Krajeck); **George Colton (R).**

2023/2024 Business Platinum Donors: (\$1,000+): Dec. 2023: **Bass, Byrd & Associates at Merrill Lynch of FWB (R);** March 2024: **Florida Power & Light**



2024 Business Gold Donors (\$500 - \$749): April 2024: **Eglin Federal Credit Union (R); GSS Gear FWB, LLC;** May 2024: **Step One Automotive Group (R)**

2024 Business Silver Donors (\$250 - \$499): April 2024: **Lisa Jo Spencer, PA (R).**

2024 Business Bronze Donors (\$100 - \$249): **Eye M.D. of Niceville, LLC.**

[Please support our local businesses that have contributed to our scholarship program.](#)

NWFMOA Scholarship Fund: "HELPING TO BUILD FUTURE MILITARY OFFICERS AND LEADERS"

THE 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 (800) 435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA OR VIA THEIR WEBSITE OF WWW.800HELPFLA.COM. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. IRS FEIN is 59-3434498

To make a contribution to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund Click Here.

You can now pay with credit card or by mail in form.

Legislative Corner



Call To Action (Major Richard Star Act)

At our June monthly lunch meeting I mentioned the need for each of us to contact Congressman Gaetz and our two Senators expressing our support for the Major Richard Star Act. This act would allow concurrent receipt for earned retirement pay and combat related disability pay. I used the example of...your retirement pay is \$1,000 per month and your combat disability pay is \$100. Presently you would only receive \$1,000 total, because your combat disability pay is subtracted from your retirement pay. This is wrong for many reasons, the least of which is you earned your full retirement pay based on your years of service and you earned your combat disability pay because you were injured in combat and were awarded a disability rating.

The time to act is now! MOAA needs each of us to contact our legislators and urge them to vocalize their support for the Major Richard Star Act amendments that will be voted on for the FY 2025 NDAA by the House Rules Committee. **MOAA expects that the vote will take place soon!** We need Congress to know how important these amendments are to their constituents and our fellow Warriors.

Please go directly to the NWFMOA website and click on the blinking "TAKE ACTION" button towards the bottom of the page. This will take you to the MOAA Legislative Action Center and the list of legislative matters MOAA is pursuing. The Major Richard Star Act is the third item listed. Click on the "Write" button on the right and it will take you to an already drafted letter to Congressman Gaetz and our two Senators. Hit send. This action will alert their office of your support for this legislative matter and will help to ensure our fellow Brothers and Sisters in Arms get what they earned and are due.

Thank you for making this a priority and for taking immediate action.

H2S,

Fran Hendricks, Brig Gen, USAF Retired
President, NWFMOA

Surviving Spouse Corner

Chaplains Ray Alexander and Tom Azar have created a number of excellent resources for Surviving Spouses and it is on our website. Be sure to check it out by clicking on the link below. Or visit our [website](#) and click on the Member area.

[Click here for Surviving Spouse Information](#)



The Council Communiqué

Florida Council of Chapters
Military Officers Association of America

[Click to read the FCoC Communiqué](#)

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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 for the local to national levels.

Today's Date _____

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Make Checks payable to NWFMOA or to Northwest Florida Military Officers Assn. Inc. Check here is you do not want your name, phone number, or email address listed in the 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

Membership Application/ Renewal

**New Members joining this year
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Click on the form to fill out and pay by mail or credit card.



Important Things To Remember

What

What to Click

Make a reservation for our monthly luncheon.	http://nwfmoa.org/reservations.html
Update your contact information	http://nwfmoa.org/info_update.html
Join NWFMOA	http://nwfmoa.org/files/join_us.pdf
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Is Your Personal Information Up to Date?

If any of your vital information has changed, like if you've moved and have a new mailing address, or a new phone number or email address, please use the Update Your Information link on our NWFMOA website.

The link is http://nwfmoa.org/info_update.html

The information you provide helps us keep in touch with you and is ONLY used by the NWFMOA

Go to http://nwfmoa.org/info_update.html

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