



THE DEFENDER

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

Vol. 30 No 9

Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services

September 2024

OUR SEPTEMBER LUNCH WILL FEATURE LT GEN BRIAN KELLY, USAF (Ret) PRESIDENT & CEO OF MOAA

Lunch Meeting & Discussion

When: Thursday **September 5**
Time: Gathering 1130, Lunch 1200, Program to follow
Place: Fort Walton Yacht Club
180 Ferry Road, NE, FWB
Program: **Lt Gen Brian Kelly, President & CEO MOAA.**

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://nwfmooa.org> and select the link "Click here to make reservations", or email [nwreservations@gmail.com](mailto:nwfreservations@gmail.com), or call Fred Westfall at 850-609-8075 to make a reservation.

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Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret), is a native of New Jersey. He earned his bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Notre Dame and holds two master's degrees, one in national resource strategy from National Defense University and another in military operational arts and sciences from Air University.



Kelly joined the Air Force in 1989, as a graduate of Notre Dame's ROTC program. In his 33-year Air Force career, Kelly served in a number of key command and staff positions, including commander, 92nd Mission Support Squadron, Fairchild AFB, Wash.; deputy director, manpower and personnel, Multi-National Security Transition Command, Iraq; director, manpower, personnel and administration, U.S. Southern Command, Fla.; commander, 31st Mission Support Group, Aviano Air Base, Italy; commander, 501st Combat Support Wing, RAF Alconbury, U.K.; director, manpower, personnel and services, Air Combat Command, JB Langley-Eustis, Va.; director, military force management policy for deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services at the Pentagon; and commander, Air Force Personnel Center, JB San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.

At the time of his service retirement in 2022, Kelly had completed 3½ years serving as the Air Force's deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services at the Pentagon.

Kelly took over as MOAA's president and CEO in January 2023 and joins us for our 65th Anniversary Celebration on September 5th. Please make reservations to join us. **[Sign up HERE.](#)**

From the President's Pen

By Fran Hendricks



Officers & Directors

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A Special Request...Share Your Story

For 65 years our chapter has made its presence felt in the community. We have reminded our local community through our actions that even though we have hung up our uniforms, we are still leading and making a difference in the lives of others. We have been there for our members' surviving spouses and for each other. We have changed lives through our scholarship program and commissary gift card program at Thanksgiving to name just a few of our community outreach initiatives. Each of you has demonstrated your commitment to **Never Stop Serving**. Thank you from a grateful community.

If I may be so bold, I do have a request for each of you on behalf of our chapter, current and future. I want you to share your individual story. In 500 words or less, I want you to provide a snapshot of what you did in uniform. It could be an overview of your time in the service, a specific event you took part in, or even a "there I was" funny story. Photos of you in uniform are also greatly appreciated. It will put a face to the story being told.

Why am I asking for this? I am requesting this for several reasons. One, so we as a chapter can know a little more about each other. Secondly, in capturing these stories, we provide a window for future NWFMOA chapter members to be introduced to each of us. Your story will become part of a larger living document, a memoir of the men and women who came together under the NWFMOA banner. Your story will be published as a feature in *The Defender* appropriately titled...Member Spotlight. By publishing Member's Spotlights, we will create a repository of memories that will otherwise be lost when we are gone.

All are encouraged to participate. Please send your story to Fred Westfall. If you have more than one story to share...great! Send as many as you want. Please be mindful of the feature's length...again 500 or less words per story. Thank you for considering this request.

H2S (Here to Serve),

Fran Hendricks, Brig Gen, USAF Retired
President, NWFMOA

Get Ready for Two Upcoming Special Events

Community Reception



**Northwest Florida
Military Officers Association**



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

1959 - 2024



Date: September 5, 2024

Time: 6 – 8 PM

Location: Air Force Armament Museum

Dress: Business Casual

Special Guest: Lt Gen Brian Kelly, USAF Retired
President/CEO Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

Military Tribute performed by the Emerald Coast Chorus

Event catered by the Magnolia Grill

For additional Information email: president@nwfmoa.org

And later that day is a Town Hall Meeting
(See Next Page)

TOWN HALL MEETING



Northwest Florida Military
Officers Association



Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post 7674



Military Officers
Association of America

Date: September 5, 2024

Time: 1:30 to 3:00PM

Location: VFW, 213 Carol Ave NW, Fort Walton Beach

[\(Click for directions\)](#)

Dress: Business Casual

Lt Gen Brian Kelly, USAF Retired

President/CEO Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) will discuss how MOAA is fighting for the benefits of all Veterans and Retirees in Washington D.C. and will answer your questions.

For additional Information email: president@nwfmoa.org

Please plan to join us if you can.

REMINDER

Bring your Booze to the October and November NWFMOA Luncheons



If you would like to contribute to the booze raffle for the Military Ball on December 12, bring what you have to the membership meetings on 3 October and 7 November. If you haven't purchased your tickets to the Ball, click [HERE](#) to fill out the ticket request.

Read more about the Military Ball later in this issue.

To sign up for the ball, click here



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:

- 919 SOW First Sergeants Council
- 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 no meeting so we will have two drawings at the August meeting.

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

If you haven't done so already, it is way past 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



We All Have Room for Growth

A new Lieutenant confronted with a situation does not see the same thing as one with more rank and experience. Depth of knowledge and experience are yet to come. Their youthful energy and zeal must be harnessed and focused by the mission and senior leadership. The senior leadership is there to create the environment that challenges them personally, so they begin to understand the details in depth and just what are the implications of their actions for the world.

It is not an easy task for either.

All should desire continued growth. Specifically in God's love. This will allow us to walk in His presence and know Him better. It will also allow us to fully know and understand the necessity of love and what is the fullness of love. After all, love is the basis of our individual and relational lives in this world. Everything depends upon love. Only love can establish and sustain a quality of life for all. It does not matter who you are or what background you come from.

This definition of love is foundational. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8;

“Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful and endures through every circumstance.”

I found a prayer expressing my desires to grow authored by Paul for the Ephesian Church in chapter 3:14-21. He is that senior leader who invests all his life and time into people's lives.

The fruit of his prayer is inner strength, trust, and understanding gained from their relational experiences. He prayed,

“When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through His Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, through it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.”

In Galatians and Ephesians, Paul lays a foundation for understanding our relationship to God, self, and others. The problems he addresses in the book of 1 Corinthians show how love was in essence the answer to all. Paul exercised his leadership to all with confidence, trust and faith in God. He spent his life as a voluntary life servant out of his love for God and man.

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

Eileen Arpke, Surviving Spouse, 7/10/2024

Michael Anderson, Lt Col, USAF (Ret), 7/29/2024

New Members

Tricia Flaherty, Associate Member

Victoria Hansen, Associate Member

?
? Got a Chapter question? ?
? Change in personal info? ?
? Comment? ?
? Don't know who to ask? ?
? Email: info@nwfmooa.org ?
? We'll get an answer for you. ?



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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.

Save the date

Annual MOAA Military Ball Reminder, 12 December 2024

Our annual Military Ball will resume this year again and is scheduled to be on Thursday, 12 December 2024 at the FWB Yacht Club. The dinner menu will be similar to the last Ball in December 2023. This year we will again be charging our members and guests \$60 per person. The ticket order form will be in the digital Defender starting in September. Just a reminder: the dress for the men at the Ball is Mess Dress (if it still fits), formal, tuxedo or business suit. For the ladies it is Gown or Cocktail Dress.

The Band at our Ball will be the Brighton Street Band. They are led by Doug Chambers and are composed of three Band Members. They have agreed to perform again for four hours from the start of the social hour, through dinner, and after dinner dancing. They play all types of music, not real loud, some Christmas music, and also patriotic songs. A good fit for our crowd. So if anyone has any specific questions about the Ball, please email either Karl Eschmann, phanfix@cox.net) or Dick Solt at richdulce@aol.com .

Just to refresh everyone's memory on the Ball Night's program, it will look like this:

- 1800: Social Begins; Pay as you go Bar; Soft Band music (Raffle begins)
- 1845: Call to Dinner
- 1900: Opening Remarks by the MC, Invocation, presentation of colors, Pledge of Allegiance, President's Remarks and toasts
- 1920: Dinner is served (soft music by the band)
- 2000: Break
- 2015: Dancing to Brighton Street Band music
- 2100: Raffle winning tickets announced
- 2115-2200: More dancing to music

We hope to see as many of you all as possible this year, as well as active military and other guests at our event! We need your attendance and support for the Ball to have a good social setting for our members to start the Christmas Season! Please send in your checks and ticket forms by the end of November so we can turn in the estimated number of meals for the yacht club staff.

We will be soliciting for items and gifts from businesses and individuals for the Raffle fundraiser event during the Ball. Starting in October, please bring any items of donations into the luncheon and we will collect them. We do need to fill our adult beverage crates so we have several to auction!

To sign up for the ball, click here



NWFMOA Shirt Purchase Options

**Order your NWFMOA
POLO Shirt today.**



Click this box for an order form.



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](#)

Member Spotlight

Jeffrey W. “Jeff” Watson, Colonel, USAF (Ret.)



Born into an Air Force family, it was almost natural that I would someday serve in the military. Born at Tyndall AFB, Florida, we moved to Germany, and back to FL and again to Germany with one assignment to Lockbourne AFB, OH, before returning to FL, settling in Fort Walton Beach, FL, in 1969. I then graduated from Fort Walton Beach High School, (1969 – 1974), and started college at Okaloosa-Walton Junior College but dropped out in my second year for financial reasons and joined the U.S. Army in September as a Private (E-1).

After basic combat training (squad leader promotion to E-2), I entered advanced individual training as a medical laboratory specialist at the Academy of Health Sciences, Fort Sam Houston, TX, (academic promotion to E-3) and was then stationed at the US Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory, at Fort Rucker, AL. While there, I promoted to E-4 and E-5 (Specialist 4th and 5th Class) and also earned my bachelor's degree; got married to my high school girlfriend, and paid for her teaching degree; took the LSAT, took terminal leave and began my law school education at Cumberland School of Law in 1979.

Upon graduation in 1982, I returned to FL and practiced in Destin for 3 years before applying to be an Air Force judge advocate through its direct commissioning program. After my initial training in January 1986, as a judge advocate at Maxwell AFB, my family and I moved to Misawa AB, Japan. In Japan, I performed duty in the base legal office as a prosecutor and legal assistance attorney before becoming the Area Defense Counsel for my last 14 months overseas. As the ADC, I defended Airmen in all military justice and administrative actions adverse to the accused. A highlight of my ADC assignment was an acquittal for an Airman charged with aggravated assault.

After three years in Japan, my family and I returned to CONUS and an assignment to the 1st SOW, Hurlburt Field, FL. I was in the base legal office, during Operation JUST CAUSE as well as Operations Desert SHIELD and STORM and was engaged in prosecuting Airmen as well as providing wills, powers of attorney, and advice on many legal issues to Airmen, dependents and retirees before moving to Lowry AFB, CO, a BRAC 2 closure base in 1991. At Lowry, I spent three years as the Chief, Civil Law and then Chief, Military Justice, dealing with closure issues (dividing between Denver and Aurora), environmental issues, prosecuting Airmen, raising a family, skiing, and sight-seeing with the family.

From Colorado, we moved to Virginia for a year of advanced legal education, where I earned my Master of Laws degree with a specialty in government contract law. I then moved to Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, to serve as the program counsel for the C-130 and Commercial Aircraft programs where I represented the Air Force in the acquisition of the first C130J model aircraft as well as the acquisition of the replacement special airlift mission (SAM) fleet, particularly the C-32, aka Air Force 2 (B-757), C-37 (Gulfstream GV) and C-38 (IAI Astra SPX). I also advised on the acquisition process for a Boeing 747 for the new Airborne

Laser program. In my third year of that assignment, I was the legal advisor to the fighter/bomber program executive officer, a major general, addressing legal issues on the F-15 and B-2 programs.

My family and I then moved from Ohio to Illinois for my assignment to HQ AMC/JA, Scott AFB, IL, where I provided legal advice to the 12 AMC bases and command on contract matters. After two years, I moved to Charleston AFB, SC, as the staff judge advocate, a pinnacle assignment for a JAG, to work directly for the wing commander.

I was at Charleston AFB on September 11, 2001, when terrorists attacked the US. In our response, Charleston AFB became the staging base for all C-17 mission delivering personnel and war materiel to the middle East and Afghanistan. Our legal office responded by providing a legal issues reception station for the noncombatant evacuation of Incirlik dependents and pets prior to the US invasion of Afghanistan. Our C-17 mission also included the simultaneous delivery of critical humanitarian aid to civilians trapped between the Taliban and the Northern Alliance. In addition, our legal office personnel, including reservists, won awards and accolades for leading the command and AF in areas such as Article 15 and courts-martial processing. After three high impact, high speed years at Charleston AFB, I returned to WPAFB, OH, first to the AF Contract Trial Team and then to the acquisition office where I had been a program counsel a short six years earlier.

As the Director of Contract Law and Staff Judge Advocate for Aeronautical Systems Command, I advised the 3-star ASC Commander on billion-dollar acquisitions (on the level of a Fortune 500 company). In that position, I also continued to emphasize employee recognition and promotion for my 20+ military and civilian attorneys and support staff.

After more than 24 years of combined military service, I retired from active duty in Ohio, and Judy and I returned to Florida. There, I entered civil service as a government contract law attorney and served at the Eglin Law Center (munitions) and the Business Enterprise Systems center (information technology services) at Gunter Annex, Montgomery, AL, for more than 15 years before retiring a second time with a combined 40+ years of federal service in January 2024. I was the NWFMOA chapter president from 2013 – 2015.

[For pictures of Jeff, click HERE.](#)

Never Stop Serving

Community Outreach

Contributions
from various
members.

NWFMOA President Fran Hendricks and Connie with Representative Matt Gaetz and Anna Paulina Luna during their visit to Niceville.



Scholarship Fund

by Dave Parisot



Welcome new Board member; Answers to some questions about the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund

I think we are all looking forward to celebrating the 65th anniversary of our Chapter and 60th anniversary of our affiliation with MOAA (formerly TROA for us 'old heads') with various events the first week of September. The Scholarship Fund has been around for 40 of those years in some form or other thanks to the foresight of past (currently deceased) members. I wonder if even they thought the Scholarship Fund would evolve and expand from the \$500 scholarship that was awarded in 1983 to a Crestview H.S. JROTC cadet to the 12 scholarships valued at \$39,500 we awarded in May 2024 (10 scholarships to JROTC cadets and 2 ROTC cadets).

Our most recent donors to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund are **Janet (Ryan) Taylor, Bob Cluskey, Chuck Merkel, Scott & Janet Berry, and Dave Parisot** (In memory of Gold Club member **Eileen Arpke**). A sincere 'Thank You' for your continued support.

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** (D) (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 Riegenbach** (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): 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); **Bob Cluskey**; and **Dave Parisot** (R) (In memory of Phil Krajeck); August 2024: **Bob Cluskey** (R); **Scott & Janet Berry** (R); **Chuck Merkel** (R); and **Dave Parisot** (R) (In memory of Eileen Arpke).

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.800HELPLFLA.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



Share Your Story: Impact of TRICARE Pharmacy Network Changes

At our August monthly lunch meeting I mentioned MOAA wants to hear from its members regarding the impact of loss access to their community pharmacy. MOAA is seeking your feedback. It is vital to their advocacy with DoD leaders and on Capitol Hill as they continue their fight to preserve and improve the military health care benefit. We need Congress to know how important this question of access to a community pharmacy is to their constituents.

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. This specific issue is #12 on the list. Click on the “Tell” button on the right and it will take you to a page where you can tell your story. In your response, you are asked to please consider sharing the following details:

Do you use the community pharmacy for ongoing maintenance medications, occasional acute medications, or both?

How far will you have to travel to reach an alternative TRICARE network pharmacy?

What is your ZIP code?

Thank you for making this a priority and for taking the appropriate 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](#)



Click the link below to sign up for the MOAA Newsletter

https://bit.ly/moaa_newsletter

**Click here to join the
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Basic membership is FREE**

Need more reasons to join MOAA? How about these...

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- MOAA Newsletters
- Chapter & Council Membership & Involvement
- Exclusive Travel Discounts on Products & Travel
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P.O. Box 1213, Shalimar, FL 32579

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 _____

 Last Name First Name Initial

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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

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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

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