

NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

4/4/2019

LUNCH MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Nick Marotta at the Fort Walton Yacht Club at 1200. Chaplain Tom Azar gave the invocation. The Choctaw Honor Guard presented the colors and Nick Marotta then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Following lunch, Nick introduced our guest speaker, Mr. Mike Thomin from the Florida Public Archaeology Network's Destination Archaeology Resource Center at the University of West Florida. Mike gave a very interesting presentation on the history of pirates in the Gulf of Mexico area pointing out some of the myths of pirates and the difference between pirates and privateers. He stressed the importance of using primary documents to detail the activities of pirates in the area and showed us examples of those documents. He also gave examples of what is normally found in the sunken pirate ships that have been found in the Gulf area. He ended his presentation with a question and answer period. Following his presentation Nick presented Mr. Thomin with the NWFMOA Challenge Coin.

Following Mr. Thomin's presentation, Nick Marotta introduced our visitors and guests. He announced that the July lunch meeting will be the second Thursday (July 11) due to the first Thursday being July 4th. He also announced that the price of the lunch meal will be increasing one dollar, to \$14, starting with the July lunch. Nick also showed the members examples of the shirts that will soon become available for purchase that will feature the NWFMOA logo as well as the member's name. More information will be available at the next meeting. Dave Parisot announced the Military Appreciation Day is scheduled for April 13, 2019, at the Fort Walton Beach Landing and asked for volunteers to assist with the NWFMOA booth.

OTHER TOPICS

Dave Parisot, conducted the 50/50 Scholarship Fund raffle. The winning ticket picked by Mr. Thomin was guest Margaret Espy, who received \$92 and contributed her winnings to the Scholarship Fund.

Attendance for the lunch was 73. The meeting was adjourned at 1320.

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

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