

NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
LUNCH MEETING  
2/4/2021

**LUNCH MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by President Elvira Chiccarelli at the Fort Walton Yacht Club at 1200. Nick Marotta gave the invocation sent to us by Chaplain Tom Azar. Elvira then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Elvira made an announcement about some speakers she has lined up for future meetings and that our Facebook and Twitter accounts have been closed. She reminded us that those who have not yet paid their dues for 2021 to do so. She also suggested that once a year we should have members speak about themselves so we would get to know each other better. Another suggestion was to have a family history meeting during which people can tell about a family member who impressed them by their actions, work or community service. She asked members to fill out the information sheet and answer some questions about their feelings on changing meeting times and venues. She then introduced our guest speaker, Mike Griffith, NWFMOA 1stVP, who gave a very interesting and informative speech about dealing with the news media. While he addressed many specifics and gave pointers on how to present an organization's best face to the media, he had some very important guidelines to follow: (1) be prepared, (2) have one main message, (3) key people should be the ones to send the message, (4) be truthful and (5) be timely. Following his formal presentation Mike answered questions from the audience.

Following the ceremony, Elvira announced that the 2021 Military Ball will be on December 9 and that there is now a fee for Tricare Standard. She then had our only guest, Bill Schaetzle, a Niceville City Council member, introduce himself.

**OTHER TOPICS**

Following the meeting Dave Parisot announced the Scholarship Fund donors for December and January and then held the 50/50 Scholarship Fund raffle. The winners were Chris and Richard Hallion who donated their \$39 winnings to the Scholarship Fund. Total amount received for the Fund at our February meeting was \$77.

Attendance for the lunch was 32. The meeting was adjourned at 1305.

Following the lunch meeting was no Board meeting.

**//signed//**

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

Distribution: Email to board members.