

NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
LUNCH MEETING

6/6/2024

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The June 6th meeting of the NWFMOA was called to order by President Fran Hendricks at the Fort Walton Yacht Club at 1200. Chaplain Ray Alexander gave the invocation and then Marvin Brigman lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Fran began the meeting by highlighting the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day. After opening remarks, Fran announced the presence of our past Presidents who were with us today and those members who have birthdays in June. He also recognized our guest, LTC Radall Miller, USA (Ret). To celebrate our 5-Star sweep (Level of Excellence, Harris Communications Award for the website and *The Defender*, Fran asked the audience to form up for a group picture. During lunch a 10-minute open mic period was implemented for the first time. No Members spoke.

Following lunch Fran introduced our guest speaker, NWFMOA member Lt Col Steve Snow, USAF (Ret), who had the honor of flying Air Force 1 and 2 during his military career. Steve began his fascinating and entertaining presentation with some humorous tales of the aircraft used prior to the current generation. He then discussed his assignment to Andrews AFB where he began flying for the President and other dignitaries. He gave insights to several Presidents, Hilliary Clinton and others who he flew around the world. He also shared the details of all the various procedures that had to be followed as well as many of the rules that he and his crew were under. After his presentation, Fran presented Steve with the NWFMOA Chapter coin.

Fran then thanked Dick Solt for setting up our Officers Call on May 30 and reminded everyone that our next one will be on August 29, encouraging all to attend. He also reminded members that they should support MOAA's Advocacy in Action initiatives at least monthly. Fran urged all Chapter Members to go to the NWFMOA website main page, scroll down and click on the Take Action button to make your thoughts known on these and other legislative matters MOAA National is focused on in our behalf. He next commented on many of the findings in our 2024 Member Survey and urged members to look at the full report which is now online in the Members Area. He also noted that there is a complete list of actions for surviving spouses on that same page.

Karl Eschmann announced that there is a special program at the Women Veterans Memorial on June 12 at 0800. The Memorial is located next to the convention center.

Dave Parisot presented Gold Century Club certificates to Bob Gramm and Larry Tashlik. He also thanked Dan Brown, Les Matheson and George Hanks for their assistance with the Scholarship Funds Award program in May. This year's Scholarship Lunch had over 120 people attend.

Fran then announced that there were 8 eligible members for the May Defender Quiz and 9 for the June drawing. The winning names were Chris Beam for May but unfortunately, he was not present, and Dick Solt for June. Dick was present and can claim his free meal at the August lunch.

The 50/50 raffle was held for our community outreach projects. The winner of \$64 was Chuck Merkel who donated his winnings to the Scholarship Fund in memory of former member, Sam Lombardo. A total of \$64 went to the community outreach fund.

Attendance for the meeting was 49. The meeting was adjourned at 1345. There will be no meeting in July since it falls on July 4.

//signed//

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

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