

NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
LUNCH MEETING  
10/3/2024

**LUNCH MEETING**

The October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the NWFMOA was called to order by President Fran Hendricks at the Fort Walton Yacht Club at 1200. Fran read an invocation written by Chaplain Ray Alexander and then Bob Allen led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Fran began the meeting by announcing open mic opportunity 1220-1230. Elvira Chiccarelli used that time to announce her Women in the Military event being held on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Fran acknowledged the presence of our past Presidents who were with us today. He also announced those members who have birthdays in October and recognized our newest member, Kathy Vanderburg. Fran then recalled some special events that happened in October and then invited everyone to enjoy lunch.

Following lunch Fran introduced our guest speaker, Colonel David Skalicky, Commander of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing at Eglin AFB. Col Skalicky started with a brief history of his background then the events leading up to pilot training and flying the F-15E, F-22A and the F-35A. As Nomad One, he gave an overview of the history of the 33<sup>rd</sup> stating that they provide full training for pilots, maintainers, Air Battle Managers and Analysts to meet the current and future threats to America and our partners. Col Skalicky also provided insight to a new DRU (Direct Reporting Unit) an Operations Group assigned to a Arkansas ANG base. The mission of the DRU will be to train foreign pilots to fly the F-35. He then answered several questions from our members. After his interesting presentation, Fran presented Col Skalicky with the NWFMOA Chapter coin.

Fran then then announced that our slate of Officers and Board is complete except for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Secretary positions and urged members to consider volunteering for those positions. He also announced that NWFMOA member B/G Patt Maney will receive the Boy Scout's Distinguished Eagle Scout Award October 24<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Garden Inn Ft. Walton Beach. He also invited members to attend our Officers Call on October 31<sup>st</sup>. For his Advocacy in Action minute, Fran spoke on the Love Lives On Act and asked Members to visit the NWFMOA website main page, scroll down and click on the Take Action button. That will take you to the National MOAA website where you will find numerous legislative actions MOAA is working on. Fran also shared a note from General Kelly regarding the success of our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Karl Eschmann then spoke about the Military Ball coming in December. Dave Parisot gave an update on the Scholarship Fund announced that there will be a ceremony dedication the flag poles at the Baker school on Friday, Oct 11 at 0900. The flag poles were purchased with a grant from the NWFMOA.

Fran announced that our November 7<sup>th</sup> speaker is undetermined at this point but will be announced shortly.

Fran also announced that Bob Gramm was the winner of the September Defender quiz and then Col Skalicky picked Karl Eschmann as the winner of the October quiz.

The 50/50 raffle was held for our E-4 Gift Cards project. The winner was Bernie Frakes who contributed his winnings back to the project. A total of \$170 went to the E-4 Gift Card program.

Attendance for the meeting was 34. The meeting was adjourned at 1328.

**//signed//**

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

Distribution: Email to NWFMOA Chapter  
and posting on the NWFMOA website