

NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
LUNCH MEETING  
9/3/2020

**LUNCH MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by President Nick Marotta at the Fort Walton Yacht Club at 1200. Chaplain Tom Azar sent an invocation which Don Panzenhagen read to the group. Nick then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and then led the group in singing the Air Force song. Nick reminded the members that at our last meeting in March he reminded us that Daylight Savings time was starting in just three days and at this meeting he reminded us that we will end Daylight Savings Time on November 1. The message was we should take that opportunity to change the batteries in our smoke detectors. Nick told the group that we will be having an Officers Call in October and then invited Dave Parisot up to talk about our new flag stand which now includes the MIA flag. Dave also announced the names of the latest Scholarship's Century Club members. Nick then introduced our guest speaker, Col Mike Borders, President of the MOAA's Florida Council of Chapters. Col Borders spoke on three main topics: (1) MOAA is our advocate to keep our military benefits and that regardless of your party affiliation, both sides of Congress are trying to make cuts. Therefore support of MOAA is critical to keeping the benefits we were promised; (2) Membership in most organizations like MOAA and NWFMOA is dwindling and that it is everyone's business to recruit new members; and (3) As an example, Col Borders said that the words to Air Force song have been altered to be "gender neutral" and that has irritated many in the military. He reminded us that the NWFMOA, just like MOAA, cannot make a political statement nor endorse political candidates. He said to feel free to express our first amendment rights outside of our meetings but when we are meeting, we are apolitical. He then answered several questions from the audience. After the presentation, Nick presented Col Borders with the NWFMOA Challenge Coin.

Following the ceremony, Col Borders presented Nick with the 4-Star Level of Excellence award for 2020.

**OTHER TOPICS**

Nick reminded the group that it is always a good time to pay their dues and starting early is appreciated. Also, he told the group that to avoid paying annual dues, consider a Life Membership. Nick also reminded the group that reservations must be made by the deadline so that we can provide the FWYC an accurately count on time. Dave Parisot then conducted the 50/50 Scholarship Fund raffle which was worth \$40. The winning ticket drawn by Ms. Borders was Fran Hendricks, who donated his winnings to the Scholarship Fund for a total of \$78 going to the fund.

Attendance for the lunch was 31. The meeting was adjourned at 1320.

Following the lunch meeting was a Board meeting.

**//signed//**

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

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