



THE DEFENDER

A monthly publication of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association
www.nwfmoa.org

Vol. 23 No. 08 Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services AUGUST 2017

Lunch Meeting & Discussion

When: Thur, 3 August 2017
Time: Gathering 1130, Lunch 1200
 Program to follow
Place: Ft. Walton Bch. Yacht Club
 180 Ferry Road, NE, FWB
Program: Okaloosa County
 Commissioner
 Carolyn Ketchel

Please:

- **MAKE A RESERVATION**
- Wear a name tag
- Bring proper change:
\$13.00 for everyone

Reservation deadline is Friday at noon prior to meeting. Go online at www.nwfmoa.org and select the link where it says "Click here to make reservations", or email Dick Prater at nwfreservations@gmail.com, or call 850-613-6080 if you are attending.

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Is Okaloosa County Healthy?

By Scott Berry

This question will be answered for you by Commissioner Carolyn Ketchel if you attend our August 3rd meeting

She is Chairman of the Okaloosa County Commission for FY2017. She has been a resident of Okaloosa County for over 25 years. She brings a comprehensive background in Federal, State and local experience involving Social Services policy and administration which spans decades. She was selected Social Worker of the Year for the State of Florida in 2015 by the National Association of Social Workers.

Carolyn was accepted into the prestigious Presidential Management Fellowship program after graduate school. While in Washington she served on the White House Conference on Families under President Carter and the Commission to Reform Social Security under President Reagan. She was recognized for her work on Social Security by President Reagan. Carolyn Ketchel worked in the United States Congress as a subcommittee Director for the powerful Ways and Means Committee.

Carolyn holds a Master's Degree in Social Work in Administration, Social Policy and Clinical Counseling. She has a License in Clinical Social Work. During her years as a Social Worker she has worked on the macro-level, assisting to pass legislation on Social Security, Child Welfare and Foster Care. Carolyn's public service in

Florida includes serving on Congressman Jeff Miller's district staff and serving as Senator Don Gaetz's legislative director. While working in Tallahassee she was instrumental in passing legislation to bring a Social Work program to University of West Florida.

Her local service includes directing Catholic Charities throughout Okaloosa

and Walton Counties from 2007 to 2012. She has had a private Christian Counseling practice for many years. She is also a long time radio talk show host on WPSM called a "Christian Perspective with Carolyn Ketchel." Carolyn was the Chairman of the St. Mary School Board, as well as serving on the Diocesan Commission on Catholic Schools. She received the Christus Medicus Award for her work in social programs from Bishop John Ricard.



Commissioner Carolyn Ketchel

From the President's Pen

By Scott Berry

Greetings!

Let me start off by saying "thank you." I have stated/whined on several occasions about the need for interesting speakers. Several of you have come forward with viable options and I appreciate that. However, I'm always open to more recommendations as availability sometimes causes problems. I attempted to get this month's speaker several months ago but schedules didn't line up. So keep those ideas coming in! And thanks.



Scott Berry

And while we're on the topic of appreciation.....As chapter president, I realize I'm the lightning rod for issues or programs that succeed or fail. I'm also probably the most visible volunteer to most of you. However, my point is that I am by no means the ONLY volunteer. Without much thought, I can name at least a dozen people who in some way keep the chapter operating. Most of the jobs are in no way glamorous nor time consuming but all of them are necessary. So....I would encourage you to take a moment at the next meeting or when you're composing email to send a thank you to just one of the people who keep the chapter clock ticking. Most of their names are all over the newsletter or website although not all. I'm sure they'd appreciate it. I for one am very appreciative of all the behind the scenes work that is done. No one, two, three, or even four people could manage all of this.

At the August board meeting we'll start our annual cycle for next year's elected chapter officers. It perhaps appears rather early but is necessary since we normally meet only monthly and so need some lead time if there are speed bumps. My purpose is mentioning this is to encourage

you to consider becoming more involved in the chapter through either an elected position or an appointed one. Most of these are responsibilities that require only several hours a month so I'm not soliciting full time work. I've found that new faces also bring new ideas which is always refreshing and helps the rest of us maintain perspective. If you're unsure about what's out there, that's okay. Contact me and we can talk. And that's another thank you!

Berry "OUT"

Okaloosa County Healthy (cont.)

Continued from the front page

In 2013 she was appointed to the Florida Gubernatorial Faith-Based and Community-Based Advisory Council by Senate President Don Gaetz.

Carolyn Ketchel has distinguished herself as a leader in Northwest Florida with a reputation for integrity and conservative ideals. She has been active in Republican politics for many years, serving as campaign director for two Republican congressional campaigns and as an Okaloosa County Republican precinct committeewoman. She was elected to the Okaloosa County Commission, without opposition, and took office in November of 2014. Commissioner Ketchel's community and county liaisons are as follows: Community: Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board, Military Relations Hurlburt/Eglin, Okaloosa Walton TPO and Okaloosa League of Cities County: Airports Department-VPS, Public Safety Coordinating Council, Director on Gulf Consortium and Supervisor of Elections' Canvassing Board. Carolyn is a devoted wife and mother of two adult sons. She was extremely active in various school and youth activities with her sons. She served in numerous leadership functions in Boy Scouting, where both her sons achieved Eagle Scout rank. Carolyn has been married for 31 years to Circuit Judge Terry Ketchel.

Most recently she was nominated for the Wall of Honor by members of the Republican Women of Okaloosa Federated.

So there you have it. I can think of few people more qualified to answer the above question. See you on the third.

PUBLIC RECORD

Life Member

Christopher, S. Sheffler, LtCol, USAF (Ret)

Robert E. Garcia, COL, USMC (Ret)

SUPPORT MOAA

Do what you can to support our national organization. To learn what's going on and to find out what you can do go to: <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/> We all will benefit from your efforts.

The Coast Guard: America's Oldest Maritime Defenders



The Coast Guard is one of the oldest organizations of the federal government. Established in 1790, the Coast Guard served as the nation's only armed force on the sea until Congress launched the Navy Department eight years later. Since then, the Coast Guard has protected the United States

throughout its long history and served proudly in every one of the nation's conflicts.

The Coast Guard through History

4 August 1790 – President George Washington signs the Tariff Act that authorizes the construction of ten vessels, referred to as “cutters,” to enforce federal tariff and trade laws and to prevent smuggling. The Revenue Cutter Service expanded in size and responsibilities as the nation grew.

1915 – The Revenue Cutter Service merges with the U.S. Life-Saving Service, and is officially renamed the Coast Guard, making it the only maritime service dedicated to saving life at sea and enforcing the nation's maritime laws.

1939 – President Franklin Roosevelt orders the transfer of the Lighthouse Service to the Coast Guard, putting it in charge of maritime navigation.

1946 - Congress permanently transfers the Commerce Department's Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation to the Coast Guard, putting merchant marine licensing and merchant vessel safety in its control.

1967 – The Coast Guard is transferred to Department of Transportation.

2003 – The Coast Guard is again transferred, this time to the Department of Homeland Security, where it currently serves.

The Coast Guard Today

The Coast Guard is both a federal law enforcement agency and a military force, and therefore is a faithful protector of the United States in peacetime and war. In times of peace, the Coast Guard operates as part of the Department of Homeland Security, enforcing the nation's laws at sea, protecting the marine environment, guarding the nation's vast coastline and ports, and performing vital life

By Chaplain Tom Azar, USAF Retired

THE TWO SIDES OF THE FRONT LINE (Part 1 of a 2 part article)

Preparing for world events like Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm begins long before the crisis explodes. It commences with an officer's calling, with taking the oath, and with an unselfish attitude and a sacrificial spirit of every man and woman who volunteers to protect and defend our nation's principles and people.

MISSION AND MINISTRY

For the chaplain, the frontline has two sides- one in the Middle East and the other at home with dependents, co-workers and friends. The chapel staff and laity are aggressively and intentionally fulfilling the chaplain service mission through comprehensive religious programs of worship, pastoral care and counseling, visitation, personal growth, and “where the people are” activities both in duty locations and deployment areas. The staff is firmly committed to and excelling in modeling the theme “You Can Make A Difference.”

Supporting Operation Desert Shield and Storm has required fine-tuning of the programs for the military community. Our staff and laity have been working together in a dedicated effort to form an embracing and thorough ministerial team. Ecumenical programs and the ministries of the different major faith groups testify to our reaching out to better know and understand others prior to a crisis or an outbreak of war. The chapel family with its unique talents, has joined together in many activities that demonstrate its commitment and unity. For example, a best ever National Prayer Breakfast, the annual POW-MIA luncheon brought together, in addition to DOD personnel and dependents, civilian religious and community leaders, who stayed on as part of our Clergy Day for an enriching day of briefings and discussion on the bridge-building role of the chaplain and clergy and the growing relationship with the community. This success is a direct outgrowth of our Catholic, Jewish and Protestant Chaplains who meet monthly with members of our off base Interfaith Council. When dependents that live or worship off base needed support because their spouses were deployed, chaplains and local clergy planned programs to meet their needs. When a chapel family that worships on base had a critical issue because our chaplain was deployed, the civilian clergy often met the need. This validates the

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Loneliness Can Lead to Addiction

By Pat Farnsworth, member,
Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee

Recent research suggests loneliness and depression often can lead to addiction. There are many addictions: chocolate, alcohol, gambling, drugs, shopping, and others. Loneliness seems to impair the brain's ability to exercise control over our desires, emotions, and behaviors. The death of a spouse frequently leads to isolation and a lack of social activity (a recent subject of scientific study).

Human beings are social animals. Friendships are needed to survive, and psychologists find humans have a fundamental need for inclusion in group life and for close relationships. A lack of close friends, family, and social contacts brings discomfort and distress known as loneliness. These feelings tear away at our emotional well-being and cause stress that can lead to addictive behaviors.

During the Vietnam War, about 20 percent of servicemembers became addicted to heroin. After returning home, 95 percent of those simply stopped using heroin. This is attributed to the shift from a frightening daily experience to a safer more comfortable setting and relationships with family and friends and demonstrates how family bonds and social activity can combat addictive behaviors.

In adults, loneliness is a major precipitant of depression and alcoholism or another addiction. Considerable research has been done on situations that might lead to these addictions. If there is a history of alcoholism or another addiction in one's family, there might be a genetic predisposition to the use of substances to relieve loneliness. Many people turn to substances because they are lonely — and many people are lonely because they are addicted to substances. As the disease of addiction progresses, many people lose friends and damage relationships with family members, leaving them physically, mentally, and even spiritually alone.

Taking measures to remedy loneliness can be powerful therapy. Through fellowship, friendship, and connections it is possible to break the cycle of isolation and addiction. As humans, we are social creatures, and we depend on each other for survival.

“ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY WILL EXPAND”

Earlier this year I did an article on the issue of space limitations for burials and interments at Arlington. Below is an update on this issue from MOAA.

“Negotiations broke down between the Army and Arlington County and the Commonwealth of Virginia on a land deal to expand the southern boundary of Arlington National Cemetery (ANC). Amid the fallout, the Army announced it unilaterally would acquire the land to provide between 40,000 and 60,000 new burial opportunities for veterans, their spouses, and some national dignitaries. Disagreements centered on the future use of land near the cemetery grounds. “The Army made every reasonable effort to negotiate [the] land exchange,” said Katharine Kelly, ANC’s superintendent, in a response to CQ Roll Call. “[We were] never able to reach an agreement where the Army was comfortable with the county’s several proposed projects for land adjacent to future burial space.” Any negotiations going forward will be to settle on an appropriate price to compensate the county and state.

The project, costing an estimated \$274 million, isn’t cheap. The land acquisition will require the rerouting of local roads within the 38 new acres of usable land. Getting the funding from Congress is the next step in the process. There is still a lot of work to be done, but this is a very positive alternative to restricting eligibility for burial at ANC, a move that would threaten many veterans’ end of life plans. The new expansion will allow the cemetery to continue burials and interments into the early 2050s, rather than reach full capacity sometime in the mid-2040s.

Expansion, contiguous or otherwise, has long been a primary preference of many veteran and military service organizations, prompting this more in-depth discussion of the bordering lands. In a recent roundtable discussion, an advisory committee to ANC took time to show veteran and military service organizations the different plots of land surrounding the current cemetery boundaries. While there are many substantial plots of land just outside the cemetery gates, the cost of acquisition and reconstruction takes many options off the table. For example, demolition of neighboring Fort Meyer’s Morale, Welfare and Recreation facility is both undesirable and difficult because of the useful facilities that currently exist and the extensive amount of land redistribution required. On the other hand, land around the

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The Coast Guard (cont.)

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saving missions. In times of war, or at the direction of the President, the Coast Guard serves under the Department of the Navy, defending the nation against terrorism and foreign threats.

Statistics

The Coast Guard is the principal Federal agency responsible for maritime safety, security, and environmental stewardship in U.S. ports and waterways. In this capacity, the Coast Guard protects and defends more than 100,000 miles of U.S. coastline and inland waterways, and safeguards an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) encompassing 4.5 million square miles stretching from North of the Arctic Circle to South of the equator, from Puerto Rico to Guam, encompassing nine time zones – the largest EEZ in the world. As one of the five Armed Services of the United States, the Coast Guard is the only military branch within the Department of Homeland Security. In addition to its role as an Armed Service, the Coast Guard is a first responder and humanitarian service that provides aid to people in distress or impacted by natural and man-made disasters whether at sea or ashore. The Coast Guard is a member of the Intelligence Community, and is a law enforcement and regulatory agency with broad legal authorities associated with maritime transportation, hazardous materials shipping, bridge administration, oil spill response, pilotage, and vessel construction and operation.

The over 56,000 members of the Coast Guard operate a multi-mission, interoperable fleet of 243 Cutters, 201 fixed and rotary-wing aircraft, and over 1,600 boats. Operational control of surface and air assets is vested



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Legislative Liaison (cont.)

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Marine Corps Memorial would require minimal changes and wouldn't drastically change the landscape.

Capacity at ANC has received [significant attention](#) this year. MOAA supports the move to acquire new land as the first way to keep the cemetery open for new burials. We've supported this specific plan since its inception almost a decade ago, and we are pleased to see it come to fruition. The Army is doing what it can to extend the life of the cemetery without disenfranchising veterans. To that end, MOAA is pleased. This expansion makes sense, and it is an appropriate way to extend the life of the cemetery. Ensuring this new land maintains the essence felt throughout the rest of the property will be part of the ongoing discussion."

If you want to make a comment on this land acquisition or other capacity issues, the [MOAA] advisory committee continues to [welcome your input](#)."



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principle that no one person or group is indispensable and furthermore our ability to function effectively is a reflection of how each organ in the human body needs the other parts.

Chapel rapport with Commanders and First Sgt. are collaborative and compassionate. Chaplains attend squadron functions on a regular basis from banquets and barbecues to commander's call and inspections. In my experience chaplains are a leader's trusted friend for honest feedback and opinions.

To better care for our singles, our chapel team revamped its outreach by bringing the chapel to the men and women living in the dorms. Our "Dorm Dwellers Cookout" attract the support of different squadron representatives who served over 1,500 single men and women at cookouts held behind the Chapel and adjacent to the dorms. Chaplains and their families and the laity brought brownies and ice cream to dorm members. The cooperation of the Protestant and Catholic communities became the prepared foundation upon which to launch our response to the varied needs of Operation Desert Shield, Desert Storm and beyond. (continued in Part 2 next month)

Scholarship Fund

By Dave Parisot, Chairman

Is donating to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund a good investment? The short answer: Absolutely! But peeling back the onion reveals some important information. A recent PEW Research study shows that the cost of higher education has doubled in the last 20 years yet the benefits of a college degree have not matched that pace. While there is no question that getting a bachelors degree will provide the student a significant life-time earnings benefit over someone without a degree, the cost of obtaining the degree today does not provide the same bang for the buck as in years past. Because of the rising cost of a 4-year degree, many students are being saddled with massive student loan debt. And while the degree-earning students will make more money in their lifetime, many who attempt to get a degree and fail end up with loan debt that becomes a debilitating and constrictive obstacle. Part of the problem is that many colleges admit students who should never be admitted to college in the first place. There are legal, political and social reasons for this trend but the bottom line is that all students face a tremendous financial burden that can have life-changing effects.

The silver lining for the NWFMOA is that the students who apply for our scholarships are top notch. The absolute best of the best in our area. They are usually within the top 5 to 10 percent of their graduating class and have resumes that are very impressive. These student/cadets come from all backgrounds and are limited only by their imagination. They want to become military officers and serve their country. But they face the same financial issues as all other college students. Our scholarship programs provide some VERY deserving students with a partial solution to their student debt. If you haven't already, please consider donating to the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund. Today's students will define the America of tomorrow and your contribution will be help them do just that.

Our 50/50 raffle at the July luncheon had \$170 in ticket sales, with \$85 to the raffle winner, Ron Reed, and \$85 to the Scholarship Fund. Thank you to all who bought tickets for this scholarship fundraiser. We had no new Century Club memberships or renewals in June.

Here's the complete list of Gold Century Club members (\$500 cumulative minimum donation since 2015) and

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The Coast Guard (cont.)

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in two Coast Guard geographical Areas (Pacific and Atlantic), nine Coast Guard Districts, and 35 Sectors located at strategic ports throughout the country. Six Mission Support Logistics and Service Centers provide services for operational assets and shore facilities. Coast Guard program oversight, policy development, and personnel administration are carried out at Coast Guard Headquarters located on the St. Elizabeths campus in Washington, DC.

On an average day, the Coast Guard:

- Conducts 45 search and rescue cases;
- saves 10 lives;
- saves over \$1.2M in property;
- seizes 874 pounds of cocaine and 214 pounds of marijuana;
- conducts 57 waterborne patrols of critical maritime infrastructure;
- interdicts 17 illegal migrants;
- escorts 5 high-capacity passenger vessels;
- conducts 24 security boardings in and around U.S. ports;
- screens 360 merchant vessels for potential security threats prior to arrival in U.S. ports;
- conducts 14 fisheries conservation boardings;
- services 82 buoys and fixed aids to navigation;
- investigates 35 pollution incidents;
- completes 26 safety examinations on foreign vessels;
- conducts 105 marine inspections;
- investigates 14 marine casualties involving commercial vessels;
- facilitates movement of \$8.7B worth of goods and commodities through the Nation's Maritime Transportation System.

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Scholarship Fund (cont.)

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BG Frank Glunn Century Club members (\$100 minimum donation) for the most previous 12 months of 2016/2017 along with our Business Donors. Your support is greatly appreciated

Gold Century Club: Bill Ryan (Feb 2016); **Ruth Cullen** (Oct 2016); **Dave Parisot** (Feb 2017); **Janet Taylor** (Mar 2017); **Chris Beam** (Mar 2017), **Bob Garcia** (July 2017).

BG Frank Glunn Century Club: May 2016: **Kristine Sams**, June 2016: **Fred Boyer** (Renewal); **Eileen Arpke** (Renewal); **Larry Bush** (Renewal); July 2016: **Beryl Brenner** (Renewal); August 2016: **Tom Churan** (Renewal); October 2016: **Ruth Cullen** (in memory of William Cullen) (Renewal); **John Feldman** (Renewal); November 2016: **Pete Peterzen**; **Jean Dutton**; **Howard Fisher** (Renewal); December 2016: **Karl Eschmann** (in memory of Col. Bud Day) (Renewal); **Frederick Rall** (Renewal); **Chris Beam** (Renewal); January 2017: **Clyde Locke** (Renewal); **Mel Bryant** (Renewal); **Dick Prater** (Renewal); February 2017: **Carol Baker** (in memory of David Baker) (Renewal); **Larry Bush** (Renewal); **Al Bills**; **Dave Parisot** (in memory of Chong Parisot) (Renewal); **Charlie Brown** (Renewal); March 2017: **Fred Westfall** (Renewal); **Rod Gerdes**; **Nick Marotta**; **Janet Taylor** (In honor of Bill Ryan); April 2017: **Eileen Arpke** (Renewal); **Don Litke** (in memory of Kay Litke); **Bob Gramm**; **Bill Colgan** (Renewal); **Scott Berry**.

2016/2017 Business Platinum Donor (\$750 minimum donation): December 2016: **Wyndham Vacation Resorts** (In-kind).

2017 Business Gold Donor (\$500 - \$749): January 2017: **Merrill Lynch (Beam, McLaughlin & Associates)**

2016/2017 Business Silver Donors (\$250 - \$499): November 2016: **Eglin Federal Credit Union**;

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Defender is a monthly publication of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association. The purpose of this publication is to communicate with, inform, and educate chapter members. The national MOAA, this local chapter, and this publication are totally nonpartisan.

December 2016: **Shalimar Pointe Golf Club** (In-kind); **Indian Bayou Golf & Country Club** (In-kind).

2016/2017 Business Bronze Donors (\$100 - \$249): November 2016: **Gator Lakes Golf Course**; December 2016: **Tammy's Journeys** (In-kind); **Rocky Bayou Golf Course** (In-kind); **Dr. Wayne Pullen** (In-kind).

Please support our local businesses that have contributed to our scholarship program.

NWFMOA Scholarship Fund, Inc.: "Helping to build future military officers and leaders."

SCHOLARSHIP DONATION FORM

Please accept this gift of \$_____ to support the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund (Donations of \$100 or more will be recognized in the B/Gen Frank Glunn Century Club).

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Make payable to: **NWFMOA Scholarship Fund**, and mail to: David Parisot, President; 56th 11th St, Shalimar, FL 32579

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Email: info@nwfmoe.org

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Email Address

Rank Service MOAA Mbr. No

Regular Reserve National Guard Active Duty Retired

This application is for:

Life Member New Member Renewal Auxiliary Other (specify) _____

Make checks payable to NWFMOA or to Northwest Florida Military Officers Assn., Inc. Check here if you do not want your name, phone number or email address listed in printed chapter directories. **Membership includes a subscription to *The DEFENDER* for the dues period.** We are a charter member of MOAA and recommend that our members belong to the national organization. Our association is also a member of the Florida Council of Chapters, itself an affiliate of MOAA.

**The spouse of a deceased life member is automatically an auxiliary life member.

Membership Application/Renewal

New Members joining this year receive membership through December 31 next year for \$25.00.

Membership Renewal
1yr—\$25.00, 2 yr—\$48.00, 3 yr—\$65.00

Life Membership Dues**

Age	Dues	Age	Dues
101+	Free	71-75	240.00
96-100	50.00	66-70	275.00
91-95	75.00	61-65	295.00
86-90	110.00	56-60	335.00
81-85	150.00	51-55	360.00
76-80	195.00	-50	395.00

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