



# THE DEFENDER

A monthly publication of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association  
[www.nwfmoa.org](http://www.nwfmoa.org)

Vol. 28 No. 02 Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services FEBRUARY 2022

## Lunch Meeting & Discussion

**When:** Thur, 3 Feb 2022  
**Time:** Gathering 1130, Lunch 1200  
Program to follow  
**Place:** Fort Walton Yacht Club  
180 Ferry Road, NE, FWB  
**Program:** Hypersonics by  
Richard P Hallion

### MAKE A RESERVATION

#### • RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

- Wear a name tag
- Bring proper change:  
\$14.00 for everyone

Reservation deadline is Friday at noon prior to meeting. Go online at [www.nwfmoa.org](http://www.nwfmoa.org) and select the link where it says "Click here to make reservations", or email Fred Westfall at [nwfreservations@gmail.com](mailto:nwfreservations@gmail.com), or call 850-609-8075 if you are attending.

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## Hypersonics

By Fred Westfall

Please join us for our February 3rd NWFMOA meeting. Our speaker for the February meeting is Dick Hallion, who will speak on "Hypersonics: What It Is, Why It Is Important, and Where We Stand." Dick is the husband of NWFMOA member Col. Christine L. Hallion USAF (RET), and has been actively following developments in hypersonics for over sixty years. Positions he has held include being a founding Curator of the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, a senior analyst on air and space issues for the Secretary of the Air Force, the Air Force Historian, a senior advisor to the Science and Technology Policy Institute of the Institute for Defense Analyses, and a trustee and chair of the academic affairs committee of Florida Polytechnic University. He is Flight Captain of the General Bud Day Flight, Order of Daedalians, chairman of the Air Force Armament Museum Foundation, and is a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and the Royal Aeronautical Society.



Richard P. Hallion

Our February 3rd lunch will start with a social gathering at 1130 with the meeting beginning at 1200 followed by lunch. To make reservations click [HERE](#) or go to the [NWFMOA webpage](#) and select the [Online Reservations](#) link. You may also call me at 850-609-8075 or email me at [nwfreservations@gmail.com](mailto:nwfreservations@gmail.com).

Reservations are **REQUIRED** (no walk-ins please) and must be made by no later than **January 29th, 2022**.

Fred Westfall  
Secretary

# From the President's Pen

By Michael Griffith

During our January meeting, our chapter's officers and Board of Directors for 2022 were formally sworn in, with the unanimous approval of those members present. On behalf of all the officers and directors, I would like to thank our members for the confidence you've placed in us, and we will all do our best to live up to it.



At the January 2022 Luncheon, MG Rich Comer, far left, swore in the 2022 Chapter Officers and Board members:

BG Fran Hendrickson, 1st Vice-President; Col. Karl Eschmann, Board member; Col. Don Panzenhagen, Board member; Lt Col Dan Brown, Board Member; Lt Col Fred Westfall, Secretary and Webmaster; Maj Mike Griffith, President; and Lt Col George Colton, Treasurer. Absent were Capt George Hanks, 2nd Vice President, and Col Dick Solt, Board member.

I would also like to ask all of our NWFMoa members for some help – we need your input to help us make a decision about whether to continue this publication in paper form, or to go to a strictly email version. Printing the Defender out on paper is a costly and complicated process, and some board members have suggested that switching to a purely electronic version would save the considerable cost of printing.

## PUBLIC RECORD

### New Members

Anthony (Tony) Holland, Lt Col, USAF/USMC (RET)  
Nancy Prater, Surviving Spouse

### In Memorium

Robert Garcia, COL, USMC (Ret) 1/7/2022

Before making such a decision, however, we would like to get some feedback from our members. Please consider the following questions, and email your responses, along with any other comments you may have on the subject, to me at [president@nwfmoe.org](mailto:president@nwfmoe.org).

Do you currently receive paper copies of the Defender by mail?

If the Defender were sent out solely by email, would you still be able to receive it and read it?

If the Defender were sent to you solely by email, would you still be able to use it to plan for attending our luncheon meetings and other activities, and keep track of when to pay your annual dues?

Do you prefer to continue receiving such paper copies by mail, or would you prefer an email version?

Thank you for your help with this. Your Board of Directors will consider the feedback we get from all of you before making any decision about the future of this publication.



***Got a Chapter question?***

***Change in personal info?***

***Comment?***

***Don't know who to ask?***

***Email: [info@nwfmoe.org](mailto:info@nwfmoe.org)***

***We'll get an answer for you.***



## 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.

# MOAA's goals for 2022

## Note:

The following information is quoted from an article in the Jan 2022 issue of Military Officer, the national MOAA magazine, by MOAA board chairman Gen. Walter L. "Skip" Sharp, USA (Ret). See the complete original article for further details.

"MOAA is focusing on its six strategic priorities — advocacy, membership, councils and chapters, philanthropy, engagement, and resources — which were codified in our Strategic Plan for 2022 to 2026."

## Advocacy

"MOAA's legislative priorities for 2022 are focused on service-earned entitlements including health care, pay, and benefits. For example:

- **Health care:** Ensure changes to the Military Health System sustain beneficiaries' access to high quality care and prevent negative impacts on military medical readiness. This includes protecting the value of the earned TRICARE benefit by opposing disproportional fee increases and ensuring coverage policy is regularly updated.
- **Pay and benefits:** Sustain pay raises and equitable BAH for troops and COLA raises for retirees. Ensure military compensation and service-earned benefits for servicemembers are not eroded by cost-saving measures."

## Membership

"MOAA's future requires a strong and stable membership, especially among our paid Premium and Life categories. We are increasing outreach to servicemembers and recently retired officers, and we're striving to attract members that reflect the diversity of the current force."

"We are finding new ways to reach current and potential members and increasing awareness of MOAA's mission through a range of initiatives such as digital advertisements featuring the value of membership, our 'Families' television commercial highlighting advocacy efforts, collaborations with high-profile officers and spouses, and our new [Never Stop Serving podcast](#)."

## FREE COVID AT-HOME TESTS



Place Your Order for Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests

Chaplain Tom Azar provided the information below:

The Postal Service is delivering one shipment of 4 COVID tests per residential address. Enter your name, address and email at [www.usps.com/covidtest](https://www.usps.com/covidtest) to request a shipment. The site is available now.

Fred Westfall  
Secretary



## 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.

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# Chaplain's Corner

By: Chaplain Thomas Azar

Our January meeting's Installation was a great way to start the New Year. What key words jumped out at you when new leaders raised their right hands- "Serve...Strive.... Promote...Uphold?"

We reflect on change of commands when the new leader espoused their 'leadership talking points', "Integrity, Service before Self, and Excellence in all we do", or "Don't lie, cheat or steal, nor tolerate among us anyone who does. Furthermore, I resolve to do my duty and live honorably, so help me God."

We remember our high school and college friends who answered our question "What will you do when you graduate? I'm going into the SERVICE."

I believe God physically and mentally formed humans to serve. Our eyes and hands look and reach outward. They are not meant to hug oneself or stare daily into a wall sized mirror all day.

If you serve yourself you will be unhappy. Life teaches us that if you serve your spouse, children and neighbors, they in turn will serve you and others. We model servant leadership even in retirement. Helping professionals agree that people who serve others have a deeper sense about the meaning and purpose of life. Servers have a positive mind-set.

Our homes, schools, churches, government etc, grow and accomplish their goals when we respect the gifts and talents of all members and work in unity. No unity means no results.

Growing up my sisters were responsible for setting, serving and clearing the kitchen table. My brothers and I for sweeping the floor and taking out the garbage. The lived out values from our homes, schools and churches are inextricably woven together and reinforce each other.

All areas of our life reaffirm the noble maxim "it's better to serve than be served." In the military a leader cannot accomplish the mission unless s/he has the support of unselfish followers.

Even Jesus, the anointed Son of God, posited "I did not come to be served but to serve." Saint Peter said when every believer uses their gift, it will enrich the lives of

others. Serving brings joy to others and oneself. In fact when you serve another, you are ultimately serving God, and this glorifies Him.

In the big scheme of things, when wise individuals encounter their finitude and look back on their life, it didn't matter what car one drove or where they shopped or lived. "Randy Travis blasts it best in his ballad, "It's not what you take when you leave this world behind you, it's what you leave behind you when you're gone."

Our nation remains great because each of you served alone and together with others. Service validates our faith and patriotism.

Funerals have evolved into Celebrations of Life. Friends stand and testify about the acts of human kindness that a man or woman humbly performed for their family, country, church or community. Silent acts of service take the sadness out of the loss. Wise listeners play it forward.

When we breathe our last and cross over to the other side, will individuals come up to you and say "thank you" for defending our nation, helping my family and honoring God? So thank you to all our new MOAA leaders. We unite and serve with you.

## MOAA's goals (cont.)

Continued from page 3

### Councils and Chapters

"MOAA is bolstering the nearly 400 chapters and 34 councils in our affiliate system, growing stronger through local community work and broadening connection opportunities with new [virtual chapters](#)."

"We are expanding headquarters support and exploring new technology for legislative engagement, recruiting and retention, training, administration, and networking."

### The MOAA Foundation

"We have seen the impact of the foundation multiply with the introduction of the COVID-19 Relief Fund and now the Emergency Relief Fund, serving military families facing financial hardship from catastrophes such as the

Continued on page 6

# Scholarship Fund

By Dave Parisot

On January 19th, the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund held its annual Board of Directors meeting per the Funds's bylaws. Your 2022 Officers and Board Members are **Dave Parisot**, President; **George Colton**, Secretary Treasurer; and board members **Bob Allen**, **Fred Westfall**, **Scott Bates**, and **Fran Hendrickson**. The Board reviewed the Fund's financial status and was advised of the status of its investment fund at Merrill Lynch by Chris Beam and Tess McLaughlin. The Scholarship Fund will offer nine college scholarships to local JROTC cadets in 2022, with applications due on March 1st. There are eight scholarships at \$3,000 each and one at \$4,500 for a total of \$28,500. These scholarships would not be feasible without the generous support of our Chapter members. Thank you for your support over the years. A new \$3,000 scholarship this year is funded by Lt Col (Dr.) **Howard and Mrs. Irene Fisher**. Thank you Howard and Irene. Our 2022 Scholarship Luncheon and MOAA Medal presentations will be held on Thursday, May 5th. Please plan to attend this awards program to honor the excellence of local JROTC cadets.

The 50/50 raffle at the January luncheon was won by **Jeff Watson** who graciously donated his winnings of \$58 back to the Scholarship Fund. Thanks, Jeff.

Donations to the Century Club thus far in January are by **Kevin Kirby and Wayne 'Dave' Davis** (In memory of B/G Bud Day). Thank you. See the list of Century Club donors for the most recent 12-month period below.

Here is the complete list of **Gold Century Club** members (\$500 cumulative minimum donation) and **BG Frank Glunn Century Club** members (\$100 minimum donation) for the most previous 12 months, along with our **Business Donors**. Your support is greatly appreciated. All of these donations are used to fund our JROTC scholarships. [Note: (R) means Renewal of membership.]

**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); **Rod Gerdes** (Nov 2017); **Larry Bush** (Nov 2017); **Dr. Howard & Irene Fisher** (Nov 2017); **Eileen Arpke** (Feb 2018); **Fred Westfall** (Apr 2018); **Clyde Locke** (Apr 2018); WWII, Korea, and Vietnam Veteran **Sam Lombardo** (July 2018); **Dennis Phillips** (Aug 2018); **Karl & Charlotte Eschmann** (Oct 2018); **Carol Baker** (Jan 2019); **Ann Adelsperger** (Feb 2019); **Don Litke** (Aug 2019); **Fred Boyer** (Aug 2019). **Dr. Keith Kulow** (Nov

2019); **Al Bills** (Nov. 2019); **Kay Dent** (Nov. 2019); **Dr. Roger Riggensbach** (Dec 2019); **Robert "Pete" Peterzen** (Dec 2019); **Nick Marotta** (Oct 2020); **Kathy & Jesse Bush** (Dec 2020); **Patt & Caroline Maney** (Dec 2020); **Kevin Kirby** (Apr 2021); and, **Scott & Janet Berry** (May 2021); **Patrick Boab** (Dec. 2021). [Note: 30 total members]

**BG Frank Glunn Century Club** (past 12 months) (R=Renewal): Feb 2021: **Rod Gerdes** (R); and **Chris Beam** (R); Mar 2021: **Dave Davis** (R) (In memory of B/Gen Bud Day); **Fred Boyer** (R) (In honor of Marlene Bosak); **Joy Houck** (R) (In memory of Maj. Stanley Houck); Apr 2021: **Dr. Keith Kulow** (R); **Kevin Kirby**; May 2021: **Larry Bush** (R); **Patrick Boab** (R); **Al Bills** (R); **Scott & Janet Berry** (R); **Dick Solt** (R); June 2021: **Dave Parisot** (R) (In memory of Sam Lombardo); Aug 2021: **Janet (Ryan) Taylor** (R) (In honor of Maj. Bill Ryan); **Donald Litke** (R) (In memory of Kay Litke); Anonymous (In memory of David Baker); **Chuck Merkel** (R); Sept 2021: **Paul & Kathy Gerth** (In memory of Larry and Ann Shingler); **Doug Hardin** (R) (In memory of Gen. Bill Kirk); **George Colton** (R) (In memory of Larry and Ann Shingler); and, **Kevin Kirk** (R). Oct 2021: **Janet (Ryan) Taylor** (R) (In honor of Major Bill Ryan); **Kevin Kirby** (R); **Howard & Irene Fisher** (R); **Craig Miller** (R); Nov 2021: **Dave Parisot** (R) (In memory of Dick Prater); **Bob Gramm** (R); **Joe Stevens** (R); **Jesse & Kathy Bush** (R); **B/G Fran & Mrs Connie Hendricks**; **Dan Brown** (R); **Robert 'Pete' Peterzen** (R); **Mark Fluker**; **Karl and Charlotte Eschmann** (R) (In memory of B/G Bud Day and Kay Litke); **Jeff Watson** (R); Dec. 2021: **Kay Dent** (R) (In memory of Troy Dent and Larry Ketter); **Christine Hallion** (R); **Nick Marotta** (R); **Larry Tashlik** (R); **Dennis Phillips** (R); **Chris Beam** (R); **Patrick Boab** (R); **Larry Bush** (R), and **Janet (Ryan) Taylor** (R) (In honor of Maj. Bill Ryan); Jan. 2022: **Kevin Kirby** (R); **Dave Davis** (In memory of B/G Bud Day).

**2021 Business Gold Donor** (\$500 - \$749): Dec. 2021: **Merrill Lynch** (Chris Beam & Tess Bass); **Eglin Federal Credit Union**; **Step One Automotive Group**; **Residence Inn & Suites by Marriott of FWB** (In-kind); **TownePlace Suites by Marriott of FWB** (In-kind).

**2021 Business Silver Donors** (\$250 - \$499): Dec 2021: **Shalimar Pointe Golf Club** (In-kind); **Rocky Bayou Golf Club** (In-kind); **Gator Lakes Golf Course** (In-kind); **Indian Bayou Golf & Country Club** (In-kind)

**2021 Business Bronze Donors** (\$100 - \$249): May 2021: **Eye MD of Niceville** (R); Nov 2021: **Lee Nissan of**

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# Scholarship Fund (cont.)

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**FWB; Buffalo's Reef of FWB (in-kind); Mary's Kitchen of FWB (in-kind); Painting With a Twist of FWB (in-kind); Repeat Street Thrift Store of FWB (in-kind); Dec 2021: Tammy's Journeys of FWB (In-kind); Popeye's Louisiana Kitchen of FWB (In-kind); Shalimar Cheers Pub (In-kind).**

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

**NWFMOA Scholarship Fund: "HELPING TO BUILD FUTURE MILITARY OFFICERS AND LEADERS."**



**Raffle table for the Scholarship Fund at the 2021 Military Ball. All raffle prizes were donated and had a total value of over \$2,000.**

## SCHOLARSHIP DONATION FORM

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

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(Donation is tax deductible as allowable by law.)

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Make payable to: **NWFMOA Scholarship Fund** and mail to:

Dave Parisot, President, 56 11<sup>th</sup> St, Shalimar, FL 32579

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## MOAA's goals (cont.)

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pandemic. The foundation provides support and resources to more than 100,000 military families each year."

"MOAA is uniquely positioned to be a credible source of care partnering with MOAA chapters in communities. We ask you to join us in donating to support our ongoing mission at [MOAA.org/donate](http://MOAA.org/donate)."

"Another way we are making an impact is with the long-standing MOAA Scholarship Fund, which has supported tens of thousands of students in achieving their goals of higher education."

"I look forward to the coming year of vibrant progress for MOAA and support to our currently serving troops, our veterans, their families, and their survivors. Never stop serving!"








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*AN INVITATION TO YOU: The membership of NWFMOA extends a sincere invitation to join us in our social cultural, professional and service activities that extend for the local to national levels.*

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**This application is for:**

☐ Life Member ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Surviving Spouse ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to NWFMOA or to Northwest Florida Military Officers Assn. Inc. Check here is you do not want your ☐ name, ☐ phone number, or ☐ email address listed in the 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  
1 yr--\$25.00, 2 yr--\$48.00, 3 yr--\$65.00**

#### Life Membership Dues\*\*

Age	Dues	Age	Dues
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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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