



THE DEFENDER

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

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Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services

June 2023

Lunch Meeting & Discussion

When: Thursday 1 June 2023
Time: Gathering 1130, Lunch 1200, Program to follow
Place: Fort Walton Yacht Club
180 Ferry Road, NE, FWB
Program: Al Stearns and The Emerald Coast Chorus.

MAKE A RESERVATION

- Reservations are Required
- Wear a name tag
- Bring proper change: \$16 each

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

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The Emerald Coast Choral Group to Entertain the NWFMOA



Al Stearns is bringing his Emerald Coast Chorus group to entertain us at our next NWFMOA lunch meeting. So please be ready to enjoy a singing concert. The Emerald Coast Chorus (ECC) is a group of male barbershop harmony singers and is a part of the Barbershop Harmony Society. They are a singing group of men from 16 to 80+ that have been performing in our community for over 50 years.

Many of the members are former military and also members of MOAA and/or the NWFMOA. They perform concerts for charitable groups, special events, holiday gatherings, and singing Valentines. They also enjoy bringing their music to the public and can be reached via their website, <https://www.emeraldcoastchorus.org/>. The ECC invites men who want to sing to join them. If you are interested, they meet weekly at the Shalimar Methodist Church for rehearsals on Thursdays at 6:30 pm.

Please join us for our **May 4th** Membership Meeting. Click [HERE](#) to make reservations or call Fred Westfall at 850-609-8075.

From the President's Pen

By Fran Hendricks



NWFMOA's Role in Identifying and Recognizing Future Military Officers

Looking back, May was the crescendo of Chapter Member and local business donations to our scholarship program, the culmination of many months of coordination with the local schools, review of scholarship submissions, interviews of cadets, consensus of the selection committee on scholarship award recipients, and finally, the award of our Chapter's Scholarships at the annual scholarship luncheon. Dave Parisot and his Scholarship Fund Committee comprised of Fred Westfall, George Colton, Bob Allen, Karl Eschmann, and Charles Farmer (Senior JROTC Instructor at Niceville High School) made 2023 another outstanding year. As a committee, they awarded nine scholarships totaling nearly \$30,000 to 8 JROTC graduating seniors and 1 College ROTC junior. Nearly 100 people attended the Annual NWFMOA Scholarship and Awards Luncheon where the cadets were awarded their scholarships and the audience learned of their outstanding academic and leadership accomplishments. Local media was present and covered the lunch for its news worthiness. The Scholarship Fund Committee is commended for once again raising the bar. I also commend them for their dedication to attend each of the local high school JROTC Awards events throughout the month of May. Crisscrossing the counties we serve, they ensured NWFMOA had a presence at each of these important daytime or evening assemblies of cadets and parents.

Also in May, I had the distinct pleasure to give the Commissioning Address at the Commissioning Ceremony of the AFROTC Cadets from the University of South Alabama and University of West Florida. The ceremony was held at the National Navy Aviation Museum, NAS Pensacola. A fitting place to capture this historical moment—where everywhere we looked was a reminder of the sacrifices and successes of those who had gone before us. Of the 16 cadets commissioned, Cadet Blayne Johnson, the first recipient of our then newly forged College ROTC Scholarship in 2022, was one of them. 2LT Johnson will now report to NAS Pensacola for Combat Systems Officer training.

One line from my address simply stated, "Life is about choices...You can be in the arena or in the stands...Each of you has chosen to be in the thick of it...I applaud your choice". It was an honor to witness them take the same oath we took, and I am confident they will rise to the challenges that await them. Looking into the eyes of those eager and newly minted officers, you could see our Nation's future and it is in good hands.

Once again, NWFMOA has made a difference. Through your generosity, our Nation's future is bright because the bench we are helping to build is deep with individuals willing to proudly serve and protect our freedoms. Thank you to all for your commitment to this important role of the NWFMOA.

Never Stop Serving.

Fran Hendricks
President, NWFMOA

Welcome Aboard

This month we welcome a new member and asked her to answer some basic questions to introduce her to our NWFMOA members.



Mara Fair, Lt Col, USAF (Ret), currently in civil service as a Financial Research Specialist at the Air Force Research Laboratory Weapons, AFRL/RW. It is great to have her as a new member. Her responses to our questions are below:

1. What did you do in the Air Force? *AFSCs: 65F (Financial Management), 65W (Operations Research/Cost Estimator), 30C (Deputy Commander, MSG).*
2. What was your retirement Date? *22 Dec 2022, 22 years (4.5 years Active Duty, 17.5 years Reserve).*
3. What was your favorite assignment? *After commissioning from OTS at Maxwell AFB as a Hoya (Solid as a Rock) on 28 Jun 2001, my 1st Assignment was the 6 Comptroller Squadron (6CPTS) MacDill AFB, FL (Tampa) in July 2001. And 3 months after PCSing to MacDill AFB, we all know how the world changed on 11 Sep 2001. So, this was an exciting place to be as a new 2nd Lt with CENTCOM, SOCCENT, SOCOM right there on the base with us seeing everyone pull together and rally up against the terrorists.*
4. What funny story would you like to share? *When I was a MacDill, we had the Foreign National Coalition Village in trailers based within the grounds of CENTCOM and the Foreign Nationals would come to the 6CPTS to get paid their monthly per diem. A lot of them could not speak English but could understand it enough to get by, so while working in the cashiers cage/vault with my NCO cashier, I wanted to learn how to do the transactions to pay them and then count the cash out to the Foreign Nationals. Well, when I was counting the money to my first customer with my NCO next to me, she said LT, you don't have to talk to loud to them since talking louder will not help them understand you better! And we all started laughing along with the Foreign National who got the gist of what was going on and I apologized to the Foreign National. I wish I could remember which country he was from but we had a lot of different countries on base rallying together with us, so I can't remember which country. Way cool experience as a 2Lt! Luckily, I decided to rent an uber small apartment (700sf) for what my BAH (\$700/month) was at MacDill in 2001, which was less than a mile from the front gate, since the traffic to get into the base was crazy after 9/11! I was able to ride my bike vice fighting the traffic on to the base, so it was worth living in an expensive small apartment, which was just off South MacDill Ave and Interbay! 😊*
5. Anything else you would like to share. *I am an avid sailor and love racing. I have a 30' Person Flyer berthed at FWYC and I am helping start the water safety program at the FWYC. Getting certified to teach SwimLife water survival skills to all ages: babies to grownups. Education: Bachelor of Science degree – Finance from Florida State University; Master of Arts degree – Grant Writing, Management, and Evaluation from Concordia University Chicago; accepted and will start my PhD degree – Organizational Leadership from Evaluation from Concordia University Chicago in the Fall 2023. Completed Air and Space Basic Course (ASBC), Squadron Officer School (SOS), and Air Command and Staff College (ACSC). First Grant Writing opportunity: Air Armament Museum – Impact 100 Grant – for a \$100,000 grant to expand and help improve the educational experience of the museum for our community.*

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Click this box for an order form.



Member Spotlight

Dan Brown, Lt Col, USAF (Retired)



Below are Dan's answers to our Spotlight questions. Dan Brown USAF is fighter pilot/staff officer 03/1965 to 07/1988 and Navy/AF Contract pilot till 04/2010. He is an East Tennessee farm boy born crazy about planes. He worked his way thru Univ of Tennessee, ROTC, earning an EE degree.

1. **Service (and military contract) highlight** – Worked with and trained thousands of **great** people from every service from all over the US and lots of the world during my 45 years of govt work.
2. **What position and base was your favorite?** 1 Lt flying F-101B interceptors from Griffiss AFB, NY in any weather, day & night, all over the NE US and Canada (and met wife Alice in Rome, NY).

3. **Most scared** - (every day for 4 months) getting shot at repeatedly every day, flying 104 "Misty" F-100 missions **On The Trail** (shot down once/recovered). 8 months/180 close air support missions in SVN were a cinch in comparison (with exceptions).
4. **Most boring job** – F-111 Victor (Nuke) alert for three years in UK. (Great location & Brits tho).
5. **Worse job** – HHQ TAC Flight Safety Officer (but I learned a lot of staff survival skills).
6. **Most unique duty** – Training Yemen Pilots in the F-5E in Sana for a year. (under assassination threat for a while). AF Humanitarian Medal for getting US/UN aid in after major earthquake.
7. **Favorite military school** – Army Command and General Staff College (Best year of our lives)
8. **Most "grounding" duty** – 5 yrs Army spt (air/gnd FAC/C&C Sq CC 100 man/50 truck/40 trlr unit).
9. **Most satisfaction** – 20 years as a contract pilot, 9000 hrs/4000+ T-39/T-1 sorties with 1000+ NFO/WSO students at NAS Pensacola (flying air nav, low level, radar nav, surface search, & intercepts prior to their graduation to F-4s/A-6s/F-14s/F-18s/RF-4s/F-111s/F-15s/B-1s).
10. **Most proud of** – Got shot down once (**bad**), but never dinged a plane in over 13000 hrs (**good**).
11. **What advice would you offer those serving today?** – If it's bad, it will get better. If it is good, it will get worse. If you have a lemon, make lemonade. Find an example to learn from. Good or bad are both useful. Take care of your mission, your people, and your family.
12. **Anything else you want to share regarding your military career or after your military service?** - Lots of airplanes. It went by way too fast.

[Click HERE to view all the pictures in Dan's photo album.](#)

Let us never forget.

About six miles from Maastricht, in the Netherlands, lie buried 8,301 American soldiers who died in "Operation Market Garden" in the battles to liberate Holland in the fall and winter of 1944.

Every one of the men buried in the cemetery, as well as those in the Canadian and British military cemeteries, has been adopted by a Dutch family who mind the grave, decorate it, and keep alive the memory of the soldier they have adopted. It is even the custom to keep a portrait of "their" American soldier in a place of honor in their home. Annually, on "Liberation Day," memorial services are held for "the men who died to liberate Holland." The day concludes with a concert. The final piece is always "Il Silenzio," a memorial piece commissioned by the Dutch and first played in 1965 on the 20th anniversary of Holland's liberation. It has been the concluding piece of the memorial concert ever since.

The year is 2014, the soloist is a 13-year-old Dutch girl, Melissa Venema, backed by André Rieu and his orchestra (the Royal Orchestra of the Netherlands). This beautiful concert piece is based upon the original version of taps and was composed by Italian composer Nino Rossi.

For an inspirational video, check out this link: <http://www.flixxy.com/trumpet-solo-melissa-venema.htm>

Be Part Of The Solution

Join NWFMOA http://nwfmoa.org/files/join_us.pdf

Test Your Knowledge

The quiz a little different
← this time.

This month we are changing our **quiz feature** in the Defender. When you click on the link below, you will see a single question and a place to give your answer and name. If your answer is correct, you will be entered into the drawing at the monthly meeting (you have to be present to win your free meal). You may answer the question multiple times but only the correct answer will count for the drawing (so answering the question correctly 5 times will not give you more chances to win). We don't tell anyone that they got it right or wrong until we disclose the winner at the meeting. At the meeting, we state the answer and how many got it right. Then we pull the winner from the hat.

Last month the winner of the US Service Medals quiz was **Chris Beam**. Congratulations Chris!

Click the link below to get to the quiz. The winner will be announced at the next meeting.

<https://forms.gle/L7Qhd4SqXHjo8C1A7>

Our Gift To You



Is your birthday this month? If so, you eat for FREE. Starting this month, members will get a free lunch meal if it is your birth month. You must sign up for the meeting meal and the offer is only good during your birth month. Take advantage of the member benefit during your birth month.



CALL to ACTION 23-03

Tricare for Life Fees and Cost Sharing

Fellow NWFMOA Chapter Members,

If you haven't read Dave Parisot's Legislative Liaison feature in the April *Defender*, I strongly encourage you to do so. In the article you will learn the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has made two recommendations regarding our Tricare for Life (TFL) benefit. Both recommendations (if enacted) would cost us significant more money in fees and deductibles to use our earned benefit if Congress doesn't act to stop it.

CBO Recommendation #1 (Fees)...We would be required to pay an enrollment fee of \$575 (individual) or \$1,150 (family) for TFL coverage.

CBO Recommendation #2 (Cost-Sharing)...We would be required to pay a deductible of \$850. After the deductible (\$850) is met, TFL would pay only 50% of the next \$7,650 in Medicare expenses.

If you agree this is wrong (as I do) and want to join MOAA's efforts to have these recommendations thwarted, I respectfully request you send the Act Now! message that MOAA has drafted regarding this topic to Representative Gaetz, Senator Scott and Senator Rubio. You can access the Act Now! message to our elected leaders by going to our website (nwfmoa.org) and clicking on the take action button on the bottom of our page. Feel free to make changes to the proposed wording of the message. I also recommend in addition to your name at the bottom of the Act Now! message you add NWFMOA Member. We want our elected representatives to know we are advocates for our members and the military / Veteran community we serve,

You can also click [HERE](#) to TAKE ACTION on this MOAA initiative.

CALL to ACTION 23-02

H.R.1413, The Expanding America's National Cemetery Act

Fellow NWFMOA Chapter Members,

MOAA National is advocating for authorizing the transformation of a VA-run national cemetery into the next location that affords military honors as Arlington National Cemetery reaches capacity. This is a long-term solution and needs our support. Florida has the second largest number of military retirees – 210,073.

We need to advise Congressman Gaetz to protect the benefit of in-ground burial with full military honors for all who plan for internment or inurnment at a DoD managed National Cemetery.

I respectfully request you go to the MOAA website's Advocacy page and send the Act Now! message that MOAA has drafted regarding this topic to Representative Gaetz. If you want, you can change the proposed wording to your liking. I also recommend in addition to your name at the bottom of the Act Now! message you add NWFMOA Member. We want our elected representatives to know when NWFMOA comes up on the net regarding an issue important to our members and the military / Veteran community we serve.

Click [HERE](#) to TAKE ACTION on this MOAA initiative.

OUR MISSION

The mission of NWFMOA is to benefit the members of the uniformed services, their families and survivors and to advocate a strong national defense, while providing needed support to the community and its members.

Chaplain's Corner

By: Chaplain Ray Alexander



Washington's Prayer for the Nation

I found this prayer back in the early 1990s while stationed in Berlin, GM. It was in the Song and Service Book for Ship and Field for the Army and Navy. Published by the Government Printing Office, Washington 1942. The prayer itself was written at Newburg, June 8, 1783, and sent to the Governors of all the States. This was some six years before his inauguration as President.

Take time to reflect on the prayer of our first Commander in Chief. Read it a few times and then use it to measure the spirit of our nation today. It will move you into a life or renewed prayer for our nation as you see what it will take to again make us a "happy nation".

"Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in thy holy protection, that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government, and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another for their fellow citizens of the United States at Large.

And finally, that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation.

Grant our supplications, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

PUBLIC RECORD

In Memoriam

William Van Hoesen, Major, USAF (Ret)
4/22/2023

Victor A. Kindurys, Col, USAF (Ret)
4/26/2023

New Members

Mara Fair, Lt Col, USAF, Ret

Linda Van Hoesen, Surviving Spouse

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.

Never Stop Serving

Community Outreach

By: Dave Parisot



NWFMOA Receives MOAA Foundation Grants for 6th Consecutive Year; What's Happening with the Brooks Bridge Replacement and Other Projects

On May 12th we were notified by the **MOAA Foundation** that we received two **Community Outreach Grants this year**, our sixth consecutive year our Chapter has received grants. The first grant of \$1,500 is for a continuation of one of our Community Outreach projects from the most previous three years, i.e., to purchase commissary gift cards for young enlisted families (E-4 and below) at our local bases. The second grant, for \$2,800, is to participate in the 2023 Veterans Stand Down this fall by purchasing cold weather clothing and toiletry items for needy Veterans in our area.

This will be our fourth consecutive year of purchasing Commissary gift cards in \$25 denominations to distribute to local junior enlisted families. We plan to again partner with the First Sergeants Associations at Eglin, Hurlburt, and the 7th Special forces Group(A) and the Hurlburt Military Family Assistance Center to get the gift cards to those in greatest need. In our Community Outreach projects for 2020, 2021, and 2022, we distributed a total of 610 gift cards at a combined value of \$15,250. Of this total, the MOAA Foundation provided \$11,325 and \$3,925 was from local donations

(primarily by NWFMOA Chapter members). With the high rate of inflation over the past year, particularly for food items, the needs and benefits of this outreach program is in greater need.

Earlier this year we had set a goal to raise at least \$6,000 to purchase 240 gift cards. This year's MOAA Foundation grant of \$1,500 for this project is much lower than anticipated, but, that just means we have to raise more funds from local donations. If each of our Chapter members would donate funds to purchase 1 or 2 gift cards (\$25 - \$50), that would put us 'over the top' (you may donate a higher amount if you desire). Donations may be made at any of our upcoming monthly member luncheons or by mailing a check payable to NWFMOA to P.O. Box 1213, Shalimar, FL 32579. Please enter something on the Memo on the check such as "Family gift cards" or "Community Outreach" to designate it for this purpose.

With our second grant of \$2,800 from the MOAA Foundation, we will purchase warm weather clothing and toiletry items for the annual Veterans Stand Down, and distribute the items at the event. As the time for that gets nearer this fall, we will be asking for a few volunteers to help to bag the items beforehand, and to help distribute the items to the Veterans at the event.

Are you curious about the latest info on the **Brooks Bridge replacement** project linking Fort Walton Beach to Okaloosa Island? How about the proposed **re-routing of Highway 98 through downtown Fort Walton Beach** (commonly referred as "Around the Mound")? Or, the **Santa Rosa Boulevard Reconstruction on Okaloosa Island**, or, the **Bridge-to-Bridge multi-modal transportation** bike path across Okaloosa Island along Highway 98? You can find current information about all of these road construction projects on a single website at www.ilovefwb.com. This website was set up by the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce to help keep the local community apprised of what is happening with these projects. Click on the website link in this article for information on all of these projects.

Scholarship Fund

By Dave Parisot



NWFMOA Scholarship Awardees Receive Commissions; Annual 2023 Scholarship & Awards Luncheon; and, Scholarship Fund Donors

We are getting results with our Scholarship Program. In May of 2023, five of our previous scholarship awardees were commissioned in three of our military services. **2nd Lt. Cole Briggs**, USAF, was commissioned at the University of Notre Dame via its AFROTC program. Cole is a former graduated of Baker School and Army JROTC. **2nd Lt. Yolanda Stallworth**, USAF, received her commission via the AFROTC at the University of Central Florida. She graduated from Niceville H.S. and its AFJROTC program in 2019. Also, is **2nd Lt. Blayne Johnson** of Niceville. He received one of our ROTC scholarships at the University of West Florida AFROTC. We also have **2LT James Webb**, U.S. Army, at the University of West Florida Army ROTC program. He previously received one of our JROTC scholarships in 2019 at Crestview H.S. The Nany Nurse program gains **Ensign Sarah Brown, USN**, a former Navarre NJROTC scholarship recipient in 2019. Sarah received her nursing degree at Belmont University and her commission from the NROTC at Vanderbilt University. Our

heartiest congratulations and best wishes for success as they pursue their military careers. They are welcome back to see us at any time.



Brig Gen Fran Hendricks, USAF Retired, Commissioning Speaker, and Maj Dave Parisot, USAF Retired, with 2Lt Blayne Johnson, 2022 NWFMOA Scholarship recipient. They are pictured here at the Naval Flight Museum in Pensacola on May 12th.

Prospects are looking up to have three more of our scholarship awardees commissioned in May 2024., one Air Force and two Army.

Our **annual Scholarship & Awards Luncheon on May 4th** was very well attended with 97 people and cadets, our highest attendance ever. We awarded eight scholarships totaling \$25,500 to JROTC cadets at six of our local high schools plus one scholarship of \$4,000 to a local ROTC cadet at the University of South Florida. We continued a program we started last year of naming some of our scholarships to remember deceased NWFMOA Chapter members. This year's JROTC scholarship awardees and amount, their high school, and projected college and ROTC, and major field of study are as follows:

1. The **"Lt.Col. James 'Jim' Heavener, USAF, Ret., and Mrs. Una Heavener Memorial Scholarship"** of \$4,500 went to **Cadet Colonel Dawn Kerwin** of the Fort Walton Beach AFJROTC. She plans to attend the University of Central Florida and its AFROTC with a major in Biochemistry with the goal of becoming a pharmacist.

2. The **"Dr. Howard Fisher, Lt. Col., USAFR, Ret., and Mrs. Irene Fisher Scholarship"** of \$3,000 was awarded to **Cadet Colonel Mark Almazan** of the Fort Walton Beach AFJROTC. He plans to attend the University of West Florida and its AFROTC with a major in Business Management.

3. The “**Dr. Fred Westfall, Lt. Col., USAF, Ret., and Mrs. Janet Westfall Scholarship**” of \$3,000 went to **Cadet Petty Officer First Class Jacob Herrera** of the Navarre NJROTC. He plans to attend the University of Central Florida and its AFROTC with a major in Mechanical Engineering.

4. The “**Mrs. Chong Cha (Kim) Parisot Memorial Scholarship**” of \$3,000 was awarded to **Cadet Colonel Paige Lettelleir** of the Choctawhatchee AFJROTC. Paige plans to attend the University of West Florida and its AFROTC with a major in Biomedical Sciences.

5. The “**CDR Olive Clyde Locke, USN, Ret., Memorial Scholarship**” of \$3,000 went to **Cadet LTC Maziah Davis** of the Crestview Army JROTC. Maziah plans to attend Florida Memorial University with a major in Political Science and International Studies, and to do AFROTC at the University of Miami.

6. The “**Colonel Richard ‘Dick’ Prater, USAF, Ret., Memorial Scholarship**” of \$3,000 was awarded to **Cadet Major Jeremy Figueroa-Olmeda** of the Choctawhatchee AFJROTC. He plans to attend the University of West Florida and its AFJROTC unit with a major in Exercise Science (Kinesiology).

7. The “**Colonel Jack Gardner, USA, Ret., Memorial Scholarship**” of \$3,000 was awarded to **Cadet Major Kelvin Lora** of the Baker School Army JROTC. Kelvin plans to attend the University of Central Florida and its AFROTC with a major in Business Management.

8. The “**Colonel Donald Panzenhagen, USAF, Ret., Memorial Scholarship**” of \$3,000 went to **Cadet First Lieutenant Alissa Easley** of the Niceville AFJROTC. Alissa plans to attend Virginia Military Institute and its USMC ROTC with a major in International Studies. Her goal is to use ROTC to be commissioned in the United States Marine Corps. (HOO-RAH!)

9. The “**Colonel Douglas L. ‘Doug’ Hardin, USAF, Ret., Memorial Scholarship**” of \$4,000 was awarded to **Cadet Colonel Kayla McCarthy** at the AFROTC at the University of South Florida in Tampa with a major in Criminology. Kayla graduated from Navarre H.S. in 2020 and received one of our JROTC scholarship’s that year. She is on schedule to be commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the USAF in May 2024.

[Pictures from the 2023 Awards Luncheon can be seen by clicking HERE.](#)



2023 NWFMOA JROTC Scholarship awardees are, from left: Cadet Major Kelvin Lora, \$3,000 (Baker); Cadet Colonel Paige Lettelleir, \$3,000 (Choctawhatchee); Cadet First Lieutenant Alissa Easley, \$3,000 (Niceville); Cadet Major Jeremy Figueroa-Olmeda, \$3,000 (Choctawhatchee); Cadet Colonel Mark Almazan, \$3,000 (Fort Walton Beach); and Cadet Petty Officer First Class Jacob Herrera, \$3,000 (Navarre). Unable to attend was Cadet Colonel Dawn Kerwin, \$4,500 (Fort Walton Beach).

Another feature of our May 4th Scholarship & Awards luncheon was to recognize and congratulate **local high school seniors who have received an appointment to one of our nation's military academies.** This year we honored three such seniors, all of whom were selected for the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) at Colorado Springs, CO. Selected for the USAFA Class of 2027 from Fort Walton Beach H.S. are **Olivia Beard** and **Alexander Davidson**, and from Niceville H.S. is **Therese Sherwin.** Chapter President Fran Hendricks presented each with a 'Certificate of Recognition and Congratulations', accompanied by previous graduates of our military academies present (see photo below).

[Pictures from the 2023 Awards Luncheon can be seen by clicking HERE.](#)



Niceville H.S. senior Miss Therese Sherwin received a “Certificate of Recognition and Congratulations” on her appointment to the United States Air Force Academy, Class of 2027. Pictured are military academy graduates Maj Chuck Merkel (West Point), Lt Col Jim Shoff (USAFA), Maj Chris Beam (West Point), Miss Therese Sherwin, Capt. Mike Fisher (Annapolis), Maj Mike Griffith (USAFA), and Brig Gen Fran Hendricks, Chapter President.

Dave Parisot also recognized two retiring JROTC Senior Instructors with a certificate and gift. Retiring after seven years at Fort Walton Beach H.S. AFJROTC is Col. Mark Batcho, USAF, Ret. After eleven years of leading the Choctawhatchee H.S. AFJROTC, Major Scott Bates, USAF, is also retiring. During their tenures, these instructors have influenced over 3,500 JROTC cadets. Our sincere best wishes to both.

[Pictures from the 2023 Awards Luncheon can be seen by clicking HERE.](#)

The 50/50 raffle for the Scholarship Fund was not run at the May luncheon.

Recent donors to the BG Frank Glunn Century Club are **Dennis Phillips, Al Bills, Chris Beam, Dr. Howard and Mrs. Irene Fisher, and Bob Secrest.** Thank you for your continued support.

Below is the complete list of our **Endowed Scholarships**, our **Gold Century Club** members (\$500 cumulative minimum donation) and our **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 scholarships. [Note: (D) means deceased and (R) means Renewal of membership.]

Endowed Scholarships: Lt Col Jim and Mrs Una Heavener Memorial Scholarship (D) (via their estate effective 2018); Dave Parisot in memory of his wife, Chong Cha (Kim) Parisot) (effective

2017); **Dr (Lt Col, USAF, Ret.) Howard and Mrs. Irene Fisher Scholarship** (effective 2022); and, **Dr. (Lt. Col., USAF, Ret.) Fred and Mrs. Jan Westfall Scholarship** (effective 2023).

Gold Century Club: **Bill Ryan** (Feb 2016); **Ruth Cullen, (D)** (Oct 2016); **Dave Parisot** (Feb 2017); **Janet Taylor** (Mar 2017); **Chris Beam** (Mar 2017); **Bob Garcia (D)** (July 2017); **Rod Gerdes** (Nov 2017); **Larry Bush** (Nov 2017); **Dr. Howard & Irene Fisher** (Nov 2017); **Eileen Arpke** (Feb 2018); **Fred & Jan Westfall** (Apr 2018); **Clyde Locke (D)** (Apr 2018); WWII, Korea, and Vietnam Veteran **Sam Lombardo (D)** (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 (D)** (Aug 2019); **Dr. Keith Kulow** (Nov 2019); **Al Bills** (Nov. 2019); **Kay Dent** (Nov. 2019); **Dr. Roger Riggerbach** (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); **Scott & Janet Berry** (May 2021); **Douglas Hardin (D)** (Sept 2021); **Patrick Boab** (Dec. 2021); **Bob Allen** (Feb 2022); **Bobbi Hanson Garcia** (Mar 2022); **Joy Houck** (Mar 2022); **George Colton** (May 2022); **Bob Secrest** (May 2022); **Brig. Gen Fran & Mrs Connie Hendricks** (Oct 2022); **Les Matheson** (Feb 2023); and **Dan Brown** (April 2023). [Note: 39 total members]

BG Frank Glunn Century Club (past 12 months) (R=Renewal): May 2022: **George Colton (R); Bob Secrest (R); Mark Lombardo** (In memory of LTC Sam Lombardo); **Larry Bush (R);** June 2022: **Dr. Howard and Mrs Irene Fisher (R); Anonymous** (In honor of Dr Howard Fisher); **Dick Solt (R); Scott and Janet Berry (R); Janet Ryan Taylor (R)** (In honor of Maj. Bill Ryan); July 2022: **Al Bills (R);** Sept 2022: **Bob Gramm (R);** Oct 2022: **Brig. Gen. Fran & Mrs. Connie Hendricks (R); Doug Hardin (R)** (In memory of Gen. Bill Kirk); Nov. 2022: **Kevin Kirby (R); Pete Peterzen (R); Brig. Gen. Patrick Boab (R);** Dec. 2022: **Maj. Gen. Don Litke (R)** (In memory of Kay Litke); **Kay Dent (R)** (In memory of Troy Dent and Larry Ketter); **Karl & Charlotte Eschmann (R)** (In memory of Brig. Gen. George “Bud” Day and Mrs. Kay Litke); **Dave Parisot (R)** (In memory of Chong Cha Parisot); **Dr. Keith & Elizabeth Kulow (R); Larry Tashlik (R); Jeff Watson (R); Dave Parisot (R)** (In memory of Col. Doug Hardin); **Fred & Jan Westfall (R); Les Matheson (R); Janet Ryan Taylor (R)** (In honor of Major Bill Ryan); January 2023: **Dave Parisot (R)** (In memory of Col. Don Panzenhagen); February 2023: **Reddoch Williams (R);** March 2023: **Kevin Kirby (R); Rod Gerdes (R); and Les Matheson (R);** April 2023: **Dennis Phillips (R); Dan Brown (R)** (In memory of Col. Don Panzenhagen); **Al Bills (R); Larry Bush (R);** May 2023: **Chris Beam (R); Bob Secrest (R); and, Dr. Howard and Mrs. Irene Fisher (R).**

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