## NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION LUNCH MEETING May 3, 2018

## **LUNCH MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by President Scott Berry at the Fort Walton Yacht Club at 1200. Father Steve Voyt gave the invocation followed by the Choctaw Honor Guard presenting the colors. Our special guest, cadet Cassidy Bassett from the Fort Walton Beach High School sang the national anthem. Scott Berry led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

As this meeting was our annual Scholarship Fund Awards lunch, Dave Parisot led the meeting. He first recognized the honored guests, cadets and parents who would be recognized in today's program. He then gave an overview of the Scholarship Fund followed by the announcement of two newly named awards: the Chong Parisot Award and the Jim Heavener Award. Dave then introduced the Century Gold Club members and presented them with a Certificate of Membership (contributing at least \$500 to the BG Frank Glunn Century Club). The scholarship awards were then presented to the individual cadets. Of the five cadets in contention, the winner of Jim Heaverer Award of \$4,000 was Cadet Tracy Lopez. Three other cadets, Ayad Ahab, Xiomara LopezLopez, and Sierra Legendre, were awarded \$2,000. The final cadet, Noah Lieva, was nominated by his school but was unable to compete for our award because he was given a full scholarship to the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Following the awards ceremony, Scott recognized Dave Parisot for his outstanding work with the Scholarship Fund and the many other accomplishments he makes to our organization. Scott also announced that our monthly publication, the *Defender*, and our website were awarded the MOAA Col Marvin J. Harris 5-Star Communications Award for 2017. He thanked Ken Zepp and Fred Westfall and told Ken that he was facing a very high bar since he has recently taken over for the previous editor, Larry Williamson. Scott also announced that the speaker for our June lunch will be Crime Specialist Ashley Bailey who will discuss scams and other threats to Okaloosa County residents. Prior to the Benediction by Father Voyt, Cadet Bassett led the group in singing "America the Beautiful".

## **OTHER TOPICS**

Following the formal meeting, Nick Marotta held the drawing for the 50/50 Scholarship Fund raffle and the winner of \$52 was Leo Weeks who contributed his winnings to the Scholarship Fund, so one hundred four dollars went to the Scholarship Fund. There were 56 attendees at the lunch. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1315 hours.

//signed//

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

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