

THE SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION
CHAPTER XX
THE KENNETH WORTHLEY MEMORIAL CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The "20/20" Flash

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The Next Chapter Business Meeting:

The next meeting is at 7pm at the
**Richfield American Legion,
Tues, Dec 4th, 2018**

The Richfield American Legion is at 6501 Portland Avenue South. I plan to be there early for dinner, about 6:15. Some folks show up early and socialize until the meeting. Some folks just come to the meeting.

Annual Dues Annual Dues

It is that time again. If you have the annual membership, we ask that you renew your membership. You can go to the SFA website and pay your dues with a credit card. Or, we have included the SFA Membership Form and the SFA Membership Renewal form with this Newsletter. Please mail your Forms to:

Matt Mitlyng
3759 Tower Pond Road
Anoka, MN 55303-8308

Whether you are an SFA member, or not, we will keep you on the mail list until you ask to be removed from the mail list.

Upcoming Activities:

Christmas Dinner: I still consider the Christmas Dinner an upcoming event because I am heading out for it as soon as I finish, and mail, this Newsletter. Hopefully we will see

you there. And, if not, we hope to see you at some other event. Until then,

Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year.

Monthly Activities: 1st Tuesday of the Month: Chapter XX, SF Association Meeting.

1st Saturday of the Month: **Ranger** Breakfast at the Perkins on Lyndale in Bloomington, at 10 am. An informal gathering and all are invited.

3rd Wednesday of the Month:
Chapter XV, 173rd Airborne Brigade Association at the Hearthside Pizza, 1640 Rice Street, St. Paul.

3rd Thursday of the Month: **Midwest All Airborne Alliance** at the Richfield American Legion, 6501 Portland Avenue South, Richfield.

In support of Minnesota's Airborne and Veterans Groups, we invite all interested folks to receive a copy of this Newsletter. To support those Airborne folks, we do include information from those groups in this letter. Remember Red Green's line "We're all in this together." If you have a group, or information, to add to this list, just let me know: Dan, at 507-647-3526.

After Action Reports:

Midwest All Airborne Days: We had a great time. Ron Lachelt, Bill Bray, Jim and

Kim Behr, Bob Pike, Helen Nagel, Hal Roed, Mel Dahlberg, Howard Tellin, Brad Nichols, Don Rhodes, Steve Anderson, Al and Gan Porter, Ron Whitbeck, Jack Running, Art Kirby, Noel Johnson, Scott Whaley, Tom Eckhoff and Dan Kaiser were all able to attend. (And if I missed your name, please excuse my terrible record keeping. "Never blame things on malfeasance when misfeasance will do." (I had to look-up the misfeasance. Malfeasance is an intentional bad act or work, with evil or bad intent. Misfeasance is just unintentionally screwing up.)

Veterans Day: was at the Vietnam Memorial on the State Capital Grounds. It started with raising the National Colors at seven am, followed by Breakfast at Keys Café. Now, I would tell you who paid for breakfast, but I forgot. And, either way, then and now, we extend our great appreciation to that person. (Remember that misfeasance thing, cause I am not done using that yet.)

After breakfast, it was back outside, into the cold, harsh, weather to set-up for the activities. Just as the event was starting, the skies broke open wide and the temperature began climbing to a balmy ... no wait, that is just my imagination. It was cold out there. Cold as heck! Thank goodness we were shielded from the wind.

The St. Paul Central High School Band was there. Again. For the twentieth year. And they did another spectacular job. But, then again, they are always impressive.

A big thank you to all the folks who set-up the event. All of the folks who had talking parts did a great job. And I would tell you was involved in setting it up, and who the speakers were, and who showed-up, but I did get around to writing down ... well, I think you know where this is going. Thank you to all the folks who ran the event and thank you to all of the folks who were able to attend.

Meeting Minutes: The October 2nd Monthly Business Meeting: Present at the meeting were: Ron Lachelt, Matt Mitlyng, Bob

Pike, Jerry Carlson, Scott Walker, and Dan Kaiser.

Bob made a motion to accept the September Meeting Minutes, as published in October Newsletter. Matt seconded the motion and it was carried.

Bob made a motion to accept the Financial report, as given by Matt. Ron seconded the motion and it was carried. We talked about the up coming Midwest All Airborne Days and the Christmas Dinner: we agreed to lower the price by five dollars and to make the event free for World War II and Korean War vets, plus a guest for each.

We talked briefly about the JFK Special Warfare Museum and its Association. They sent a copy of the Newsletter to the Chapter and you can find the Museum on the web at www.jfkwebstore.com

Scott Walker and Bob Pike gave us the latest information on the Southeast Asia Allied Forces Veterans Memorial Monument at the Fort Snelling National Cemetery. A plan has been submitted and we expect the approval process to take a long time. Scott noted that legislation has been passed in California so that the California Department of Education is directed to develop a curriculum on the Vietnam War, and that it include information on the Lao and Hmong.

The November 6th Monthly Business

Meeting: Present at the meeting were: Ron Lachelt, Matt Mitlyng, Bob Pike, Sevieng Suparat, Jerry Carlson, Noel Johnson, Dave Turner, and Dan Kaiser.

Dan noted that he did not get the October Monthly Business Meeting Minutes finished. Bob made a motion to accept the Financial Report, as given by Matt. Ron seconded the motion and it was carried. We talked about the Midwest All Airborne Days—we had a great time, a big thank you to all the folks who set it up and the folks who were able to attend. We talked about the up-coming activities, including the Veterans Day Activities, the John Gallos funeral, and the Christmas Dinner.

Sevieng gave us a report on the Special Guerilla Unit Monument Dedication that she was able to attend.

As always: on the next DROP Input: If you have pictures or news for Chapter section of The Drop, please email the info and/or pictures to Ron Lachelt at Lachelts@gmail.com.

The Chapter Facebook page: is located at www.facebook.com/sfachapterXX

While Jim H. set up the Facebook account, Matt has been added as an administrator. I hope this means something to you. I presume: if you spot a problem or have a suggestion, then you can contact either guy. Of course, I am only presuming.

Okay, now, I am going back to the Twentieth Century.

For The History Buff:

The Dr. Harold C. Duetsch World War II History Round Table is committed to preserving the factual history of World War II. With the input of historians, first-hand accounts from individuals, and [travel](#) we seek to promote the study of this influential era. Check out their website at: <http://www.mn-ww2roundtable.org/>

The Harold C Deutsch World War Two Round Table is the oldest and largest ongoing WWII lecture series in the United States and it is now in its 31st year presenting programs. The program starts at 7:00 pm on the second Thursday of every month from September through May in the [History Center](#) at Historic Fort Snelling, unless otherwise noted in the [Schedule](#). Seating is limited and it is recommended that you arrive by 6:30.

A \$5.00 [donation](#) is requested to help defray costs. Students and Vets are admitted free.

December 13, 2018; *Pearl Harbor – The Attack that brought the U.S. into WWII*, Michael Wenger, co-Author of *No One Avoided Danger* and *This is No Drill*, and *Veterans of Pearl Harbor* will present some of many aspects of the attack on December 7, 1941.

January 10, 2019; *What made the Nazi Military Work*, Geoffrey Megargee, Author of *Inside Hitler's High Command*, and German Veterans will discuss the functioning of the

German Military at Headquarters and in the Field.

February 14, 2019; *Not All the Struggles for Victory were on the Battlefield*, James Lacey, Author of *The Washington War* and *Keep from All Thoughtful Men*, will discuss the struggle between FDR's advisors and the efforts to pay for the costs of the war.

March 14, 2019; *Intelligence from the Skies*, Rob Ehlers, Author of *Targeting the Third Reich*, and Veterans of the Air War in Europe will discuss the use of intelligence in targeting and damage assessment.

March 28, 2019; *The Contributions of Women in Air War*, Sarah Byrn Rickman, Author of *WASP: of the Ferry Command*, will present the many and varied contributions of Women Pilots in training and operations of the Air Force.

April 11, 2019; *The Chief of Logistics in the European Theater – LTG J.C.H. Lee*, Hank Cox, Author of *The General Who Wore SIX Stars*, and Veterans of logistical operations in support of offensive operations will tell the value of support of supply.

May 9, 2019; *Remembering the 75th Anniversary of the Normandy Landings*, Stephen Alan Bourque, Author of *Beyond the Beach*, and Veterans of the June 6th Landings on D-Day will discuss the struggle that ended with the liberation of Europe.

<https://www.mnvietnam.org/roundtable/>

The Vietnam War Roundtable 2018-2019 is a new series at Concordia University. This is an opportunity for veterans, students, and those interested in the war and its legacy to gather the third Monday of each month to honor, remember and understand this tumultuous time.

Directions: Join us at the Concordia University's Buetow Auditorium on Hamline Avenue just south of Interstate 94. Parking is free.

Concordia University, St Paul
300 Hamline Avenue North
St Paul, MN 55104

December 17, 7PM, Marine Reconnaissance Units. Veterans of the 1st and 3rd Marine Reconnaissance Battalions will discuss how when and why they entered the Marines, how and why they were assigned to these elite units, their training and prepa-

ration for combat, and their small unit missions deep within enemy controlled territory. What were their experiences, options, and attitudes when the time came to reenter the civilian world?

January 21, 7PM, Navy Destroyer Operations off the coast of Vietnam in the South China Sea and in the wider Cold War in the Pacific. A Navy Chaplain, a sailor working below decks in the engine room, and a sailor manning one of the destroyer's guns and others will discuss their entry into the navy, their training and their service on destroyers. Topics will include day-to-day running of the ships and life on the ships, providing Naval gunfire support to ground troops during the Easter Offensive, supporting aircraft carrier operations, tracking Soviet submarines across the Pacific, and ministering to the spiritual needs of the crews of multiple ships. One sailor will discuss his experiences with a CBS News team that was imbedded on his ship and produced a documentary based on their time on the ship. Veterans will discuss their return to the civilian world and subsequent lives and attitudes.

February 18, 7PM, Vietnam War 360. Drawing upon speakers with very different experiences, the remarks by special guests – veteran, refugee, activist, conscientious objector, gold star family member – explore the war from many sides and expands on last year's Ken Burns and Lynn Novick Vietnam War documentary.

March 18, 7PM, Women Nurses in the Vietnam. Approximately nine thousand U.S. military nurses served in Vietnam during the U.S.- Vietnam war. Though women did not serve in combat, nurses encountered the consequences of war on a daily basis as they cared for its casualties — military and civilian, American and Vietnamese. Like so many other Vietnam veterans, they struggled with their wartime experiences once they returned home. The fact that they were women veterans added another layer of

difficulty to their readjustment, however. The assumption was that all veterans were men. In Minnesota, a handful of nurses who had served in Vietnam banded together as sister veterans and offered each other the help, support, and recognition that no one else had. Join Dr. Kim Heikkila for a discussion of nurses' experiences during and after the war, with a special focus on this unique group from Minnesota.

April 15, 7PM, Reporting on the War – Impact of the News Media. Don Shelby, a Vietnam War veteran who went on to become prominent news anchor in the Twin Cities, will reflect on his own experiences and take a broader look at the news media's impact on public opinion at home and the feelings of service men and women overseas.

May 20, 7PM, The Minnesota Connection to the Battle of Soui Tre. In 1966 a significant number of Minnesota men entered the army together, trained together, deployed to Vietnam together, were assigned together in units of the 25th and 4th Infantry Divisions, and found themselves fighting together in the bloody Battle of Soui Tre in March of 1967. The Fire Support Base at Soui Tre was commanded by then Lieutenant Colonel Jack Vessey, a Minnesotan, who received the nation's second highest award for valor at Soui Tre and went on to become the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the nation's highest ranking military officer during the Reagan Administration. Major General Rick Nash, the recently retired Adjutant General of the Minnesota National Guard, will give a brief overview of his extensive knowledge of General Vessey's leadership skills. Retired Army Chaplain Colonel John Morris will give an overview of the battle based on his research for the book he is writing on General Vessey, and numerous veterans of Soui Tre will discuss their varied participation in the battle.