

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 Chapter meeting is at 7pm, on

Tues, Nov 5th, 2019

at the

Cherokee Tavern,

886 Smith Ave S, West St Paul.

They have a great environment and atmosphere with a full menu, complimented with a Tuesday Night Special— an incredible variety of hamburgers.

Parking can be a problem, but look behind the Cherokee Tavern. While the alley is usually filled, after 5pm you can park in the Cherokee Dental parking lot.

I plan to be there early for dinner, about 6 pm. Some folks show up early and socialize until the meeting. Some folks just come to the meeting. Either way, come on out and enjoy the evening.

Dues Dues Dues

If you are an Annual Dues member, then it is that time of year again, time to pay your annual dues. Go to the SFA website, <http://www.specialforcesassociation.org/about/membership/>, and at the bottom of the page you can print a membership application form, or a dues renewal form, and take care of business that way. You can also pay on-line with a credit card, on the same page.

Whether you are a current SFA member, or not, you are welcome to get this newsletter. Heck, you might already be in that category. (Of course, there are considerable benefits to being an SFA member: go check out the SFA website, as a place to start.)

Upcoming Activities:

Veterans Day,

the 11th hour of the 11th Day of the 11th month, is Monday, November 11th. Look for the Airborne folks at the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial on the State Capital grounds in St. Paul.

There is a flag raising at 7 am for those who can attend. That is followed by Breakfast at Key's Café with a return to the State Capital for set-up at 9:30. (Set-up might be at 9 am or 10 am, I can not remember the exact time, as I sit here typing at a furious 17 words per minute.)

The Veterans Day Ceremony starts at 11 am. If my notes are accurate, there are two speakers and the Chaplain for the activities is Rick Pieper.

Christmas Dinner

is December 7th at the Cherokee Tavern. Social Hour starts at 6pm with Dinner served at 7pm. The attached flyer has dinner

choices, costs, RSVP information, directions and parking information.

Get your RSVPs in early and remember: WWII and Korean War veterans, and one guest, eat for free.

Come on out, enjoy the night: the food, the camaraderie, and the drink.

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 **9:30 am**. An informal gathering for breakfast and camaraderie, all are invited.

3rd Wednesday of the Month, 7:30 pm: **Chapter XV, 173rd Airborne Brigade** is still held Hearthside Pizza, 1641 Rice St, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55117, [\(651\) 488-0549](tel:6514880549)

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, when provided, in this letter.

After Action Reports: Meeting Minutes:

The October 1st, 2019 Chapter Business Meeting started at 7pm. Members present at the meeting were:

Doug Bekke	Trudell Guerue
Laurie Johnson	Noel Johnson
Ron Lachelt	Scott Walker
Matt Mitlyng	Dan Kaiser

We discussed the World War II Roundtable, it is at a new location, check the information later in the Newsletter. The Vietnam War Roundtable is going strong. Information follows and you are invited.

Ron made a motion to accept the July Meeting Minutes as printed in the August Newsletter. Matt seconded the motion and it was carried.

Ron made a motion to accept to accept the Financial Report, as given by Matt. Laurie seconded the motion and it was carried.

Dan made a motion to reimburse Ron about \$400 for flag pole, finials, and accoutrements. (Ron will provide a receipt for the last few dollars of the cost.) Doug seconded the motion and it was carried.

Following an email from Dalelynn, Ron made a motion that we donate \$500 to the New Prague Veterans Memorial for construction of their memorial. Doug seconded the motion. In discussing the motion, it was noted that John Roy's grandson had grown-up in the New Prague area, he enlisted in the Marines, and served in the Afghanistan where he made the ultimate sacrifice. The motion passed.

As an AAR, the Brunch with Babs was a great time, but I don't remember, now, all the kind words and stories that we heard. A recommendation was made to do this again with the intent of trying to get the wives out to a nice brunch in some restaurant. More information to follow.

We talked about Veterans Day. The information is on the first page of this Newsletter. Then we talked about the Christmas Dinner.

We talked about the Color Guard. (When the local recruiting company started doing it for us, they were all Airborne soldiers after assignments in Afghanistan.) We were concerned that the ceiling is too low for posting the National Colors. (Ron did return to the Cherokee Tavern a few days later with a flagpole and he said that we should be able to post the colors.)

We had volunteers cover the cost of the meals for the Color Guard and guests and we talked about using some form a phone tree to invite folks to the dinner. (Editorially: even if you do not get that phone call, you are invited to the dinner and we would love to see you there. Not getting the call will be an indication of our limited ability to plan social events well. We want to see you at the dinner.)

We may get some kind theme set up for the Dinner, it is, after all, December 7th, but we will have to see. (I can only refer you to the end of the last paragraph.)

We also talked about the Ranger Breakfast on the first Saturday of the month. It is a great time to just have breakfast around old friends that you have just met. They welcome new friends and you are invited.

Doug noted that they are re-doing the World War Plaque on the State Capital Grounds.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

A voice in the distance: Last winter/spring we did get an email from Dan Thorson: Just wondering what's been going on with the chapter lately. I understand there are new plans for the Xmas party.

My offer for an SFA XX weekend down here (Iowa) sometime this summer (or any summer for that matter) still goes. We are on a (tubing) river, right in the middle of a nature preserve (great jeep driving trails), and I have a couple of RV outlets on the big outbuilding.

A number of my old 12th Group teammates were down here last summer and had a blast. Even if it does not work as a chapter activity, individual members who are interested are welcome. Give it some thought...

From Ole: Go to youtube and watch this for six minutes. You be entertained and rejuvenated, and you will never regret it: Youtube's Travis Mills "This is what happened to me?"

And: Ole also recommended the www.americanspecialops.com website, but I have not been able to get the hyperlink to work, so you will have to type it in yourself. Ole's link was to the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, but the website was great.

And: Some Thoughts:

When I grow up I would like to be a retired lottery winner.

The brain is the most outstanding organ. It works 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, right from your birth, until you fall in love.

The best part about getting older ...? Nothing. Getting older sucks.

I think senility is going to be a fairly smooth transition for me.

When you are dead, you don't know your dead. The pain is only felt by others. The same things happen when you are stupid.

One way to find out if you are old is to fall down in front of a lot of people. If they laugh, you are still young. If they panic and start running to you, you are old.

When I was kid, my parents would always say, "Excuse my French" just after a swear word... I will never forget my first day at school when my teacher asked if any of us knew French.

And just like that, 1969 was fifty years ago.

You never appreciate what you have until it is gone. Toilet paper is a good example.

From Laurie: Recently saw this: Please consider bringing in clothing and supplies for [Every Third Saturday](#), a Veterans organization that provides assistance to veterans who are in need.

Watch this [TPT Original story](#) to learn more about the organization and its founder. For information on Sensory-Friendly Second Saturdays, [click here!](#)

From Pete: forward: Justice Comes in Strange Ways. Our Warrior of the Week is a judge who gave a unique sentence to two stolen valor convicts.

Troy Nelson and Ryan Morris both claimed that they were military veterans in an effort to qualify for lesser sentences and admittance into Veterans Treatment Court. Nelson, 33, had already managed to get

himself into the treatment court program before it was discovered that he never served in the military.

Morris, 28, previously told the court that he served seven tours in Afghanistan and Iraq, and that he had a hip replaced after being injured by an improvised explosive device. He further claimed that he suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of his military service.

When Montana District Court Judge Greg Pinski learned that neither Nelson nor Morris had ever served in the military, their schemes backfired. Nelson, who was convicted of criminal possession of dangerous drugs, was sentenced to five years in prison with two years suspended on Friday. Morris received 10 years in prison with three years suspended for one count of burglary.

Pinski then addressed the issue of stolen valor, which is a federal offense, the Great Falls Tribune reported. Although neither of the convicts were federally charged, Pinski found creative ways to address their deception through specific sentencing conditions. "There are certain people — shameful people — who have not put their lives on the line for this country who portray themselves as having done so," Pinski told them. The judge said that their lies were "abhorrent to the men and women who have actually served our country."

For the duration of their sentences, Pinski ordered that both convicts attend the Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies at the Montana Veterans Memorial while wearing placards emblazoned with a pre-determined message. "You will wear a plaque that reads as follows," Pinski said, while holding up the typed verbiage on a piece of paper for the convicts to see. "I AM A LIAR. I AM NOT A VETERAN," the judge read aloud. "I

STOLE VALOR. I DISHONORED ALL VETERANS."

Pinski also ordered Morris and Nelson to hand-write the names of the 6,756 U.S. veterans who have lost their lives in the Afghanistan and Iraq wars, and to hand-write the obituaries of the 40 Montana veterans who were killed in those wars.

The court further ordered that both convicts write letters of apology to seven military veteran organizations, and that they perform 441 hours of community service — one hour to represent each of the Montana military members who have been killed in combat since the Korean War.

"I want to make sure that my message is received loud and clear by these two defendants," Pinski said during the hearing. "You've been nothing but disrespectful in your conduct. You certainly have not respected the Army. You've not respected the veterans. You've not respected the court. And you haven't respected yourselves."

Judge Pinski took appropriate action to deal with scumbags, and that's why he's our Warrior of the Week.

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.