

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

The "20/20" Flash

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Come One, Come All To the Award Presentation for John Hankes

John will be presented the Norwegian Medal for service during World War II with the First Special Service Force (FFSF.)

Mark Johnson sent the following information to Laurie Johnson:

Hi Laurie, The Ceremony will be

Saturday, 10am, April 30th

at the Legion in Hastings. Please let me know a head count for your group by March 30th.

Thanks, Mark mmjohnsontech9@gmail.com

So, please **RSVP quickly** to Laurie Johnson at ljjinstpaul@hotmail.com

I am hoping for a big turn out: John is a great guy and this Award Ceremony will be a great chance to see him. **So: RSVP.**

The Next Chapter Business Meeting:

The next meeting is at 7pm at the

**Richfield American Legion,
Tues, Apr 5th, 2016**

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.

After Action Reviews: Meeting Minutes:

The March Business Meeting was on March 1st. And, yes, we did have a meeting. Unfortunately, as I sat down to type up this Newsletter, I realized that my meeting notes are not handy. So, watch for the meeting minutes in the next Newsletter.

Other Information:

From SFA HQ's: As you may be aware the Congressional Gold Medal has been proposed for the OSS. The OSS, along with the First Special Service Force, is the direct lineage for today's Special Forces. We still have members who were with the OSS. The Act has passed the Senate and is waiting House approval. Please note the request to contact your Congressman/woman. If the Act is not passed in this session the process will have to be started from scratch.

[Office of Strategic Services Congressional Gold Medal Act](#) (S. 2234) was passed by the U.S. Senate on February 22nd. In order to become law, the House bill (H.R. 3929) needs two-thirds, or 290 members, of the House of Representatives as cosponsors of the bill.

Please use the following link to contact your congressperson and ask them to become a cosponsor of the Office of Strategic Services Congressional Gold Medal Act (H.R. 3929):
<http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

You will find a list of the House bill's current cosponsors at the following link:

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3929/cosponsors>

Please consider emailing or writing your Representatives in the U.S. House to ask them to co-sponsor the Office of Strategic Services Congressional Gold Medal Act (H.R. 3929). Thank you for your support of The OSS Society. Cliff Newman, Executive Director, SFA

From: Bridget Cronin

Subject: ABF Annual Gala featuring MN Vikings Hall of Fame Defensive End Carl Eller

I'm writing to give you an official heads' up on our upcoming annual fundraising gala, confirmed for April 30th. I was able to get former Vikings defensive end Carl Eller to be our keynote speaker. In addition to his football career, Carl is also an Army National Guard veteran and an artist.

You'll get invitations and emails with additional details, but I wanted to give you a heads' up now because I'd be extremely grateful if you would take a look at your respective organizations and units, and see if you have any gear or memorabilia that you'd be willing to donate for our silent auction. Our board members in Germany, Travis and Kate Thornburg, are putting together baskets of Rakkasan items (his unit), German beer and stuff, and he is donating a flag that was flown in Iraq during his tour of duty there. We would welcome whatever the 173rd, Special Forces, and Minnesota National Guard could donate.

I will keep you apprised of details as they get confirmed. I hope you have a wonderful day! Bridget Cronin, CEO,

<https://www.facebook.com/arsbellumfdn/>;

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www.arsbellumfoundation.org

<http://www.arsbellumfoundation.org>

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From Bob, information on Ars Bellum:

ARS BELLUM is an organization that we became aware of when Bridget Cronin met with our group and was asking for support. I attended one of her orientation sessions back last fall and was intrigued by her approach to helping

veterans with PTSD. Later I went to one of her 8 week sessions and through the efforts of Robyn Alliah who is an Art Therapist I discovered I had developed patterns over the years that can cause me more trouble than I need. She also taught me coping skills which have come in handy on a few occasions.

In World War One an artist by the name of Otto Dix was drafted in the German Army and he saw action on both the eastern and western fronts being wounded several times. After the war he began painting his memories of what he saw and when the Nazis took over his paintings were destroyed as being antiwar. He was again drafted back into the old man's Army just before the end of WW 2. He started his career as a painter again painting images he recalled from the war years and died when he was 78 years old. He once said that his art was a way for him to express the sights he witnessed and was a form of therapy. Considering most World War one veterans died long before 1964 Dix must have been on to something.

Currently Ars Bellum has sessions at Metro State College and there are 8 vets attending. Four are Vietnam types and four are Desert Storm types. It's funny in a way it's like the fathers are sitting across the table from their children and all suffer from the same problem. I would encourage other PTSD vets to check this program out.

From Jim Flowers: I recently received a call from Allen Schoppe, President of the National Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association. The National is trying re-establish the Viking Chapter in Minnesota. If that proves to be impossible they will shift any remaining members to other chapters. I promised Schoppe I would help if I could but I've pretty much lost touch with everyone in the airborne community. Would you please pass the word along to those folks who might have an interest. They can reach me via e-mail (jrvflo234@hotmail.com) or my home phone [651 699 5490](tel:651-699-5490).

Regards,
Jim Flowers

