

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, April 4th, 2017

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.

Upcoming Activities:

Two Harbors Heritage Day Parade: The Two Harbors Heritage Days Parade might be bigger and better this year. We are working on a Fishing excursion for Friday, July 7th on Lake Superior. The Charter Captain is a Marine friend of Keith and Jean. We will let you know more as plans are solidified. The parade is on Saturday, July 8th, 2017.

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.

If you have a group to add to this list, just let me know, Dan at 507-647-3526.

After Action Reviews: Meeting Minutes: The February 7th Business Meeting: Folks

who were able to attend the meeting:

Jeff Arnold	Sevieng Suparat
Col. Khao	Bob Norden
Ron Lachelt	Dan Kaiser
Bob Pike	

Bob made a motion to accept the January Meeting Minutes, as published in the February Newsletter. Jeff seconded the motion and it was carried. There was no Financial Report.

Ron will be looking into the paperwork for submitting John Roy's name into the Ranger Hall of Fame.

We discussed a Chapter focus, goal setting, and fundraising, but there is nothing concrete to report.

We talked about the 67th Royal Lao Army Day and Col Khao invited everyone to the celebration.

On the Two Harbors Heritage Days Parade, Ron will be making contact Kieth and more information will follow.

Jeff made a motion to donate \$200.00 to the Alexander Jared Pang-Riddle Tuition Assistance Fund, with our donation piggy backed on a member's donation, through the

Chapter. Bob seconded the motion and it was carried.

There being no further business, Bob made a motion to close the meeting. Jeff seconded the meeting and it was carried.

Meeting Minutes: The March 7th Business

Meeting: Folks who able to attend the meeting:

Jeff Arnold	John Roy
Jim Hemoivich	Sevieng Suparat
Ron Lachelt	Bridget Cronin
Matt Mitlyng	Scott Walker
Bob Pike	Dan Kaiser

Dan did not have the February Meeting Minutes ready. He promised them for the next meeting.

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

Scott updated the Chapter on the General Vessey Legislation (for a statue on the State Capital grounds), Hmong Veterans Day, the March 20th Veterans Day on the Hill, and the March 29th Vietnam Veterans Day activities.

We discussed the Two Harbors Heritage Days Parade (July), the Midwest All Airborne Days (August), the SFA National Convention, possible fund raising activities, and the Christmas Dinner Silent Auction.

Bob Pike showed us the Canadian Vietnam Veterans Flag. While Canada did not send any units to the Vietnam War, many Canadian citizens were there.

There being no further business, John mad a motion to close the meeting. It was seconded and carried.

The 67th Royal Lao Army Day: An AAR from Ron: Bob and myself (SF) and Trudell, Jack Running and Dave Turner, (Midwest Abn) attended the Royal Lao Army Celebration last night. The celebration marks the 67th Anniversary of the founding of the Royal Lao Army. It was held in Brooklyn Park. Bob, Jack and I participated in posting the colors. Trudell gave a short speech and Dave took a lot of pictures. The local state representative (House minority

leader), the Brooklyn Center major, and few other dignitaries were present. There were about 100-125 people present during the night. There were Royal Lao members from Wisconsin, Georgia and South Carolina. There were Khmer, Lao, and Vietnamese veterans present. Not sure if Hmong were present.

Scott Walker gave an update on the Federal and State legislation to recognize the allied veterans of the Vietnam War and get health benefits. Pretty much having to start over after getting as far as the Foreign Relations Committee last year. Scott also gave a bit of an update on the upcoming public television Ken Burns special on the Vietnam War. Evidently, the Secret War is mentioned, but no mention of the contributions of the Lao and Khmer. TPT, the local PBS station is attempting to interview local Lao and Khmer to highlight their contributions. Scott likened the omission of the Lao and Khmer like omitting the role of the war in Europe in the history of WWII. There was a photographer from TPT present last night for a while.

We all participated in the Lao Circle Dancing and had some treats from the kitchen and met a talked with quite a few Lao and Vietnamese. Bob knows a number of the Vietnamese due to work on getting them enrolled in the VA system.

Random thought of mine: Our government (VA) has turned it's back on these veterans, but a few individuals, like Bob Pike, Scott Walker, some congressmen, and SF in North Carolina still continue to fight for and with them. To spend time with the Lao, like last night, makes me appreciate them. I wish that more SFer's would attend. The Lao very much appreciate the fact that Americans came halfway around the world to help them fight the communists.

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. You can also drop off your pictures or news at the next Chapter meeting. Thanks! Ron

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

Two Harbors Heritage Day Parade, Saturday, July 8th

Includes a barbecue dinner on Friday, July 7th

We may also have a “chartered” fishing trip on to Lake Superior

Details on the fishing trip are being worked out. Stay tuned for more information.

Consider making this a family vacation/long weekend. When my kids were younger, I used to bring them, and their cousins, up to Two Harbors just for this weekend. All the fun stuff to do while you're there. Just hanging out and ... ahhhh, the good old days. Now, with their own lives and jobs it so hard to get together and just visit. (Of course, on the plus side, with them working, they don't call and ask for money.)

(As much.)

For you adventurous souls: Sightseeing in Minnesota does not get much better. The North Shore, Split Rock, Gooseberry Falls, the pier in Two Harbors (at the end of the pier: eighty feet of crystal clear water.)

On Lodging: If you have an RV, bring it up and park it at the Objective Rally Point (Keith and Jean's palatial north woods estate.) You are also invited to camp at the ORP, if that works for you.

For you more sedate adventurers, hotels in the area include:

AmericInn Lodge & Suites Two Harbors, 1088 Old Hwy 61, Two Harbors, MN 55616,
Phone:[\(218\) 834-3000](tel:(218)834-3000)

Country Inn of Two Harbors, 1204 7th Ave, Two Harbors, MN 55616, Phone:[\(218\) 834-5557](tel:(218)834-5557)

Voyageur Motel, 1227 7th Ave, Two Harbors, MN 55616, Phone:[\(218\) 834-3644](tel:(218)834-3644)

Viking Motel, 1429 7th Ave, Two Harbors, MN 55616, Phone:[\(218\) 834-2645](tel:(218)834-2645)

On the Hotels: Make your reservations early. Class reunions are planned around the Heritage Day activities. The hotels and motels in the area fill-up early.

(P.S. If you put this little note into a container and water it once a week, some day it might blossom into a real Flyer. Dan.)