

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

The "20/20" Flash

President: Ron Lachelt
Lachelts@gmail.com, 952-882-1249
Webmaster: Doug Brown
bftc@hutchtel.net
Chapter Website: www.sfa20.org

January 2017

425 3rd Street West
Winthrop, MN 55396

Treasurer: Matt Mitlyng
Mitlyng@gmail.com, 763-257-9404
Secretary/Editor: Dan Kaiser
kais0063@umn.edu, 507-647-3526
www.facebook.com/sfachapterXX

Forwarded by Charlie Inot, Chapter 75, a message from the Family of Col. and Mrs. Aaron Bank.

On Christmas Eve at 9:30 our beautiful mother, Catherine, went to be with her Heavenly Father. She is finally free of Alzheimer's disease, free from pain, free of her wheelchair, free of blindness. She was 96 years old and lived a full and wonderful life.

Born on July 3, 1920, she was raised in Luxembourg. Her country was invaded by the Nazis in 1939. After the war our multilingual mother became an interpreter for the U.S. Air Force helping with the Nazi war trials. She met our father, Colonel Aaron Bank, who was hunting down Nazi war criminals after his work as a spy during WWII.

They married on August 4, 1948 and moved to the U.S. where she became an American citizen. She gave birth to me (Linda) while Dad was serving in the Korean conflict. Soon they were off to Germany after Dad started Special Forces. Their second daughter, Sandy, was born in Munich. Four years later they returned to live in Virginia while Dad was working at the Pentagon. Always the refined lady, Mom enjoyed her life as an Army officer's wife.

Dad retired in 1958 and the family moved to San Clemente, California where they built their home. In her helpful way, mother was very involved in the PTA, in

aiding us with homework and school projects, took us to our extracurricular activities, volunteered as a Sunday School teacher at our church and often sewed our clothes and made a lovely home for our family. She was an exceptional volunteer for the local community theater. When President Nixon lived in the Western White House in San Clemente, she offered to translate foreign correspondence for him.

Mom and Dad travelled extensively in the US, Europe, and to Panama when Dad gave speeches regarding Special Forces or to attend Special Forces' conventions. She also loved to attend local retired Special Forces' dinners and activities.

She was a loving grandmother to her granddaughter Michelle and a caring great grandmother to her great grandsons KJ and Wyatt. We already miss her but know that she is in the presence of our Lord and has joined her dear husband Aaron, her parents and many old friends.

We would like to thank all the attentive caregivers, nurses, and staff at the Fountains at Sea Bluffs where Mom resided for the last thirteen and a half years of her life. We would also like to thank the caring staff of Sea Crest Hospice. She will be interred at Riverside National Cemetery with our father. The service will be a private one

for the immediate family, according to her wishes.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations in her name to the Alzheimer's-Orange County at 2515 McCabe Way, Suite 200 Irvine, CA 92614 (www.alzoc.org), the Wounded Warrior Project at 8880 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 900 San Diego, CA 92108 (www.woundedwarriorproject.org) or the San Clemente-Dana Point Animal Shelter at 221 Avenida Fabricante San Clemente, CA 92672.

New Members: Welcome to Matt Marasch. Matt was able to make it to November's Meeting and it was great to meet him. Matt was in the 82nd Airborne Division for Desert Shield and Desert Storm. After the SFQC, Matt was assigned to 7th SFGA as an Engineer. After getting out Matt attend college at St. Cloud State and now works as a data base administrator. Matt now lives in Plymouth and he is married with two kids, seventeen and nineteen.

The Next Chapter Business Meeting:

The next meeting is at 7pm at the

**Richfield American Legion,
Tues, Jan 3rd, 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. Come on out.

Upcoming Activities:

Two Harbors Heritage Day Parade: The Two Harbors Heritage Days Parade should be on Saturday, July 8th, 2017.

At the last Parade, a group activity in the form of a day of fishing on Lake Superior came up in conversation. More coordination and planning have to be done and we will provide more information as we go.

The 67th Royal Lao Army Day: will be in March, in Brooklyn Park. More information to follow.

Monthly Activities

1st Tuesday of the Month: Chapter XX, Special Forces 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 that you would like included on this list, just let me know, Dan at 507-647-3526.

Dues Dues Dues

It is that time of year again. If you are a member, we are asking you to re-new your membership. If you qualify for membership and you are not currently a member, we are asking you to consider becoming a member of the Special Forces Association.

You can download the member-ship or renewal forms at the SFA website, <http://www.specialforcesassociation.org/about/membership/> If you use the traditional

paper forms to join or re-new, please mail the forms to: Chapter XX, SFA

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

You can also pay your renewal and membership dues on-line, at the SFA website noted above.

Of course, on the plus side, if you are a friend of the Chapter, or if you qualify but do not want to become a member, I will keep sending you the Newsletter until you ask me to stop.

After Action Reviews: Meeting Minutes:
The Nov 1st Business Meeting started at 7 pm and members present were:

Jeff Arnold	Sevieng Suparat
Col. Khao	Jerry Carlson
Ron Lachelt	Trudell Guerue
Matt Marasch	Dave Nordan
Bob Pike	Jack Running
John Roy	Dan Kaiser

We discussed Funeral Services for Colonel Song and Ken Sjodin.

Jeff made a motion to accept the October Meeting Minutes, as published in the November Newsletter. John seconded the motion and it was carried.

There was no Financial Report.

On upcoming activities we discussed Veterans Day, at the State Capitol, and the Christmas Dinner.

John made a motion to make Bridget Cronin an Honorary Member of Chapter XX. Jeff seconded the motion and it was carried.

Col. Khao noted that the 67th Royal Lao Army Day would be in March in Brooklyn Park and that all are invited to attend. More information to follow.

Matt Marasch was introduced to the group.

Ron Lachelt noted that John Roy has been nominated for the Ranger Hall of Fame. More information to follow.

Jerry Carlson spoke and provided handouts.

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

The December 6th Business Meeting started at 7 pm and members present were:

Jeff Arnold	John Roy
Jim Hemimovich	Bill Anderson
Matt Marasch	Dave Nordan
Matt Mitlyng	Jack Running
Bob Pike	Dan Kaiser

Dan noted that he did not have the November Business Meeting Minutes done. John made a motion to accept the Financial report, as given by Matt Mitlyng. Jeff seconded the motion and it was carried.

Under old business, as an AAR, we discussed the Veterans Day activities. Jack noted that it was a beautiful, warm day for the activities. After raising the National Colors at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the State Capitol grounds, the group went to Keys Café for breakfast.

After returning to the State Capitol, and setting up, the Veterans Day program had a great showing. The St. Paul Central High School Band played and the guest speaker was great.

We then discussed the funeral services for Ken Sjodin and Col. Song.

We followed that by discussing the Christmas Dinner and the SFA National Convention (make your reservations soon.)

There being no further business, Matt made a motion to close. It was seconded by John and carried.

Pictures from the Christmas Dinner: Hey folks, if anyone has pictures taken at the Christmas Party, will please send them to me. I have a few, but the one I would like is Bridget receiving her honorary membership. (Guess we need a designated photographer next year!)

The pictures may be included in our Chapter section of "The DROP."

Hope you have had a Merry Christmas, and that you will have a Happy New Year!

Ron Lachelt, lachelts@gmail.com

From Jeff Thielen, Executive Director, Minnesota Military Museum:

I write today to seek your assistance to promote a FREE service for Veterans.

The Minnesota Military Museum's Veterans Registry is a little over a year old and as of today has only 200 veterans or family members of veterans who have taken the time to record their military story.

The Veterans Registry was established to help preserve Minnesota Veterans Stories as told in their own words or the words of their family and friends.

The Registry is a way for Veterans to document and share their military story with family and friends and preserve a record of their service.

Please do two things when you finish reading this message. 1. Go to <http://www.mnmilitarymuseum.org/veterans/registry/> to record your personal story.

2. Do everything in your power to help promote this FREE service for Minnesota Veterans.

Thank You.

From Neil Thorne, forwarded by SFA National Headquarters: SFA Member Gary "Mike" Rose, M-1184, Chapter 92, has finally been approved to receive the Medal of Honor for actions on Operation Tailwind.

Greetings and Great News!

Yesterday evening 23 December 2016, President Obama signed into Law the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), containing the last hurdle, the time-limit waiver, to award US Army Special Forces Medic, Gary Michael Rose, the Medal of Honor for actions with MACV-SOG over 11-14 September 1970 in Laos. This legislation is also a historic first time-limit waiver of this sort to both recognize MACV-SOG by name AND mention Laos. The potential implications of this may help other operations past and current where Valor recognition has been delayed or denied for classification of operations. Fine piece of legislation through US Senator Session's and Rep. Mo Brooks offices for an outstanding American! This is one battle won, and more efforts continue....

White House Link to Signed record <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/signed-legislation>

Bill Link – See Section 583 page 150 <https://www.congress.gov/114/bills/s2943/BILLS-114s2943enr.pdf>

Best wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Ever Forward!, Neil

From Chapter 1-18: Fellow Chapter Presidents,

I have recently taken over as President of Chapter 1-18 in Fayetteville and am basically starting from the ground. As some of you may or may not know, Chapter 1-18 is more or less homeless after Hurricane Matthew ravaged Fayetteville and flooded the National grounds. Chapter 1-18's team house belonged to National and was leased by the Chapter for a minimal fee, basically assisting National with the liability insurance required on the grounds. Considering the extensive damage done to the National offices, the grounds and the team house combined with the expected repair period associated with minimal insurance assistance, Chapter 1-18 plans to establish a new home away from the National grounds. We are continuing operations as scheduled, holding our monthly meetings and supporting SWTG events wherever we are able to procure a structure sufficient for the event.

As we look for possible properties to purchase we recognize the need to begin our own fund-raising campaign. Chapter 1-18 has established a Go Fund Me site listed under Special Forces Assn Chpt 1-18 at <https://www.gofundme.com/sfachapter1-18?ssid=827869374&pos=1>

We understand that donations may have already been made to National for their repairs or other individuals and organizations in the area. We intend on hosting a banquet-auction likely to be held in March or April. If individuals or businesses in your prospective areas would donate items for the auction, their assistance would be appreciated in aiding us to our goal. I have already procured several knives, some ammunition, a lower receiver for an AR-15 (and working an upper from a different vender), a Glock and am working an all-expense paid deer hunting trip to Iowa.

I'd like feedback from the chapters as far as another fundraising idea we had. You've all seen the 30oz Yeti insulated steel tumblers that sell for \$40 each. If you

haven't seen the OzarkTrail tumblers, they are just as good (some say better) for a fraction of the cost. Are there any chapters interested in buying tumblers with the SFA crest engraved in the side? It would be a money raising opportunity for both of our chapters. We'd ship them for \$20 each, you should be able to sell each one for \$25. Please let me know if there is any interest and I'll get the prototype and send out photos for orders. There is also the possibility to have your specific SFA Chapter logo in lieu of the SFA crest for an additional one time fee of \$25. Please send me some feedback.

Thank you for your time and assistance. Please send any ideas or feedback my way. If you're in the Fayetteville area, we hold our meetings the 2nd Saturday of each month at Charlie Mikes pub at 1100 hrs.

CHRISTOPHER WILKERSON
CW2, SF
SFA Chapter 1-18 President
Cell: [\(940\) 395-1873](tel:9403951873)

Forwarded by Dave Nordan: Subject: Amazing!

I didn't see this coming at all... Now is multi-tasking, singing the National Anthem while painting.

<https://twitter.com/i/videos/tweet/789970623871279104>

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

2016-17 WORLD WAR II HISTORY ROUND TABLE 30th Season, Don Patton, 612-867-5144, www.mn-ww2roundtable.org
TIME: 7:00 P.M. (except as noted on 7 Dec)
PLACE: Fort Snelling Visitor's Center

Jan. 14, 2016 [Struggle on the Eastern Theater of Operations](#) Dr. Roger Reese, author of [Why Stalin's Soldiers Fought](#), and [Veterans of the War on the Eastern European Front](#). [\(PDF\)](#)

Feb. 11, 2016 [Liberation of German Concentrations Camps](#) John McManus, author of [Hell Before Our Eyes](#), and [Veterans of Liberation and Internees](#). [\(PDF\)](#) [\(YouTube\)](#)

March 10, 2016 [From the OSS to CIA Director](#) Douglas Waller, author of [Disciples](#) will discuss Dulles, Colby, Helms, and Casey. [\(PDF\)](#) [\(YouTube\)](#)

March 24, 2016 (4th Thursday) [Birth of the New Age of War – Atomic Bombs and Rockets](#) Jim Eckles, author of [Trinity](#) and [Pocket Full of Rockets](#). [\(PDF\)](#) [\(YouTube\)](#)

April 14, 2016 [Southern Invasion of France – Operations Dragoon and Anvil](#) LTC Scott Wheeler, author of [Jacob L. Devers](#), and [Veterans of Seventh Army](#). [\(PDF\)](#)

April 28, 2016 (4th Thursday) [Navy UDT Teams – The beginning of the SEALS](#) Pat O'Donnell, author of [First SEALS](#) [\(PDF\)](#) [YouTube](#)

May 12, 2016 [Potsdam – Agreement to settle Allied Victory in WWII](#) Dr Michael Neiberg, author of [Potsdam](#) [\(PDF\)](#) [\(YouTube\)](#)