

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, Jan 2nd, 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.

Upcoming Activities:

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: So, it happened again. Somewhere I have the notes for the December Meeting. And I should be able to find them. Soon. Real

soon. Until then, I owe you two months of meeting minutes, November and December.

The Christmas Dinner AAR: As Ron Reule noted: The yearly Christmas Dinner was on December 9th and it went very well. The speaker was MG Neil Loidolt and he brought with him the 3 H's; humility for **our** chosen profession, humor from daily life in the military and honesty about the modern day military with examples of soldier and leader struggles. He and his wife were grateful for the invitation and were very well received during the festivities.

The Apple Valley Recruiters brought in the Colors of our Nation and the SF Association. When they began posting the Colors, they were all Airborne soldiers, and the majority still are. Then, and now, they also bring with them youth and vitality to the event. Attendees were able to see and hear stories of the newest generation of soldiers.

John Wayne was in attendance again, at least his cut-out did not appear to have aged, while a few of our brothers seemed a little long in the tooth!

The old war stories got better and were told with more vigor than I remember, but were well worth listening to.

Thanks to Jeff Arnold, Ron Lachelt, Matt Mittyng and Dan Kaiser for setting up the dinner. Ron did another great job recapping the year's events. Special thanks to

Laurie Johnson for bring in the pictures of John Hankes, our First Special Service Force hero was passed away this last fall. Thanks to Jerry Carlson for setting up the MIA-POW table. And to all of the folks who provided items for the Silent Auction, including the donations from Fleet Farm, your work and contributions are deeply appreciated.

From SFA National Headquarters, Nov 29:

All, I cannot Thank the Chapters enough for their efforts. From Veteran's Day events to supporting your members and the communities has been nothing but outstanding. As I read emails and newsletters, I was not only impressed but proud of the Brotherhood. The efforts to ensure "Green Berets" are never forgotten and to continue to be remembered while our forces are currently deployed is unbelievable.

It was a year ago in the Winter Drop that I sent the message of our National Headquarters being damaged by Hurricane Mathew. Since then we are recovering, and the Headquarters is completely operational. We are beginning phase 2 an upgrade of the grounds. To those in Texas and Florida the support continues after this year's hurricanes. Our loss of a member's wife in Las Vegas was devastating and cannot Thank enough those that supported him and his family and continue to do so. Prayers.

I attended the recruiting summit with Jim Blanchard, Ike Slaughter (28), Chris Wilkerson (1-18), Tom Galbicsek (62), Earl Howell (6). We will be supporting the efforts of the Special Operations Recruiting Command (SORB). They have asked our Chapters to support recruiting efforts. The pool of recruits who look to go to Special Forces, or can qualify, is getting smaller. There will be a separate email reference this in the coming weeks. However if your Chapter is having an event and would like SORB assistance contact Major Chris Haynes SORB S-3 @ Christopher.haynes4.mil@mail.com or CW5(R) Doug Frank @ douglas.frank01@gmail.com. I recruited Doug to assist.

If anyone is in Fayetteville, feel free to contact me. The Special Warfare Center and Schools Commander has given every Green

Beret an open door to Camp McCall. He also said, if he is available, he will brief the Q-Course and other advance courses.

We are financially and administratively stable. Please tell your members to go to our website to see National Minutes, Financial Reports and more.

The Special Forces Association has grown to close to 11,000 members and 86 Chapters over the past few years. We may have 87 with new members coming by the end of the year. The SFA growing!!!!

Do not forget next years conference in El Paso. Chapter 9 has got it ready for all of us to enjoy this premier event!!!

De Oppresso Liber
Gary Koenitzer
President, Special Forces Association

An email From Tim: I just called Anheuser Busch and told them as a former Special Operations Veteran I was deeply offended by the NFL'S disrespect to our Nation's Flag and Anthem, and that there are many other ways for people to voice their concerns.

An embedded email had: Anheuser Busch is asking for comments about whether they should pull their sponsorship from the NFL, based on the players kneeling during the flag and national anthem.

Please call [\(800\) 342-5283](tel:8003425283) and leave a message telling them not to sponsort the NFL as they disrespect the flag, the national anthem and the men and women of the armed forces and law enforcement.

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 30th 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.

January 11, 2018 Eastern Front – Final Victories. Jonathan House, Author of Stalingrad, and Veterans of the Soviet Military will describe the savage battles between the Germans and Russians that are too often overlooked by western Military Historians

February 8, 2018 The Berlin Airlift – First Allied Victory of the Cold War (noting 70th Anniversary.) Roger G. Miller, Author of To Save A City, and Veterans of the mighty endeavor will tell of Stalin’s attempt to starve out a City devastated by War and struggling to rebuild and establish a new future

March 8, 2018 American Airpower in WWII. Conrad C. Crane, Author of American Airpower Strategy In WWII, and Veterans that participated in the Air Operations will describe the Strategy and individual experiences that contributed to a Victory in WWII

March 22, 2018 Architecture of the Nazis. Ray and Josephine Cowdery, Authors of Reich Chancellory, will show their collection of Period pictures of the monumental Architecture of the Nazis Regime to impress their Power, and current photos of what remains

April 12, 2018 The Greatest Field Commander – Lucian Truscott. Harvey Ferguson, Author of The Last Cavalryman, and Veterans that served in his Commands will reveal the experiences of what happened in Italy and France by a Commander who has been rated as the Greatest Field Commander of WWII

May 10, 2018 To Save the Victory After Defeat. Benn Steil, Author of The Marshall Plan, and Veterans of the Occupation, will highlight the great success that sealed the Victory in Europe and led to the State of Peace that resulted in the establishment of NATO and European Union.

From Laurie: from a Next Avenue publication <nextsocial@nextavenue.org>: The Long-Term Care Benefit Many Veterans are Missing Out On.

When my mom’s dementia no longer made it possible for her to live alone, I began searching for an assisted living community. After I started working with an adviser from [A Place for Mom](#) — the senior-living referral service where I’m now a spokeswoman — I learned that

my mother was eligible to receive Veterans Administration (VA) benefits that would help offset the costs of her care.

My mother had remarried a man who was a World War II veteran (my dad died in a tragic plane crash when I was 13). I had no idea that as the widow of a veteran there was this kind of financial assistance.

By the time I learned about the [Veterans Aid & Attendance Pensions Benefit](#), my mom had already spent years in assisted living. She and I had no idea that the federal government guarantees veterans and their spouses some long-term care assistance. When I finally found out about this pro-gram, I pulled together the necessary paperwork and sent in her application. But as life would have it, by the time my mom was accepted by the program, she passed away just before her 95th birthday.

In going through this process, I learned that, shockingly, only 5 percent of these assistance funds are even applied for, because people simply do not know about the program. And for that reason, as Veterans Day approaches, I want to spread the word to those Americans who could use this well-earned long-term care benefit.

The Veterans Aid & Attendance Pension Benefit, or “A&A benefit,” provides up to \$1794 per month to a veteran, \$1,153 to a surviving spouse or \$2,127 to a couple. The money, which is tax-free, can be used for in-home care, board and care, an assisted living community or a private-pay nursing home.

This is helpful for many vets and their families because neither Medicare nor Medicaid pays for assisted living care. There are certain qualifications you’ll have to meet before you can apply. (One of the best resources explaining the A&A benefit is [VeteranAid.org](#), which provides a brief questionnaire to help you determine if you or your loved one can benefit from this program

To qualify for the benefit, a veteran or spouse must meet requirements including:
Wartime service The veteran had to have served at least 90 days of active duty with at least one day during one of the specified wars. He or she must have had an honorary discharge.
Financial need This means assets of under \$80,000 (excluding a home and a car). The VA

takes into consideration “countable income” as part of assets, the veteran’s or spouse’s monthly income — including Social Security, pensions and IRAs — minus the costs of assisted living or in-home care.

Medical needs The veteran or spouse must need assistance with eating, bathing or dressing.

Experts say it takes six to eight months, on average to get approved; some applicants wait more than a year. But once the application is approved, it’s applied retroactively to the date of application.

On Veterans Day, it is my hope that all wartime veterans and their spouses can find a senior community where they can feel safe and happy in their later years and can get the financial assistance that they deserve from the Veterans Aid & Attendance Pensions Benefit program. And I would like to thank all veterans and their families for their service to our country.
By [Joan Lunden](#)

Dues: SFA Membership Dues for 2018 can still be paid in January 2018, without paying a late penalty. Dues are for those folks who qualify for membership in the SFA. You can read the Application Form to see what the requirements are for membership. If you

want to go online, you can renew your dues with a credit card on the SFA website, <http://www.specialforcesassociation.org/about/membership/>. If you are mailing in your application or renewal, please mail it to:

Chapter XX, SFA
C/O Matt Mitlyng
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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.

And, in an email from Bill:

