

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

# *The "20/20" Flash*

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**June 2016**

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## **The Next Chapter Business Meeting:**

The next meeting is at 7pm at the

**Richfield American Legion,  
Tues, Jun 7<sup>th</sup>, 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. Come on out.

## **Upcoming Activities:**

**Lao Memorial Unveiling**, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 9:00  
am, St. Paul Capitol grounds

**Two Harbors Heritage Day Parade**, July  
8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>.

**All Airborne Days**, Details and date are to  
be determined. Activities typically include  
unveiling Memorial Stones in the Airborne  
Circle, Fort Snelling Cemetery and a BBQ.

**Jumping with the Best**, tandem skydiving  
at the Baldwin, Wisconsin Drop Zone. While  
the date has been set, August 20<sup>th</sup>, more  
information will follow.

## **After Action Reviews: Meeting Minutes:**

**The May Business Meeting:** Members  
present: Bob Pike, John Roy, Ron Lachelt,  
Matt Mityling, Tim Kirk, Col. Khao, Babs

Komac, Sevieng Suparat, and Sithone  
Keomanyvoag.

Minutes from last meeting, as printed  
in the newsletter, were accepted.

Old Business: Ron asked for  
approval and a check to be sent to the SFA  
Memorial Brick Paver Walkway. Cost is  
\$200. These memorial bricks will honor Bill  
Story, Ted Johnson, Ed Komac and Gary  
Pennebaker. Approved.

New Business: Jack Tobin, SFA  
President, had sent out an email that gives  
the SFA's support to HR 210, which  
recognizes the sacrifices of the SE Asian  
Veterans during the Vietnam War. Jack  
asks all of our members to contact their  
congressman and urge support. Colonel  
Khao stated that he was going to  
Washington DC later this month to lobby  
congressmen to support the bill.

Two Harbors was discussed and  
everyone was encouraged to attend and  
spread the word.

The August Jump was discussed.  
Discussion brought up how the participants  
should pay for the jump (checks or credit  
card on site on the day of the jump--thought  
to be not a good idea), and whether the  
money from the jumpers from our group  
should be separate from Bridget's  
group. Tabled until next meeting. We need  
to get publicity out. The dates for the Jump

are Aug 20th with an alternate being Aug 27th. Thanks to Bob for coordinating this!

John Roy mentioned that he had done a video interview for a SE Minnesota TV station in Austin about Special Operations in Korea. It was about a 2 hour interview, but he is not sure when it will be aired and how much may be edited.

Bob Pike will make the presentation of the SFA leadership medal to a cadet at the Magnet School in St. Paul on May 12th.

John, Tim and I shared info about the MOPH chapter installation in Rochester for Allen Lloyd. Nice turnout, Met with Allen's sister, brother, and high school girlfriend. Nice people. Allen was KIA, BNR in the A Shau valley in 1971.

Babs Komac thanked everyone in the chapter for doing so much for her and Ed during his illness and passing. She is planning to jump in August for Ed.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.

### **The John Hanks Award Ceremony:**



Photo by Judy



Photos by Thomas Laney

The Hofelds, Kim, Cindy, their kids and daughter-in-law, Laurie Johnson, and several other of Ted Johnson's kids were able to attend. While Tom Laney was able to attend, I did not get a chance to talk to him (time and medical problems on my part), but he sent pictures from the event.

And worse: I can not find my notes that describe the Norwegian Award, the name of the Norwegian Consul General (the Award Presenter, the first picture), or the name of the Hastings native and retired General who was the guest speaker (the second picture.)

All of my inefficiencies aside, the presentation was worthwhile: eloquent, poignant, and well done.

**SFA ROTC Award Presentation:** Bob Pike presented the SFA ROTC Award at the Washington Magnet School to JROTC Cadet/LT(jg) Christian Patten.

In an email from Bob to Gardner LaMarche, Bob sent: I really enjoyed being a part of your ceremony today and I have to apologize for not staying around to “gland hand,” as you put it. But us old hats aren't much on socializing; we get in, do the job, and get out.

I look forward to next year and thank you again for letting us be a part of such honorable festivities. We are proud to be associated with your excellent school.

Gardner responded: Thanks for making the presentation. Christian has enlisted in the Navy and will be attending Nuclear Propulsion School upon graduation from Boot Camp. He intends to volunteer for the submarine service.

**Other Information: From Mike:** Dan, Please send out the following information to the boys. Free ticket opportunity for Gulf War Veterans on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. My assumption is they are looking for “cool story types.” If any of the boys want to take advantage have them contact Anna below.

**From:** Long, Anna (MDVA)

**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2016 4:01 PM

**Subject:** Gulf War Vets needed for Twins Game July 3.

Mike, If you could forward this to anyone you think might be interested, that would be great. We are looking for some high-speed Gulf War veterans to participate on the field in the Sunday July 3 Twins Military Appreciation Game. All who are interested can get tickets, and 10 will be able to participate on the field. The time commitment is approximately 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Anyone who is interested should contact me.

Anna Lewicki Long, 651-757-1536, 651-263-2640, [www.minnesotaveteran.org](http://www.minnesotaveteran.org)

**From Matt:** From a conversation with Babs, if you have a 70% disability rating, or higher, The Disabled Veteran Homestead Valuation Exclusion program provides a property tax benefit to qualifying homeowners by reducing the value of their home for property tax purposes.

[http://www.revenue.state.mn.us/propertytax/actsheets/factsheet\\_13.pdf](http://www.revenue.state.mn.us/propertytax/actsheets/factsheet_13.pdf)

**From SFA HQ's:** Please note the following message from MG Victor Hugo

We are slightly over the halfway mark (150 cosponsors) in achieving the House approval for the Office of Strategic Services Congressional Gold Medal. The OSS were WW II precursor to the CIA and SOCOM. We need to achieve 293 cosponsors by the middle of July in order to have the measure passed before the conventions for the elections. If you have not contacted your Representative, please ask them to act as cosponsor for HR 3929.

**And:** Gentlemen, The 10<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado is seeking the names, and POC's of any surviving “Original Member” (Mid-1952, through November 1953 era) who joined the Group at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. If you were a member, or you know someone who was a member, you are requested to contact CW3 David Clark at: [george.d.clark@soc.mil](mailto:george.d.clark@soc.mil) or (719) - 330 - 3620, soonest.

In Advance - Thank you, David Clark

**And:** Return to Devens, 5-10 Oct 16.

Schedule of Activities: Flights into: Boston, MA or Manchester, NH, are approximately same distant (30 miles). Manchester, NH is more accessible and it will be a beautiful ride as the leaves will be changing colors. You will also avoid traffic in Boston.

Wed, 5 Oct: Arrival: 1900 hrs, Greet & Meet.

Thurs: 6 Oct, Tour: Devens Commons/Ft Devens (Officers Club/Museum), Abn Opn: Staticline &/or Military Freefall (Ft Devens Drop Zone or Rogers Field.



Friday: 7 Oct: Train Ride/Rd Trip to Boston:  
 Individual Tours of Boston: More info soon.  
 Sat: 8 Oct: Time: 0900, Memorial Ceremony  
 Rogers Field (Flag Pole), Tandem Jumps:  
 Roger Field or Pepperell, MA, Fannie  
 (Skydive MA), Free Day, on your own, scout  
 your old stomping grounds.  
 Sun: 9 Oct: The Initial NFL Boston Patriots  
 Game has been cancelled, no tickets. Need  
 suggestions on what would you like to do!!  
 A list will be provided of churches in the area  
 for those that desire to attend that day.  
 Continuation of Tandem Jumps (Alternate  
 Rain Day) or both days if sufficient numbers  
 want to jump.  
 Mon: 10 Oct: Depart.  
 Contact: Gary L Baura, [freefallgb@aol.com](mailto:freefallgb@aol.com)

**Forwarded From SFA National HQ's:**  
 Camp Mackall Chapter Coin Fundraiser  
 Jack,

I was very encouraged by the response at our Chapter meeting. This is looking like a very promising fundraiser to help develop our chapter site at Camp Mackall. We have pre-orders for more than 1/3 of the initial serialized run of 100 coins.

We should open up pre-orders to our brothers from other SFA chapters. Anyone wishing to reserve a coin should send an email to me at [keith@keithrutledge.biz](mailto:keith@keithrutledge.biz). I will then send them a Paypal invoice via email. My phone number is [864 404 0972](tel:8644040972) if anyone has questions.

**The Camp Mackall Chapter Coin**  
 Chapter VI (The Camp Mackall Chapter) of the Special Forces Association is producing a coin commemorating its move to Camp Mackall.

The chapter home is located on Camp Mackall. Chapter VI is developing the chapter site. We look forward to hosting our brothers for the 2017 convention at Fort Bragg.

**Coin Fundraiser.** Chapter VI is selling a limited number of serial numbered coins (001 to 100) as a fundraiser to support site development. These unique coins can

be purchased as part of a package (see the details inside).



These are pewter finish “dog tag” coins (**not** bronze as shown in the preliminary image in this email). On the front is the SFA logo over OSS Jedburgh SF wings with “Special Forces Association” above and “Chapter VI” below. The three digit serial number will be centered between the SFA logo and “Chapter VI”.

The back has an image of FOB Chapter VI (FOBC6). This is the Chapter VI cabin on the Camp Mackall site. The cabin image is surrounded by a field of flashes. Above the cabin is the chapter name (“Camp Mackall Chapter”) and below is the phrase “Where It All Begins”.

**Selection Donor -** For a \$120.00 Dollar donation, the Selection donor will receive one of the new serialized coins and certificate, an existing Chapter VI coin, and an invitation to be the guest of Chapter VI for a meeting at the site. Donors will be listed on a commemorative plaque on the site.

**Full Flash -** For \$250, the Full Flash donor will receive all of the benefits and they will also receive an invitation to come to a Chapter VI Robin Sage graduation event.

This includes a tour of Camp Mackall, participation in the graduation, lunch with the graduating students, and accommodation on the site for the weekend.

A Team - For \$500, you receive everything above and a personal briefing by Mackall staff, and a representative from SWC and Regiment.

B Team – For \$1,000, you receive everything above and you can stay at the Chapter VI site during the 2017 convention. A daily breakfast, dinner, and shuttle to and from the convention site at Fort Bragg will be provided for C Team package purchasers. This package is limited to available lodging. B and C Team purchasers will be memorialized on a plaque on the site.

C Team - Corporate members donating \$5000+ receive a black marble plaque acknowledging their contribution, three each of the coins, and an invitation to hold one meeting at FOB6 for up to ten members. This function can happen in conjunction with a Chapter VI meeting or as a standalone retreat with Chapter VI volunteers providing support. Each multiple of \$5000 will entitle the donor to an additional 10 members, or an additional retreat.

Your Purchase of a Coin Package Supports: Chapter VI has five main projects underway at the Camp Mackall site. The coin donations will primarily support the construction of the pavilion and the cabin revitalization.

Keith Rutledge, [864 404 0972](tel:8644040972),  
[keith@keithrutledge.biz](mailto:keith@keithrutledge.biz)

**From Chapter 38:** On 21 May, 5<sup>th</sup>, To All SF'ers, 5th Group Reunion Updates.

Chapter 38 website updates include the 5th Group Reunion 2016 tentative information, downloadable registration form in PDF format, and an RSVP link to get a head count of those planning to attend. POC for this message is Steve (Da Rock) Stone, (270) 881-8226 or [steve@sfa38.org](mailto:steve@sfa38.org) .  
Very Respectfully, Stephen C. Stone,  
Webmaster, Chapter 38, SFA

Anticipate this year's 5th Group Reunion to be conducted from 19 through 24 September 2016. The Chapter and the Unit are still planning so continue to monitor this site for any changes. The Chapter 38 website is:  
<http://www.sfa38.org/sfa38/index.php/5th-group-reunion>

**From John Anderson:** A you tube video reading the poem A Soldier Died Today:  
[https://www.youtube.com/embed/eEs4ke7cdNQ?feature=player\\_detailpage%25](https://www.youtube.com/embed/eEs4ke7cdNQ?feature=player_detailpage%25)

**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](mailto: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](http://www.facebook.com/sfachapterXX)