

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

# *The "20/20" Flash*

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**June 2019**

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

The next Chapter meeting is at 7pm, on

**Tues, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019,**

at the

**Cherokee Tavern,**

886 Smith Ave S, West St Paul.

Great Environment. They have great food with a full menu with a Tuesday Night Special— incredible hamburgers.

Parking can be a problem, but look behind the Cherokee Tavern. While the alley is usually filled, after 5pm you can park in the Cherokee Dental parking lot.

I plan to be there early for dinner, about 6 pm. Some folks show up early and socialize until the meeting. Some folks just come to the meeting. Either way, come on out and enjoy the evening.

### **Upcoming Activities:**

The correct date for the

**Two Harbors Heritage  
Days Parade**

is **Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>.**

We will begin with a barbecue on Friday afternoon, with a pancake breakfast Saturday morning at the Volunteer Fire Department. We will move to the parade

rally point at about 11:30 and the parade begins at 1 pm.

**All Airborne Days,**

some time in August, will be a very informal activity. More information to follow

**Brunch with Babs:**

Babs Komac will have a Australian friend of her's and Eddy's, Tom Yoe, is coming to Minnesota in September and Babs will be a brunch for him and his wife on September 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> (Saturday or Sunday.)

Babs has invited the Chapter to the brunch (along with Eddy's VVA Chapter) and she is looking for a headcount of guys and gals who are interested.

Babs said Eddy went to see Tom in Australia three times, including one time marching in the ANZAC Parade, and that this would be so special for Tom, giving him a chance to meet you guys and trade war stories.

More information to follow.

**Monthly Activities:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the Month: Chapter XX, SF Association Meeting.

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month: **Ranger** Breakfast at the Perkins on Lyndale in Bloomington, at 10 am. An informal gathering and all are invited.

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month:  
**Chapter XV, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade** is held somewhere, they had to change meeting locations. Just drive around for a while—you will find it. They might be moving their meetings to the Cherokee Tavern. More info to follow.

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month: **Midwest All Airborne Alliance** at the Richfield American Legion, 6501 Portland Avenue South, Richfield.

In support of Minnesota's Airborne and Veterans Groups, we invite all interested folks to receive a copy of this Newsletter. To support those Airborne folks, we do include information from those groups in this letter.

#### **After Action Reports: Meeting Minutes:**

The May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Chapter Business

Meeting started at 7pm. Members present at the meeting were:

Jerry Carlson	Tiffany Kovaleski
Doug Bekke	Dave Turner
Mike McIlheny	Scott Walker
Bob Pike	Dan Kaiser
Doug Hughes	

Doug Bekke spoke for a few minutes on getting participation up at Chapter activities. [Someone (I don't remember who, or when, or where) made a distinction between folks attending the monthly business meeting—not a big attention grabber—and activities with a purpose.] Doug mentioned the Heritage Arms group that he belongs to and some of the activities that they do, and the number of folks that come in for the events.

Having events that are interesting to the Chapter members and getting the word out to folks is the important considerations.

Mike introduced Tiffany Kovaleski to the group. Tiffany is involved Minnesota Medal Of Honor Memorial and she spoke on their progress toward the construction of the Memorial.

The Memorial will be constructed on the State Capital Grounds by the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Building. The projected cost are 750,000 and they have raised over 70% of the costs. [I was

on their website (goggle MN Medal of Honor Memorial) but I could not get the hyperlink to imbed in this text.]

We decided to not have a "Jumping With the Best" tandem jump this year.

Bob mentioned that at the SFA Certificate for Excellence presentation, at the Washington Magnet School in St. Paul, he was invited to present more certificates at other JROTC programs in the area. Bob was willing to look into what other schools/programs are in the area and that he will let us know at the next meeting.

We talked about Brunch with Babs but we did not get any work done on it. Look for more information on it at the next meeting.

There being no further business that we could remember, like, oh maybe approving minutes from the last meeting—for example, we adjourned the meeting

#### **AAR: Memorial Day at Fort Snelling: an email from Ron.**

I attended the Memorial Day commemoration at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery on Monday, 27 May. It started out raining and continued to rain during the entire ceremony. We met at the Airborne Circle at about 9 am. Scott Walker from the CAVWV - Coalition of Allied Vietnam War Veterans coordinated the activities.

The American Veterans assembled presented a replacement Bronze Star with V device to Army of the Republic of Vietnam to Commander Dien Hoang, which he received in 1969 from the United States Army for exceptional bravery during a battle near the City of Tam Ky in Quang Tin Military District, Quang Ngai Province, I Corp where he saved the life of a United States Officer. He lost his original medal while evacuating his country during the Communist invasion of South Vietnam on April 30, 1975. Trudell Guerue, a former captain with the 173rd Abn Brigade made the presentation. Senator Klobuchar's office is seeking the official medal and certificate for him.

A short prayer service and wreath-laying ceremony at the Special Operations Monument preceded the presentation.

From the Airborne Circle we marched down to the main ceremony area and were joined by other SE Asians and then we passed in review with other groups before the dignitaries, including Governor Walz and Senator Klobuchar. A representation of the Tomb of the Unknown was located center stage just below the dais with ceremonial guards standing at attention during the entire ceremony.

The 34th Division Infantry band provided patriotic music to honor each military branch of service and we also heard a presentation of the Gettysburg Address by an Abraham Lincoln re-enactor.

There were a couple of other high power speakers, but I lost my program in the rain. During the entire time we sat in the rain. Good thing umbrellas (And Goretex!) were invented.

Lesson Learned: Do not sit behind someone with an umbrella. The water runs off their umbrella onto your knees.

After the ceremony, Scott and I went up and gave wet and chilly handshakes to Gov. Walz and Senator Klobuchar and then thanked the band for their music.

I went to the Richfield American Legion #435 and had some beans, weanies and chips and then took part in a firing party to raise the flag. With the rain still coming down I decided to go home after a fulfilling day of remembrance.

I remembered last year when it was so darn hot, so this rain wasn't so bad and did not deter a lot of people from showing up at Ft. Snelling. A big thanks should go out to the organization (I forgot which one.) that put a flag on each of the over 230,000 graves and to the maintenance staff for setting up the venue, raising the flags at the Airborne Circle and generally make the cemetery such an attractive place to visit and contemplate those who rest there.

DOL, Ron

**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/sfchapterXX](http://www.facebook.com/sfchapterXX)

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.

**Also From Ron:** I hope this e-mail gives your day a smile. Enjoy and have a nice day.

I changed my car horn to gunshot sounds. People get out of the way much faster now.

Gone are the days when girls used to cook like their mothers. Now they drink like their fathers.

I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes five years in a row.

I decided to stop calling the bathroom the "John" and renamed it the "Jim". I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.

When I was a child I thought "Nap Time" was a punishment. Now, as a grownup, it feels like a small vacation.

The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."

Of course I talk to myself. Sometimes I need expert advice.

Actually I'm not complaining because I am a Senager. (Senior teenager) I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's license and my own car. The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant. And I don't have acne. Life is great.

