

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, Sep 5th, 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.

The United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) History Office has sent copies of *Veritas*, the "Journal of Army Special Operations History" to the Chapter and I will have them available at the Chapter business meeting. This quarter's articles include Special Action Force in ASIA, ARSOF in Vietnam, MISTF-C in Operation Inherent Resolve [PSYOPs], The Good 'Ole' Days of Special Forces—Marginalized Before JFK, and more.

Upcoming Activities:

Skydive for Vets: is scheduled for
Saturday, Sep 9th, 2017
with a weather back-up day of Sunday, September 10th.

We will be using the Skydive Twin Cities Drop Zone in Baldwin, Wisconsin (about 30 minutes into Wisconsin on I-94.)

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 August 1st Business Meeting: Folks who were able to attend the meeting:

Jim Behr	Bob Pike
Bridget Cronin	Sevieng Suparat
Ron Lachelt	Dan Kaiser

Bob made a motion to accept the June Meeting Minutes, as published in the July Newsletters. Bridget seconded the motion and it was carried. Dan noted that there was no July Meeting, so there are no Meeting Minutes for July.

There was no Financial Report.

On Old Business: We talked about the Skydiving For Vets. If you receive this Newsletter then you qualify for the \$169.00 price, just let Bob know when you make your reservations. We will re-do the flyer to show

Ars Bellum as the event co-host and Super America as a sponsor. We are planning on having yard games at the jump, with a goal of entertaining kids.

The conversation rolled into reasons for fundraising. Money raised will support covering cost for young disabled vets to jump, covering Christmas Dinner costs for senior vets and the Color Guard, and provide money for scholarships.

We then talked about Fort Snelling National Cemetery Memorial Stones Dedication on August 19th.

We covered the AAR on the Two Harbors Heritage Days Parade. While it was covered in the last Newsletter, we agreed it was a great time for all those folks that could attend.

Under new business we discussed the Highway 52 Bridge dedication for Ranger Ben Kopp in Rosemount.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:10 pm.

Midwest All Airborne Days: From Ron Lachelt: The Midwest All-Airborne Alliance Final Memorial Stone Dedication was held at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery on Saturday, August 19th. The weather was beautiful and there were about 50 people in attendance. Bob Pike, Jim Behr, Matt Marasch and Ron Lachelt represented Chapter XX SFA.

The final 6 of the 30 stones represented Airborne Pathfinders, Armor, Artillery, and Arctic units. The other two stones were dedicated to the 82nd and 173rd Airborne for their efforts in the Global War on Terror.

At 1000 hours, Trudell Guerue and Brad Nichols provided the welcoming remarks. Jack Running gave the invocation. US. Colors were posted, followed by the Royal Lao Colors represented SE Asian War Veterans.

Various Airborne veterans did the unveiling of the six monuments. John Knapp, Deputy Director of the Fort Snelling National Cemetery accepted the monuments on behalf of the cemetery and made a

wonderful speech honoring the Airborne veterans and the 21 years of effort by the Midwest All-Airborne Alliance in making the Airborne Circle a reality. A rifle salute followed his remarks and Taps were played. A few final remarks and the ceremony was concluded. Flags were folded and put away.

A special thanks goes to Ed White, and the entire Grounds Maintenance Crew of the Ft. Snelling National Cemetery, Twin City Monuments, and to Ken Otto and Dustin Lundgren of K & D Markers and Monuments. In addition, a thank you to KSTP Channel 5 for providing TV coverage of the event, shown on the 6pm and 10pm newscasts. We adjourned to the Richfield American Legion Post 435 for a great lunch and held a small Prop Blast party.

This event has been a long time coming and started out as just a vision 21 years ago. The final monuments are finally installed commemorating the spirit and sacrifice of the Airborne.

From Scott Walker: Good news, House Resolution 491 was introduced in Congress last week. I believe it to be the identical language that passed the Asia and Pacific Sub committee of the US House Foreign Affairs Committee last session. Please distribute it widely and begin contacting your congressmen.

The resolution reads:

A resolution affirming and recognizing the Khmer, Laotian, Hmong, and the other ethnic groups commonly referred to as Montagnards of Cambodia and Laos who supported and defended the United States Armed Forces and freedom in Southeast Asia.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JULY 28, 2017, Mr. Duffy (for himself, Mr. Grothman, and Mr. Perlmutter) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

RESOLUTION

A resolution affirming and recognizing the

Khmer, Laotian, Hmong, and the other ethnic groups commonly referred to as Montagnards of Cambodia and Laos who supported and defended the United States Armed Forces and freedom in Southeast Asia.

Whereas many Khmer, Laotian, Hmong, and Montagnards—(1) fought and died with the United States Armed Forces during the conflict in Southeast Asia; (2) rescued United States pilots shot down in enemy-controlled territory and returned the pilots to safety (3) captured and destroyed enemy supplies and pre-vented enemy forces from using the supplies to kill members of the United States Armed Forces; (4) gathered and provided to the United States Armed Forces intelligence about enemy troop positions, movement, and strength; and (5) provided food, shelter, and support to the United States Armed Forces; and

Whereas the National Armed Forces of Cambodia facilitated the evacuation of the United States Embassy in Phnom Penh on April 12, 1975, by continuing to fight Khmer Rouge forces as they advanced upon the capital:

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the House of Representatives affirms and recognizes these Khmer, Laotian, Hmong, and Montagnard people of Cambodia and Laos for their support and defense of the United States Armed Forces and freedom in

Southeast Asia.

From SFA HQ's: 15 September is National MIA-POW Recognition Day. Several states have issued proclamations recognizing the day. Note the following site for some of the festivities that will take place:

<http://www.theridehome.com>

Cliff Newman

Executive Director

Special Forces Association

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

On The Ben Kopp Memorial Bridge

Dedication: From Tom E.: I sent a few photos, there are more on Facebook.

Jack Running, Noel Johnson, Al Porter, and I posted Colors at the beginning of the Dedication Ceremony for Corporal Benjamin Kopp Bridge in Rosemount, MN.

It is the first Bridge in MN dedicated to a fallen soldier.

All for now, Tom E.

