

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:**

We will not have the October Business meeting. At this point, being a teacher in the "age of covid," with school starting, and trying to close up my father's cabin (he is 88 this year) when no one else is available, I am so far behind that my goal for this newsletter is simply to keep the lines of communications open.

Which means, I am getting out the shortest and most basic newsletter that I have ever done. Heck: I have had conversations with myself that have lasted longer than this newsletter will.

I have not contacted anyone to see if we want to try a meeting in October, or not. Last month, while emailing about a meeting, the feelings were pretty clear about waiting until more of society is functioning and the coronavirus concerns had started waning.

I am still game for a meeting in November. And it would be on election day. Hopefully, we will be able to get together soon.

I believe that I can speak for Ron (the Chapter President) when I say that we hope you are staying safe, that all is going as well as possible, and that we are counting the days until we can once again meet as families, friends, communities, the Airborne, and as Chapter XX and the Special Forces Association.

**Monthly Activities:** Editorially, check with the separate groups on the status of their meetings.

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

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month, 9:30 am, the **Ranger** Breakfast at the Perkins on Lyndale in Bloomington. An informal gathering and all are invited.

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month, 7:30 pm: **Chapter XV, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade** is now held at the Richfield Veterans Park, near the parking lot for the pavilion (or in the pavilion) at 6 pm. Veterans Park is just north of the Richfield American Legion.

I have no current information on the **Midwest All Airborne Alliance**.

**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).

**The Chapter Facebook page:** is located at [www.facebook.com/sfachapterXX](http://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.

**From Ole Olson:** Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated, but they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the

Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton. At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished.

So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4th of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid.

Remember: freedom is never free!



