

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

## *The "20/20" Flash*

President: Rick Pieper  
president@sfaxx.org  
Vice President: Jeff Arnold  
(952) 920-0549; vpresident@sfaxx.org

**April 2009**

425 3rd Street West  
Winthrop, MN 55396

Secretary/Editor: Dan Kaiser  
(507) 647-3526; secretary@sfaxx.org  
Treasurer: Matt Mittlyng  
treasurer@sfaxx.org

**Member Info:** We mentioned **Olaf** in the last Newsletter, look in the Meeting Minutes, it's in there. And yes, I did finally add him to the email list.

We have also added **Derek** to the mailing list. We met Derek at the Lunch for the Minnesota Bi-Annual Community Based Warrior Transition Unit Get Together (Wounded Warrior), discussed later in the AAR section.

Derek was in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division and served in Iraq (if I remember correctly.) He was quite the upbeat young soldier and he seemed to like the idea of getting together with the Airborne folks.

We have also added **Craig** to the mailing list. We also met Craig at the Lunch for the Wounded Warriors. Craig is with the Minnesota National Guard Civil Affairs company.

He and Kerry talked hunting and fishing. Craig is with a group whose goal is to help Veterans get out and enjoy hunting and fishing more. We will get you more details as we get them.

And, last but not least, we have also added **Rick** to our mailing list. We also met Rick at the Lunch for the Wounded Warriors. Rick is also an 82<sup>nd</sup> guy, assigned to the 307<sup>th</sup> Med Battalion at Fort Bragg from 1983 to 1989, and then in Vicenza with the 3/325 from 1989 to 1982. Rick is currently a DAV Claims Rep and he works, in some way, with John.

### The Next Chapter Business Meeting:

The next business meeting is at the

## **Glockenspiel Restaurant Tues, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**

The Meeting starts at **7:00** pm.

Some folks show up early for dinner, about 6:15. Some folks show up early and socialize until the meeting. Some folks just come to the meeting. Anyway you can make it, we would love to see you there. (And you don't have to be a Chapter member to attend the meeting.)

See the inset box on the next page for agenda items.

### Upcoming Events/ Activities: The May 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Freefall Blast.** Tricia and a handful of other folks (including her dad, Kerry (who did get clearance from his doctor), Tricia's two brothers, Babs, and the 173<sup>rd</sup> is sponsoring their favorite waitress from their meeting location) are planning on making their first freefall jumps on May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Baldwin, Wisconsin. There is more information in the projects section of this Newsletter.

**World War II History Round Table** "The Glider Operations in World War II" featuring veterans of the Glider Units of 82d and 101st Airborne Divisions is on May 14th. The Round

Table meets in the Historic Fort Snelling Visitor Center at 7pm.

**The Two Harbors Heritage Days Parade** is Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars and plan your summer. Hotels in the area are:

The Americinn of Two Harbors,  
218-834-3000

Country Inn of TH 834-5557

Superior Shores 834 5671

Voyageur Motel 834 3644

or Viking Motel 834-2645

Make your reservations early and info will start appearing in the Projects section. (Soon. Really, soon.)

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Group Reunion** will be June 16<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>, hosted by Chapter IX in El Paso, Texas.

#### After Action Reviews:

#### **The Chapter March Business Meeting:**

The Meeting was called to order at 7 pm on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009. Present at the meeting were:

Steve John R

Jeff John S

Bill Art

Doug Bud

Laurie Jack

Ed Trudell

Ron Dan

and Cindy, Kerry, Tricia, and Josh.

John made a motion to accept the February Meeting Minutes, as published in the March Chapter Newsletter.

We did a short AAR on the Corrigedor Dinner: had a great time, wish you were there. (Seriously, it was a great time and we would have loved to see you there.)

John talked about the Wounded Warrior Lunch on March 15<sup>th</sup>. He provided directions.

We talked about the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Jump. Someone said get a map in the newsletter.

(Look in the projects section. You can also check the web [www.skydivetwincities.com](http://www.skydivetwincities.com))

Doug talked about the Chapter Website. One of Doug's goal, and I support it, is to have a place where folks can go see who else is in the Chapter.

### Meeting Agenda Items

- Discuss Upcoming events (The Baldwin Jump)
- AAR's (Lunch with Warriors)
- Reports from Midwest All Airborne Alliance meeting
- See if anyone knows the latest info on the CSOR Prop Blast Mug.
- Discuss the Chapter's position on promoting SF (Art's idea.)
- See who can represent the Chapter at the next SFA Convention
- Discuss Chapter's position on changing Membership stuff
- Bug Jeff about the Kenneth bio for the Christmas Dinner program.
- See if Dan's plans for visiting the four corners of the State have come to anything
- Collect Bio's for the Chapter Website
- Close election nominations

The phone tree

We want folks who can not normally attend meetings or activities to be able to get a look at other Chapter members. If those folks can make an event, then hopefully they will feel a little more at home because they can recognize some faces.

To support this we are putting biographies in "Members Only" section of the website. The bio's are a start, including pictures.

Doug provided paper copies of biography forms for the website. You can go to the website, and under the "Forms" button you will find the biography forms. More information to follow.

Art was given the floor to discuss the Chapter position with regard to SFA Constitution, ARTICLE III (Purpose), subparagraph A., "To educate members

and the public regarding the history, present contributions and future development of US Army Special Forces (consistent with US security regulations)."

Art wonders what the Chapter is doing to support this goal and what else we can do. (My words, not his.)

[Art and I first talked about this at the Corrigedor Dinner. I asked Art to type up a letter, as a way to get the ball rolling. I liked the letter so much I am copying it right into the Newsletter.]

Art spoke briefly about his thoughts and then introduced his letter: "Before our new president makes long term plans to engage the Taliban in Afghanistan and Pakistan he should consider using Special Forces strategy as well as their tactics. Special Forces Warfare and its effectiveness are not well known because it is not capital intense and our armed forces have been taken over by the military-industrial complex that President and General Eisenhower warned us about more than 50 years ago.

"An example of how this affects American security is in the tactical use of missiles launched off shore to kill Taliban that allows for some collateral damage. If I was the grandfather of a collateral victim I would devote the rest of my life to making those responsible regret their inhumanity. Who would that be? Americans? How would they ever know I am the enemy? How much damage could I do before they would discover who I am?

"What will be the response of the victims father, brother, uncle and friends? It is impossible to win the countryside by being the bigger thug.

"Special Forces Warfare strategy is based on the premise that people do not want to be oppressed. That most everyone believes they are "endowed by their creator---with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" and that they will fight to insure these rights.

"Special Forces strategy provides the form for normally peaceful people to communicate and coordinate their defense and the training for them to be successful. A score of the dead or a favorable balance of destruction does not win a war.

"A war is won by which side has hope over which side does not. The Special Forces approach gives people hope.

"Art Videen"

### The Chapter Phone Tree

Get on the Chapter Phone Tree today by calling Tricia at (C) 612-807-6281

[After pondering Art's letter, and doing a little accidental research, I will recommend to the Chapter that we ask for a volunteer to research and identify SFA National HQ's position on Article III. (What they do, supporting or intermediate goals, guidance to Chapters, what other Chapters are doing, and interaction with SF Command, etc.)

[My rationale: I have been out of the loop for almost ten years and I have no detailed idea of what anybody is doing to sell SF to the general populace or to Congressional members. Let's collect some of that information and then formulate some kind of a plan. DK.]

We talked about summer plans in only vague terms: Two Harbors and Ron's info on the Jon Krancich Memorial Ride.

Laurie (or Cindy) was given the floor to talk about the induction of the First Special Service Force into the Special Forces Regiment as a Distinguished Member. You can read about it later in this Newsletter.

Bill was given the floor and he told us that he would be willing to serve as the Chapter Representative to the Midwest All Airborne Meetings. The Chapter gratefully accepted his offer. Thanks again Bill.

The last topic of the night was the Chapter elections. The overall plan:

- open nominations,
- post nominations in the Newsletter,
- keep nominations open until the end of April's meeting,
- publish the final slate of officers in the May's Newsletter,
- include some form of a mail-in-ballot in the May Newsletter,
- and vote at the May Monthly Business Meeting.

Nominations were opened. The following nominations were made: (Position Nomine Who made the nomination)

Treasurer	Matt Mitlyng	John R
Secretary	Dan Kaiser	John S
Vice Pres	John Stepan	Jeff A
President	Rick Pieper	Ron L

Other nominations will be accepted until this Tuesday at the close of the April Monthly Business meeting.

Dan and John have accepted their nominations. We expect Matt will accept his nomination. Hopefully Rick will accept his nomination.

Jeff was asked to serve as the Teller Committee for any ballots that are mailed in.

There being no further business we closed the meeting at 7:40 pm.

**Lunch at the Minnesota Bi-Annual Community Based Warrior Transition Unit Get Together** was Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am, at Century College, near the northeast corner of I-694. (Photos are posted at the Chapter website [www.sfa20.org](http://www.sfa20.org))

The Patriot Guard's Freedom Riders, 25 to 30 of them—each with an American Flag, were posted along the sidewalk, from the parking lot to the doors. They greeted folks and opened the doors to the building.

Soldiers and Minnesota National Guard folks checked in at desk and we just slipped by, out of the way. John was there, in his role as a VA-kind-of-guy. Jeff, Doug (with camera), Rich, Cindy, Kerry, Tricia, Josh, John and Pat, and Dan were able to make it up for the event.

Dana was the first speaker and he gave a heck of a presentation. After his spiel, and a short break, our group moved out of the way so the MN NG could do more briefings, including a section with a Bald Eagle, see the website pictures.

After Dana finished with his mingling, and talking to KSTP TV, he joined us and we had a pretty good talk in a small SF/Airborne group.

After a while we split up to get lunch. Dan and Rich got the sandwiches from Subway. (Rich made a second trip for plates and stuff, thanks again.) John S. went to the local Sam's for chips and drinks. Cindy brought in her brownies for a dessert (and they were delicious.) The ladies set up the tables and helped serve the food.

Thanks to Doug for taking pictures and to everyone for coming out to help. Again, check out the website [www.sfa20.org](http://www.sfa20.org). After lunch we all pretty much hit the road so the soldiers could finish up their briefings.

Editorially, the most impressive thing about the morning was how positive and upbeat the Wounded Warriors are. The folks who I talked with were focused on moving ahead and making the most of life. God Bless 'em all.

#### **FROM AROUND THE CHAPTER AND SFA:**

**From Laurie:** forward of a letter on the April 22<sup>nd</sup> ceremony for the FSSF. Extracts of the letter from the Office of the Commanding General, United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, dated 19 February 2009, to Bill, First Special Service Force Association:

Dear Mr. [Bill]:

It is my distinct pleasure to inform you the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, in conjunction with the United States Army Special Forces Command, intends to honor the patriotism and extraordinary

service of the First Special Service Force to our country by inducting it as a Distinguished Member of the Regiment.

### **Fund Raising for the "Triple Nickel" 555 Parachute Infantry Regiment Memorial Stone**

In the Airborne Circle at  
Fort National Cemetery

Under the auspices of the Midwest All Airborne Alliance, Chapter XX is raising money to help pay for the Triple Nickel Memorial Stone.

Contributions can be sent to the Chapter, in care of Matt Mitlyng at 3759 Tower Pond Road, Anoka, MN 55303-8308.

Please mark the memo line of your check with some form of "555" donation.

The induction as a Distinguished Member of the Regiment is a significant event designed to recognize a select few who epitomize the professionalism, selfless service and commitment to excellence which are the hallmark of Special Forces. As one of the three units from which Special Forces draws its lineage – the First Special Service Force, the Office of Strategic Services, and the Alamo Scouts – it is only fitting the Force, and therefore by proxy the men of the Force, be inducted.

We are planning this presentation during the formal banquet to close out the 2009 Special Forces Symposium. The dinner is scheduled on Wednesday evening, the twenty-second of April at the Crown Center, Fayetteville, North Carolina. I extend this invitation to you on behalf of the Force. If your schedule permits, we would be honored to have you and as many surviving Forcemen attend so we can formally make this presentation to you.

On behalf of a grateful Nation and the Special Forces Regiment, I thank you for your service and unyielding commitment to this Nation.

Sincerely, T.C.

The Project Officer is Major Brian. He sent a follow up email to Laurie. The very condensed version:

FSSF, OSS, and Alamo Scouts can get reimbursed for travel. Contact your Association Representatives for coordination. (And, of course, Brian then added they could contact him directly if they had to.) Each vet that comes may bring a spouse or an assistant, at the government's cost, if it is required for medical reasons.

**From SFA National HQ's:** SFA National HQ's sent a speech by BG Sacolick, Deputy Commanding General, USAJFKSWCS. BG Sacolick gave the speech as the Commencement address for the recent SFQC graduation ceremony, Class 242. His theme was "What's so Special about Special Forces". This is an excellent read.

The speech is on our Chapter Website.

**And:** The Commanding General USAJFKSWCS has re-instituted the Sale of the Yarborough Knife to SF who have not previously purchased a knife or not issued on after graduating SFQC (2000 & Later.) Memorandum attached for anyone interested. DE Oppresso Liber, Mel, Secretary  
[Editorially: I will get the memorandum to Doug for posting on the Chapter Website. DK]

**On Changing SFA Membership Criteria:** Bill extracted the following from the February 11<sup>th</sup> National Board of Officers Meeting Minutes and emailed it around:

“3) New Business

“a) Chapter 1-18 President addressed the Board regarding comments made to him by Chapter member. The basic recommendation was to eliminate associate members from the Association; change decade membership to reflect time in SF, eliminating the SFA time from being considered in determining decade status; eliminate life membership for all but decade members. The President accepted the recommendations stating that these issues would be discussed at the Presidents meeting at the SFA Convention.”

Bill added: These proposals seem to raise more questions than they answer: Mainly, what happens to current Associate Members, what happens to current Decade Members who have less than 10 years team time, what happens to current Decade Life Members who have less than 10 years team time, what happens to current General Life Members, what happens to current Associate Life Members, and what happens to widows and orphans?

It would also seem that for these proposals to progress, they would have to be posed as Constitution Amendments. Very Respectfully, Bill, SFA Ch. 38.

In a follow up email that Bill forwarded: SFA President Ron has notified me that Chapter 1-18's proposals (to eliminate

Associate Members, eliminate Life Membership for General Members, and eliminate SFA qualifying time for Decade Members) will be on the agenda for the National Convention.

Bill then asked that “your Chapter Reps be prepared to discuss your Chapter's position at the Convention.”

The ensuing emails then highlighted responses, including five Chapter Presidents and three Chapter POC's, all of whom believed the vast majority of Chapter members would also be against this idea.

**Mark** is the Special Forces Association Treasurer and he has been tasked by the SFA President to be a POC for our Chapter to National.

[Editorially, as a synopsis, and in my words, not his: you, as SFA members, can contact your Chapter or SFA National for whatever concerns you might have. If you can channel them through your Chapter, that would be great. Chapters can contact SFA National HQ's, but if we channel stuff through Mark, when appropriate, that would be great.

[Mark, for his part will push info down to the Chapter (meaning: he emails me) and I will get it sent out to as many places and faces as possible.

[If anybody wants the complete emails forwarded to them, just let me know, otherwise I will forward, edit, and cut and paste as time and poor management skills dictate. DK.]

Some of the stuff Mark has sent:

Please encourage your members to sign up on the official website at [www.specialforcesassociation.org](http://www.specialforcesassociation.org) to keep themselves up to date on SFA activities, as well as to contribute to the discussions, etc.

From the SFA President's Monthly Newsletter, January 29, 2009: The 2009 Convention will be here soon and we need everyone possible to support Chapter 51 for this event. There are numerous conventions going during the month of June and I know money will be tight, but if you can support them please do so. If you want to discuss any issues with National or bring them up at the

convention, the issue needs to be submitted through your Chapter President so we can put on the agenda.

And: On the 2009 Convention. If your members have any issues that you would like put on the agenda, they **MUST** be received by National HQs 60 days prior to the Convention!!! That means by the 7th of April!

Philip Neri Nominations: As reported in the Drop we are accepting nominations for Philip Neri Awards 2009. Deadline for submission: all nominations must be received by the 28 February 2009 to be considered. See Winter Drop page 19 for instructions. Any member may nominate another member.

Member/Associate Member of the Year awards: Nominations for member/associate member of the year are now being accepted. When considering a member for nomination the award goes beyond what a member does at that chapter although is part of the consideration. What has the member done for the SFA as an organization, for the SF community, and representing the Association locally. Nominations must be received by 30 April 2009 to be considered. Awardees will be selected by the Board of Officers and awards presented at the General Membership Meeting at the 2009 convention. Any member may nominate another member.

SFA Governing Documents, Policies & Procedures: Have been posted to the member forums for download. The documents supercede the Presidents handbook issued in 2006 (the handbook should be discarded). Please let your members know the documents have been posted for reading. <http://www.specialforcesassociation.org>.

Web site: we will be working on updating/improving the public area and other aspects of the web site in 2009. A few members have said the site is difficult to navigate but have not provided any specifics as to why they think so. If you have any ideas or suggestions now is the time to submit them. Please be specific. Your input is appreciated.

**From Bill**, Fwd: Friends, If you would like to know what the Boston Chapter of the Special Forces Association is up to, you can access our web page at [www.sfob54.org](http://www.sfob54.org)  
De Oppresso Liber, Bob, President, Chapter 54, SFA

**The Chapter 33** Winter Quarter Newsletter is on the web at <http://chapterxxxiii.sfsarge.com/>  
Click on "Newsletter," then "Winter Quarter 2009 Newsletter" and enjoy reading it.

### **PROJECTS:**

**The Kenneth Worthley Bio:** Jeff is the guy working on researching Ken's military history for a biography of Ken.

**The May 2<sup>nd</sup> Freefall Blast.** Six folks are planning on making their first freefall jumps on May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Baldwin, Wisconsin, including the birthday girl, Tricia, her dad Kerry, and her brothers. Babs is planning on jumping and the 173<sup>rd</sup> is sponsoring their favorite waitress (from the restaurant where the meet.)

The place has a pavilion with gas grills and John is coordinating that end of it. We will be having a BBQ picnic as part of the activities. I presume it will be one of those bring-something deals but I don't know for sure yet. More details as we get them.

John will be asking for RSVP's for the picnic, so if you can let him know at 612-308-5723. If you want to jump, then you can also call John. The tandem jump costs around \$200.00 and if you want the jump videotaped, the will cost another \$100.00. (The video is well worth it, you can ask my daughter.)

The mailed copy of the Newsletter had a strip map from a brochure pasted in here. Those of you living in the 21<sup>st</sup> century probably could have down loaded some graphic, or did some computer magic, and, poof, the strip might have been in this emailed version of the newsletter.

Me? Here in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, I am just happy that I found that dang brochure.

Directions: From the Twin Cities, head east on Interstate 94. At Exit 16, head north.

Just as you get to the outskirts of town (you will able to tell, there is a big sheet-metal-type-of-building on the east/right-hand side of the road—and small town America is just beyond that), turn east/left. Go past a couple of cow pastures and watch for cars, trucks, a windsock, an airplane, and/or parachutists.

If you hit Lake Michigan then go have gone way, way, way, to far. Turn around and go back.

### **The Jon Krancich Memorial Ride.**

Since I have failed miserably to email Ron and ask him to update this section as appropriate, this sentence now becomes my stop-gap attempt to try and get this section updated. (And if this section is updated, I am willing to bet it will be because of Ron reading the dang Newsletter—as compared to me getting on the ball, go figure.)

**Background:** Jon was killed in Afghanistan by a suicide bomber in Dec of 2006. Last year we went to Sturgis, the week before the big Sturgis stuff, and it was great, no long lines, but yet we could still experience Sturgis without the crowds.

**WHO:** Past and present Rangers, SF and friends of those throughout the years, wives and girlfriends are also invited.

**WHAT:** Rides (Devils Tower, Mount Rushmore, Sturgis, Lead and Deadwood, Hot Springs, Needles, Crazy Horse, etc.) and Campfire get together.

**WHERE:** Chris' Camp, 701 Christenson Drive, Spearfish SD (1-800-350-2239), the campground has sites for tents or full hookups for the big rigs, it also has two shower houses, and a pool.

**WHEN:** July 25th 2009 through the morning of August 2nd, 2009

**WHY:** To remember fallen brothers, reconnect with old friends and make new ones.

**Sometimes how:** You don't have to have a bike, Speedy came last year with his daughter and still was a part of everything we did. You don't have to stay at the campground you can also stay in one of the

many hotels within a mile of the campground (Comfort Inn, Holiday Inn.)

Please disseminate this as far and wide as possible, we look forward to seeing old friendly faces and some new ones as well. Take care, Ron, 507-318-9935

**From Chapter 15** of the 173<sup>rd</sup> Newsletter: President Guerue was visiting Ft. Polk and noted how good it was to see all the young men and women in uniform. He also spoke about the young female 82nd AB Medic who earned a Silver Star for her heroic actions during an IED incident in Afghanistan. In earning it, she said she was just doing what she was trained to do. The following is cut from an AP Story last March.

*CAMP SALERNO, Afghanistan - A 19-year-old medic from Texas will become the first woman in Afghanistan and only the second woman since World War II to receive the Silver Star, the nation's third-highest medal for valor.*

*Army Spc. Monica Lin Brown saved the lives of fellow soldiers after a roadside bomb tore through a convoy of Humvees in the eastern Paktia province in April 2007, the military said.*

*After the explosion, which wounded five soldiers in her unit, Brown ran through insurgent gunfire and used her body to shield wounded comrades as mortars fell less than 100 yards away, the military said.*

**From Chapter 54**, Massachusetts, on the film titled WHY WE FIGHT NOW - THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR.

It is an outstanding presentation of how successful the Special Forces have been in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It emphasizes the "win their hearts and minds" concept and shows that the intelligence obtained by the Special Forces soldiers is quite often the only intelligence

obtained by anyone and it assists the conventional units in their operational decisions.

You will be proud of your Special Forces heritage after watching this film. Our SF soldiers today are just a good if not better than we were.

[Chapter XX has a copy. I expect the person with the DVD will bring it to the next Chapter Meeting. If you want to get on the list to see the DVD, let me know, 507-647-3526. Dan K.]

To download it, go to GOOGLE and enter:

1. Why We Fight Now - The Global War On Terror <<http://www.whywefightnow.com/download/index.htm>>

2. When it opens, go to the entry shown below. When I did it, it was the 2nd one.

3. wwfn001004.gif. THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR. WHY WE FIGHT. NOW.

wwfn001003.jpg. triangle.gif. triangle.gif. Why We Fight Now - Long Version - No Credits - ...

4. You are offered several downloads. I have to warn you that it will take a long time to download it. I recommend you get the download going and find something to do. Check on the download once in awhile. Although it will take a long time for you to download it but you will be glad that you did.

**The All Airborne Motorcycle Club**, from Frank. Anyone that is interested can e-mail me at [frank82ndabn@hotmail.com](mailto:frank82ndabn@hotmail.com) or they can call me at 763 717 6864 or 612 270 8568 my cell.

**Missing Chapter Banner:** I could not find the Chapter banner. The banner is green nylon with yellow letters (Special Forces Association, Chapter XX, with crest), about 3' tall and 6' long. If you have the banner, or you think you know who has it, please give me a call, Dan at 507-647-3526.