

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

## The "20/20" Flash

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**June 2009**  
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### **The Next Chapter Business Meeting:**

The next business meeting is at the

## **Glockenspiel Restaurant Tues, July 7th, 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.)

Meeting Agenda Items include:

- Discuss Upcoming events
- Reports from Midwest All Airborne Alliance meeting
- Ask for the latest info on the CSOR Prop Blast Mug.
- The Kenneth Worthley bio for the Christmas Dinner program.
- See what else Dan has gotten done on his plans for the Summer Odessey

### **Upcoming Events/ Activities:**

**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 All Airborne Days** are Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup>, 12:00, at the Fort Snelling Contact Club. We will not be dedicating any Monuments in the Airborne Circle this year. We are planning to dedicate one for the 555 Parachute Infantry Regiment over Labor Day Weekend.

The Midwest All Airborne does have to provide a list of guests to the gate at Fort Snelling. Get on the list, and then if you can't attend nobody will notice. You might be able to get in without being on the list, but why take the chance.

To get on the list, call Al Porter (612-722-7358) or Jerry Huntington (612-866-4204)

**After Action Reviews: The Chapter May Business Meeting:** The Meeting was called to order at 7 pm on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Present at the meeting were:

Jeff Arnold	John Roy
Doug Bekke	Joe Ryan
Bob Bradow	John Stepan
Doug Brown	Art Videen
Tim Kirk	John Wilcox
Ed Komac	Dan Kaiser
Matt Maitlyng	Trudell Guerue
John Murphy	Jack Running
Oly Olson	Olaf Schistad

Don Pafko                    Rich Gabatino  
 Mark Pafko                 Rayna  
 And the Hofelds, Cindy, Kerry, Tricia, Josh,  
 and Travis.

John S. made a motion to accept the April Meeting Minutes, as published in the May Newsletter. Matt seconded the motion and it carried.

Don made a motion to accept the Financial Report, as given by Matt. Doug seconded the motion and it was carried.

For AAR's, you will find detailed AARs on the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Skydiving Jump and Bud Ollum's Funeral a little later in the Newsletter. After discussing the Skydiving Jump, John R. made a motion that we do this every year. The motion was seconded by Jeff and carried. We also thanked John Stepan for all of his work in setting this up.

The Secretary provided a draft copy of a letter to the SFA President for use at the SFA Convention Presidents' meeting. The letter detailed the Chapter's position on changing membership status in the SFA. (We are against the proposed changes listed in an earlier Newsletter.

The Secretary asked for permission to send the letter, in the Chapter's name, to the SFA President. Permission was granted.

On the Two Harbors Heritage Days Parade: We talked with Jack Running about getting flags for the Parade. Jack said we could get any flags that we wanted. We could not find anyone to swing by Jack's house, in July, to pick the flags up, and then bring them up to Two Harbors. (July was just so far away, at the time of the meeting.)

Jack said he could bring the flags to the July meeting and someone could carry them up to Two Harbors from there. We nodded our heads in agreement and thanked Jack; as much for the work as for the idea.

The All Airborne Days discussion can be found in the Upcoming Events section.

Make a call to Al Porter or Jerry Huntington and get your name on the access roster at the Fort Snelling Gate.

We asked if anyone had any new information on the CSOR Prop Blast Mug. Someone said Rick Pieper is still waiting on word from the Canadian Postal Service.

On the Kenneth Worthley bio for the Christmas Dinner program: John Murphy said that he had talked to John Plaster about military information on Kenneth and that John

Plaster said all his info was in the book. Jeff Arnold was going to work with that info and continue to seek other sources.

On the summer Odyssey: I can't remember now what happened at the meeting (my notes got pretty vague here.)

On the Chapter Elections: Jeff Arnold reported that he did have two mail in ballots. We voted on electing the slate of

officers and the slate was elected unanimously. The Slate of Nominees was:

President	Rick Pieper
Vice Pres	John Stepan
Treasurer	Matt Mitlyng
Secretary	Dan Kaiser

There being no further business, we adjourned the meeting at 7:35 and then we socialized for quite a while.

**On The May 2<sup>nd</sup> Skydiving Jump** in Baldwin, Wisconsin: Man, these are times that make for great stories, especially if you are one of the folks who made a skydiving tandem jump.

The idea was jump-started with Tricia Hofeld. Before we knew it, her two brothers, Travis and Josh, were also jumping. And then, some how, their dad, Kerry, got clearance form the doctor and he was in on the jump.

Ed mentioned it, in passing, to Babs Komac. She jumped. Chapter 15 of 173<sup>rd</sup> invited, and paid for, their favorite waitress to

## The Chapter Phone Tree

Get on the Chapter Phone Tree today by calling

Tricia Hofeld at

(H) 651-464-1937

(C) 612-807-6281

9323 N. 239<sup>th</sup> St

Forest Lake, MN 55025

T\_Hofeld@hotmail.com

jump. Olaf Schistad talked his sister in law, Lynda Zurn, into jumping.

Jack Running was delivering some package somewhere. He was wearing his 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne jacket. As he was leaving, some little sprite of a girl, Whitney, stopped him and talked to him because her grandfather was in the 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division.

Have you guessed it yet? Yep, she jumped. But, not only did Whitney jump, doing a cartwheel as she walked off of the dropzone, she talked her mother, Pat, into jumping also.

John Roy's daughter DaleLynn Means made the jump.

John Stepan talked at least three Wounded Warriors into coming out for the day. Derek Weida (82<sup>nd</sup>) and the other guy, whose name is now lost to history forever, made the jump.

The third guy, name also forgotten, could have jumped. Seriously: we could have wrapped his left arm, which was in a sling, into some kind parachute rig. We just didn't think of it at the time.

Other folks who made it out include all the Johnson relatives and friends: Cindy Hofeld; Laurie Johnson; Kathy and Heidi; Judy and Tim Schmid; Doug, Adrian, Ben, and Maya; Don the 4<sup>th</sup>, Germaine, Pat, and Lorry.

We also had Roger Albertson and Berle, Jeff Arnold, Ed Komac, Rich Gabatino and Jacob, Maryanne Running, Frank and Maureen Lopez, Ed and Laura York, Trudell, Ellen, and Nona Guerue, and Howard Tellin

Thanks to John Bucsko and Kerry McCauley, owners of Skydive Twin Cities, and the staff for their great help and work. John and Kerry said that we were welcome anytime and they loved supporting our event.

We would also like to Thank Merriah Eakins for jumping in the American flag. She did it to show the appreciation to the folks at the Skydive for their military service.

Now, after listing as many people as we can remember, let's talk about the day.

Man—was it windy. If you stood in a wind-protected area then the sun warmed you up very nicely. If you stood in the wind, you had to lean into it so you did not get blown over.

We had to delay the jump for quite a while because of the wind, but we got most of them in. The 173<sup>rd</sup>'s waitress, and friends, had to go to work before the winds died down enough for their jump. Of course, between the jump rain check, the activity, and the excitement, the friends who were with the waitress decided that when they came back in June they were jumping too.

We also ate lunch during the lull. Folks brought lots of side dishes so there was plenty of food, thanks. Unfortunately, a lot of food is a relative thing. No body was expecting the crowd that did show up. We had enough hamburgers and brats to serve one or the other to the folks who were able to attend. But, with the side dishes, everyone went away happy.

When the jumps finally happened, it was great. The Hofelds all jump on the same lift and listing to them afterward was sooooo entertaining. It took twenty minutes just to get off the drop zone, about 100 yards. We toasted the experience. The new jumpers were flushed with the rush and the adrenaline.

But, alas, after all the jumping and stories, folks had to head back to their lives. It was a great day for so many reasons: seeing folks who we haven't seen in a while, meeting new folks, the jump with its inherent excitement, the story telling afterward, and just enjoying the afternoon. Life is good.

**On Bud Ollum's Funeral:** I do not keep track of who is able to attend funerals—you can make it or you can't. And, as the old saying goes, people came out of the woodwork. It was an outstanding show of support for our friend.

The wake was Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> with services and interment on May 4<sup>th</sup>. The wake was very well attended. While folks did

attend the services on Monday, I was with the group that went straight to Fort Snelling. The Airborne Flags were posted in a line and the paratroopers were posted in front of the flags, and we had a lot of paratroopers and friends.

Rollin Goldsberry took photos and we posted them on the Chapter Website, [www.sfa20.org](http://www.sfa20.org)

Days later Steve Anderson forwarded an email from Troy. As Steve notes on the videos, "a real treat...got lot's of pictures, but you get to hear his voice....something I'll miss.....this was at a re-enactor event last year that drew over 1000 people...enjoy."

Troy emailed, "Hello all, I took videos of Bud at last years Traxler's Military Event. I put them on YouTube.com Type in 505 PIR/82nd Airborne WW2 Veteran Bud Ollum and you should find them. Truly a hero and an inspiration to us all. He will be missed."

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

**The Summer Odyssey:** I have not done any reportable work. More info will follow later. At this point, call at 507-647-3526 or email me at [kais0063@umn.edu](mailto:kais0063@umn.edu) and let me know where you are and what dates and times would work good for you.

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

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 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 Reule, 507-318-9935

**The All Airborne Motorcycle Club,** from Frank Lopez. 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.

**Editorially:** This is just another Newsletter sent out fast. If you have stuff for the Newsletter, type it up and email it to me. I am great at cutting and pasting. Dan K.

#### **The Summer Odyssey Tentative Locations:**

- the Rochester area,
- a scattering along I-90 in southern Minnesota,
- a group along the Highway 169 (from Elk River to Onamia) to St. Cloud,
- a group in the northeast including the north shore, west toward MacGregor and the northeastern part of Wisconsin,
- and, finally, a scattering of folks from Bemiji to Fargo/Morehead.

**If you are interested** in getting together, call 507-647-3526 or email [kais0063@umn.edu](mailto:kais0063@umn.edu)

