



SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER XI (WASHINGTON AREA)



NEWSLETTER

June/July 2011

**SFA CHAPTER XI
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SFA Chapter XI Web site	http://www.sfa11.org		

Released 6 July 2011

CHAPTER XI PLANNING CALENDER

Time / Date	Event	Location
1400-1800 on Saturday, 23 July 2011	Pool Party	Norton's Residence. Map is on Page 3.
30 SEP 2011 Happy hour at 1830	Monthly Meeting	Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church, VA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

We have completed the first half of the year with Chapter meetings and enjoying a very successful Army Navy Club Dinner Dance in late April.

We have already started planning next year's Army Navy Formal scheduled to occur in May 2012. This event will follow more of a banquet format rather than that of a dinner dance in that next year's theme will be Honoring the Wounded Warrior. Additionally, we are looking at leveraging regional participation by asking the other SFA Chapters in Region 3 to team with us and participate in the formal.

In May the Chapter supported two events on Memorial Day. Early in the day we participated in the Washington D.C Memorial Day Parade where our members represented us on the Special Forces Float and later in the day, different Chapter members, participated in the Fredericksburg, Virginia Rappahannock POPS Musical Orchestra Outdoor Salute honoring veterans and their families. MG(R) Hugo was the Memorial Day Parade Grand Marshall and COL(R) Whidden was the Master of Ceremonies for the POPS Musical Outdoor Salute.

In June Gene Russell and his wife supported the Wounded Warrior event at Walter Reed Army Hospital where they teamed with the Active Army, Army College ROTC, ROTC Nursing Students, and College Nursing Staff and Instructors from Widener University, the 1st Cavalry Division Association, Katz Deli, numerous government contractors, and others to support the Wounded Warriors and their families. This outdoor event was a big success with all of the credit going to Gene Russell and his wife. The event meant a lot to the Wounded Warriors, their wives, children, families, and friends in

attendance. It was an emotional charged day for all who participated.

In July the Norton's have once again opened their home and are hosting the Chapter Pool Party on Saturday 23 July 2011. This is always a fun event and one that you will not want to miss.

As we approach Fall we are working to get informative speakers for our meetings that will address Special Forces and Special Operations topics and current events. During the Winter I will once again host the Chapter Christmas Party at my home sometime in December.

In closing, I want to thank my fellow officers for all their support and participation outside our regularly scheduled meetings. As you can imagine a lot happens behind the scenes to keep the Chapter running, solvent, and moving forward.

Please remain safe and I hope to see you at one or all of our upcoming Chapter meetings and/or events.

ANNUAL POOL PARTY.

The annual pool party will take place on Saturday, 23 July 2011 at Charlie Norton's residence in McLean, VA from 1400-1800. The Chapter will provide the hamburgers and hot dogs. Members are encouraged to bring a dish to share with others enough for approximately ten individuals and are also encouraged to bring a lawn chair and alcoholic beverages.

2011 ANNUAL FORMAL EVENT.

The Chapter held its annual dinner dance at the Army Navy Country Club in Washington, D.C which was attended by 120 guests. Mr. "G" Gordon Liddy of Air America was keynote speaker for the evening. The Army Fife and Drum assisted the color guard with the posting of the colors and the Army Chorus provided a medley of songs including the Ballad of the Green Beret. The highlight of the evening was when Gene Russell received the Charles N. Norton Award in recognition of his dedication, service, and commitment to the members of Chapter XI, Special Forces Association, and this country's most cherished assets --- its Wounded Warriors. A special thanks to Lynn Mariano, John Mohler, and Vic Hugo for helping to set up this wonderful event. A memorable evening was had by all.

KATZ DELI LUNCHEON. Gene Russell

Chapter XI.....what can Sharon and I say? Thanks to you all and all your support - this was one great event. I have never heard so many thank yous as I did yesterday. Without your on-site support and/or monetary support; activities like these would never take place. The Warriors and their families had a great time. We feed over 400 again this year.....Sharon and her staff rolled up plastic wear in napkins 450 servings – only 30 remained. We also fed 40 some on the wards and we had folks come over from Bethesda to include a special family from the 1st CAV mom, mother-in-law and wife of a seriously injured trooper (TBI). They had a great time getting away from all that they have to go through. It was a day made better, not only to us, but to those who suffer the burdens of war and their families. We are working to move the 5th Annual Katz's Deli Wounded Warrior Lunch over to Bethesda.

2011 MEETING SCHEDULE

For those that want to mark your calendars, the September and October monthly meetings will take place on 30 September and 28 October. As always, these meetings will occur at the Harvest Moon Restaurant in Falls Church, VA with Happy Hour starting at 1830 and the meeting kicking off at 1915. We will send out more details as to guest speakers prior to these events.

SECRETARY'S CORNER. Pete Stemniski

As many of you know earlier this year I was selected to participate in an accelerated civilian leadership position earlier this year. When I took this position I knew up front that any spare time I had would be limited and that spare time would have to be devoted to my family and to my Reserve position with USSOCOM. That said, I will be stepping down as Chapter XI Secretary effective immediately to concentrate on my family, my civilian job, and my Reserve job. I want to thank you all for the support you have given me the past five years while I was Chapter XI Secretary.

TREASURER'S CORNER. John Mohler.

Financial update as of 26 June 2011
Chapter Bank Balance: \$21,209.00
Less funds for SOWF: \$1,495.00
Less funds for Katz Deli: \$3,826.00
Remaining Operating Funds: \$15,888.00



Chapter XI members at Memorial Day Parade



Wounded Warriors at the Katz Deli Luncheon

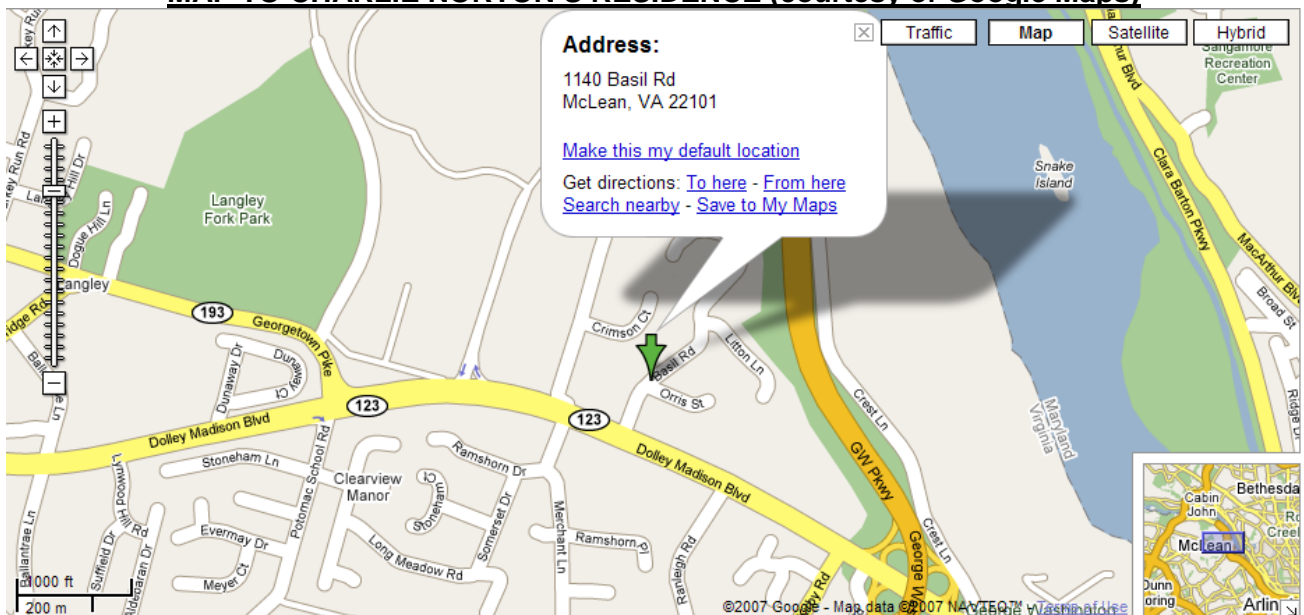


Chapter XI members with G. Gordon Liddy



Gene Russell receiving the Charlie Norton Award

MAP TO CHARLIE NORTON'S RESIDENCE (courtesy of Google Maps)



Please join us on Saturday 23 July starting at 1400 for our annual pool party hosted by the Norton's.

Retiree Checklist: This checklist is designed to provide retirees and their loved ones with some help in preparing for the future. The following information is not all-inclusive and should be used with other estate planning tools to lessen trauma to your loved ones.

- Create a military file that includes a copy of retirement orders, separation papers, DD Form 214, medical records, and any other pertinent military paperwork. Make sure your spouse knows the location and telephone number of the nearest military installation.
- Create a military retired pay file. It should include the following contact information for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and Navy Personnel Command:
 1. Defense Finance and Accounting Service, U S Military Retirement Pay, Post Office Box 7130, London, KY 40742-7130 (800) 321-1080 or (216) 522-5955/(800) 269-5170 (for issues regarding deceased members).
 2. Navy Personnel Command (N135C), Retired Activities Branch, 5720 Integrity Drive, Millington, TN 38055-6220 (This file should also include the number of any pending VA claim as well as the address of the local VA office; a list of deductions currently being made from retired pay or VA benefits. Also include the name, relationship and address of the person you have designated to any unpaid retired pay at the time of death. This designation is located on the back of your Retiree Account Statement)
- Create an annuities file. This file should information about the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP) or the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan (RSFPP), or any applicable Civil Service annuity, etc. Additional information regarding SBP, RCSBP and RSFPP annuity claims can be obtained from DFAS office at (800) 321-1080.
- Create a personal document file that has copies of marriage certificates, divorce decrees, adoptions and naturalization papers.
- Create an income tax file. Include copies of both of your state and federal income tax returns.
- Create a property tax file. Include copies of tax bills, deeds and any other related documents/information.
- Create an insurance policy file. Include life, property, accident, liability and hospitalization policies.
- Create a bank file. In a secure location, maintain a list of all bank accounts (joint or individual). Include the location of all deposit boxes, savings bonds, stocks, bonds and any securities owned.
- Create a debt file. In a secure location, maintain a list of all charge accounts and credit cards, and outstanding loans. Include account numbers and mailing addresses.
- Create a membership file. Maintain a list of all associations and organizations of which you are a member. Some of them could be helpful to your spouse.
- Create a personal contacts file. Maintain a list of all friends and business associates who may be helpful. Include name, address and telephone number.
- Disposition of remains. Discuss your plans/desires with respect to the type and location of your funeral service. You should decide about cremation, which cemetery, ground burial, etc. If your spouse knows your desires, it will resolve some of the questions that might arise at a later date.
- Burial. Visit a local funeral home and pre-arrange your services. Many states will allow you to pre-pay for services. Investigate the decisions that you and your family have agreed upon. Many states have specific laws and guidelines regulating cremation and burials at sea. Some states require a letter of authority signed by the deceased in order to authorize a cremation. Know the laws in your specific area and how they may affect your decisions. Information regarding Burials at Sea can be obtained by phoning the Mortuary Affairs Division at (866) 787-0081.
- Will. Once your decisions have been made and you're comfortable with them, have a will drawn up outlining all your wishes and store it in a secure location with your other paperwork.
- Notification. Attach the following list of who should be notified in the event of my death:
 1. Defense Finance and Accounting Service (800) 321-1080 or (216) 522-5955.
 2. Social Security Administration (for death benefits) - (800) 772-1213.
 3. Department of Veterans Affairs (if applicable) – (800) 827-1000.
 4. Office of Personnel and Management (if applicable) - (724) 794-8690.
 5. Any fraternal group that you have membership with such as MOOA, FRA, NCOA, VFW, AL, TREA.
 6. Any previous employer that provides pension or benefits.