



SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION WASHINGTON AREA



**SFA CHAPTER XI
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CHAPTER OFFICERS			
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JUNE AND JULY 2008 NEWSLETTER

JULY 2007 Pool Party Norton's Residence 26 JUL 2008	Next Chapter XI Meeting September 26, 2008 Harvest Moon 7260 Arlington Blvd, Falls Church, VA
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preparations and dedication of the host chapters. Of course, seeing old friends and comrades from long ago and far way was the best part.

Two official events of chapter interest were the Presidents' Meeting and the Constitution Meeting. As the proposed changes to the SFA Constitution took up a considerable part of the Presidents' Meeting, there was considerable overlap. Much of the Presidents' Meeting discussed the history of Constitution and the Association's registration with its legal home, the State of North Carolina. The fact that these documents have remained essentially unchanged over the years has resulted in their being both outdated for the Association's needs and no longer in conformance with some North Carolina requirements. The SFA Secretary, Mel Smith, explained these aspects in detail. A NC attorney, who is an expert on the applicable state laws, gave further explanation when required. The changes proposed while either legally necessary or administratively desirable do not make any changes in the organization or character of the Association. These meetings were informational: no vote was proposed. Copies of the changes will be distributed for the consideration of the SFA chapters before any vote is requested. I do not anticipate they will elicit much concern.

HARRISBURG REUNION:

The annual SFA reunion took place in Harrisburg, PA hosted by Chapters LXIV, Carlisle PA and LXVII, Harrisburg, PA. Chapter XI attendees were: Scot Crerar, Al Paddock, John Haralson, Bob Fazio, Charlie Norton, Mark Atchison, Colleen Atchison, Ginny Norton, Reuben Mooradian, Carl Nagle, Othar Shalikashvili, Andy Winfree, Joan & Jack Singlaub, Nan & Billy Thompson, Lou & Mamie Faistenhammer, Al Nicholas, Rudi Gresham, Dave & Lois Grange, Glory Bouchardon & son Bryan, and two guests from Finland LTG (ret) Illkka Hollo and Illkka Niemiinen. A good time was had by all. When we left PA you could get gas for under \$4.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

The Chapter Presidency was transferred from Al Paddock to Scot Crerar on 15 May 2008.

The new chapter president's first official duty was to attend the annual National SFA convention in Harrisburg. The event was well organized and supported, reflecting the extensive

23ND ANNUAL DINNER DANCE:

On May 3, 2008, we co-hosted our Annual Special Forces Association Officers and Members National Capital Chapter Black Tie Reception with the USO of Metropolitan Washington. Our theme this year was "Honoring the USO's Support of Our Wounded Warriors." This event was truly remarkable, everything clicked: a record crowd, great entertainment, and certainly the perfect speaker for honoring the USO's support of our wounded warriors. The dinner dance was supported from members of the U.S Army Color Guard, 20 members from the U.S. Army Chorus, and a 12 member Fife and Drum Corps. Our guest speaker for the evening was Ms. Elaine Rogers, President, USO of Metropolitan Washington. Through generous donations from over 50 donors, including SF Chapters 6, 34, 48, and 90, we were able to donate \$6000 to the USO's wounded warrior programs at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) and Bethesda Navy Medical Center (BNMC).

The Chapter XI Colonel Charles Norton Award for outstanding service was presented to **Andy Winfree**. It was a very memorable evening and we would like to thank of all those members that made it possible, particularly Vic and Thuy Hugo, the Chapter Officers, and all of those Chapter members and friends who donated so generously for our Wounded Warriors. Contributions were seriously overwhelming. We would also like to extend a special note of appreciation to Chapter 73, Winnebago, IL, Chapter Vice President and John Gianos, and friend Trudy Daly who flew into DC to attend our Dinner. (See *Photos page 5*)

CHAPTER MEETING, 18 April 2008. On 18 April 2008, 54 members and guests were in attendance to hear the Dr. Kalev Sepp provide an overview of the role special operations in today's current conflicts. Daphne Sahlin introduced herself as a guest of Charlie Norton. Members who brought guests included David McCracken and Walt Henderson. Mark Becker introduced himself as a first time attendee from Chapter XI. Walt Henderson also thanked all in attendance for the support he received from Chapter XI as his wife has been very ill. (See *Photos page 5*)

Reports from chapter officers:

Al Paddock, President, spoke about the upcoming annual dinner dance, the expansion of duties for the Chapter Chaplain, a letter received from Patricia Friedman, the flag the Chapter received from the Battalion Commander from the 3/5 SFG(A) for our support to Ms. Geraldine January during her citizenship ceremony, and thanked Pete Stemniski for all his support as Chapter Secretary during the past two years.

Lynn Mariano, Vice President, updated the attendees on the status of the dinner dance and gave a timeline of events

John Mohler, Treasurer provided the CHAPTER XI Financial Report: (*Figures as of 1 Jun 08*)

Chapter Bank Balance:	\$18,232.00
Less funds for SWOF	\$ 953.00
Less Funds for Katz Deli:	<u>\$ 3,295.00</u>
Remaining Operating Funds:	\$13,984.00

Contributions since 3/31/08 (minus Dinner Dance contributions):

- Charles Krohn: \$ 25.00
- John Howland: \$ 50.00
- Patricia Friedman: \$200.00

Contributions to the Chapter Dinner / Wounded Warriors fund were overwhelming. 16 non-member individuals, and Organizations, including SFA Chapter's, 6, 34, 48 and 90 contributed \$4,520, and thirty nine Chapter members contributed \$5,210. (See *complete list of Contributors on Page 4.*)

Pete Stemniski, Secretary, presented an update on the Chapter XI elections, informed the members to look out for the new PO Box that will be in the next newsletter, informed the members of the SFA Chapter XC golf tournament on 9 May, and thanked a number of individuals for their assistance the past two years

Gene Russell, Chaplain, informed the attendees that he has accepted the additional duties of Chapter Chaplain, updated the attendees of a recent visit to Walter Reed, and an initiative to give quilts to wounded warriors over at Walter Reed.

➤ Chapter XI, along with other organizations, sponsored a "Katz Deli" lunch at Walter Reed for the Wounded Warriors and their families on June 28. Katz Deli in the Lower East Side of Manhattan shipped down 200 pounds of pastrami, corned beef, turkey and 200 hot dogs along with breads, mustard, pickles, coleslaw, potato salad and their famous cheese cake. Our chapter along with other folks prepared the meals for approximately 350 Warriors and families. Additionally, we had a moon bounce and face painting for the kids, lots of give away items and a raffle for items paid for by the contributions raised. It was a great time for all.

➤ **SICK AND SHUT INS:**

The chapter officers want to reach out to its membership. If you know of anyone that is ill or having difficulty, please let our chaplain, Gene Russell know so that we can contact them and their family.

Charlie Norton, President Emeritus, updated the attendees on the two recent funerals where representatives from Chapter XI attended.

The winner of the 50-50 raffle was guest **Chuck Albrecht**.

CHAPTER NOTES:

Chapter XI Pool Party, 26 July 2008: The next chapter event will be the annual pool party on 26 July at Charlie Norton's residence 1140 Basil Rd. Mclean, VA 22101. (Map at last page of this newsletter). The pool party will start at 1400. This event is open to all ages. Bring a guest, children, grandchildren, and a side dish. Also since chairs are limited you might want to bring a folding chair or two. Chapter provides soft drinks, beer & wine plus hot dogs and burgers. Please bring a dish. (*Directions, see map, Page 6*)

Fall – Winter 08 Meeting Schedule:

September	26	2008
October	24	2008
January	30	2009
February	27	2009
March	27	2009
April	17	2009

SPECIAL NOTICE:

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Donald D. "Don" Blackburn, 91, Sarasota, formerly of McLean, Va., died May 24, 2008. BG Blackburn was an icon of US Army Special Forces. Special Operations related highlights of his career include:

- stay behind guerrilla leader in the Philippines (1942-1945)
- Special Forces Group Commander
- Early chief of MACV Studies and Observations Group (SOG)
- Chief of SACSA (Special Assistant for Counterinsurgency and Special Activities) during the Vietnam War

General Blackburn's funeral will be on August 6, 2008, at 0900 at Arlington National Cemetery.

CHAPTER XI WAS REPRESENTED AT THE FOLLOWING FUNERALS DURING THIS PERIOD

➤ **SGM (Ret.) FERDINAND THOMAS:**

On 5 April 2008, funeral services were held for former Chapter XI member SGM (Ret) Ferdinand Thomas. Chapter XI members who attended the services included John Whidden, Scot Crerar, and Charlie Norton. SGM (Ret) Thomas was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on 11 June 2008.

➤ **MG (Ret.) CHARLES H. (SANDY) DAVIDSON:**

Major General Charles H. "Sandy" Davidson, IV, U.S. Army, was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on April 29, 2008. In 2007, MG Davidson commanded the 2nd PSYOP Group in Cleveland, OH, the 350th Civil Affairs Command in Pensacola, FL and in 2004 he

served as the 350th CACOM Commanding General and Director of Civil-Military Operations (C-9), Multi National Forces Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom. MG Davidson also served as the Deputy Director of Operations for U.S. Central Command and was the U.S. Defense Representative to Pakistan. Chapter XI was represented at the Arlington Service by John Whidden.

➤ **COL (Ret.) CARL F. BERNARD:**

On June 4th, funeral services were held for Colonel Carl Franklin Bernard at the Ft. Myer Chapel and Arlington National Cemetery. Col. Bernard enlisted as a Marine, in 1944, during World War II, and served in the Pacific and China. In 1947, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, and was commissioned an infantry officer in 1949. 1st Lt. Bernard entered Korea with "Task Force Smith" at the beginning of the war, and was one of that unit's few survivors after it was overrun at Osan by North Korean forces. Colonel Bernard served with the 7th SFGA, deploying to Laos in 1960, at the Special Warfare School, and in Vietnam. He retired from the US Army in 1975. Chapter XI was represented at his services by Gene Russell represented both the Chapter and 7th SFGA.

➤ **COL RICHARD H. CASE:**

On 23 June Col Dick Case was buried at Arlington. He was a WW II and Korean War Veteran who made both the Normandy and Holland jumps with the 101st and was at Bastogne. He served in the 10th SFG at Bad Tolz. He died at the age of 91. Chapter XI was represented by Charlie Norton.

➤ **SGM Ferdinand Thomas,**

SGM Thomas was interred in Arlington National Cemetery on June 11. Gene Russell represented Chapter XI at The service

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CHAPTER DINNER

Contributions to the Chapter XI / USO Dinner from both non-Chapter individuals and organizations, and members were overwhelming.

Non- Chapter XI Member Donations

Sixteen non-members individuals, and organizations, including SFA Chapter's, 6, 34, 48 and 90 contributed \$4,520.

Non Members and Organizations

Name	Organization	Amount
Mr. Bill Fair	CACI	\$650.00
Col Robert W Casey	Individual	\$130.00
Paul Friedrichs	Individual	\$130.00
Ann Scott Tyson	Individual	\$65.00
Joe Greenlee	Individual	\$65.00
BG John Johns	Individual	\$130.00
Robert T. Hall	SFA Chapter 90, Haymarket VA	\$325.00
Dennis Myers	SFA Chapter 6, Wilmington NC	\$130.00
Richard Sweatt	Secretary Chapter 34, Ft. Jackson SC	\$360.00
Treasurer	SFA Chapter 48, Providence RI	\$130.00
Michael Baker	GEICO Military Dept	\$325.00
Lisa Olsen	HARKINS BUILDERS, INC, Marriottsville, MD	\$520.00
Agraria-I LKLC	Washington, DC	\$130.00
Michael Canele, Inc	Beverly Hills CA	\$260.00
Dr. Sandra Charles	Oakton, CA	\$650.00
Dennis Roche	Roche Salon, Washington, DC	\$520.00

Chapter XI Members Contributions Thirty nine Chapter members contributed to the Chapter Dinner and \$5,210

Member	Amount	Member	Amount
Al Paddock	\$130.00	John Whidden	\$130.00
Ambrose Brennan	\$130.00	Lee Yarborough	\$130.00
Andy Winfree	\$130.00	Louis B. Smith	\$130.00
Anonymous	\$65.00	David Grange	\$65.00
Bruce Person	\$130.00	Lyle T. Hunger	\$65.00
Chuck Trombetta	\$65.00	Lynn Mariano	\$130.00
Dale R. Brown	\$130.00	Mac Dorsey	\$130.00
David E. McCracken	\$130.00	Mark A. Becker	\$65.00
Donald A. Nicholas	\$65.00	Mark Atchison	\$65.00
Edward J. Burke	\$65.00	Monica Story	\$260.00
George A. Robertson	\$130.00	Paul Agosta	\$35.00
Major Winston Curtis, In memory of Henrietta Curtis	\$360.00	Peter Carey	\$65.00
George Huff	\$130.00	Peter Marceau	\$130.00
Harris D. Arlinsky	\$130.00	Raul Sotomayer	\$65.00
Harry Ching	\$130.00	Scotty Crerar	\$65.00
Henry Richmond	\$65.00	Steven D. Howard	\$130.00
Jack L. Kaplan	\$130.00	Thomas C. Maude	\$360.00
John Haralson	\$130.00	Vic Hugo	\$130.00
John Howell	\$65.00	William R. Thompson	\$360.00
		John McNamara	\$390.00

Pictures of Interest:

CHAPTER XI, FORMAL DINNER, MAY 3, 2008



May 3, Andrew Winfree receiving the Charlie Norton Award for outstanding service to Chapter XI and the Association



Current and Past Presidents, May 3
From Left to right in the Photo. Herman Kasoff, current President, 1st Special Service Force Association, Al Paddock, President Chapter XI and former Presidents of Chapter XI, Wally Johnson, Stanley Whiddon, Bob Fazio and Charlie Norton

CHAPTER XI MEETING, APRIL 19, 2008



March 20, Chapter XI members listening to Dr. Kalev Sepp's presentation



March 20: Dr. Sepp receiving a gift from Al Paddock,

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

Chapter XI Picnic, 1400, 26 July 2008

