



SFA Indian Nations Chapter 32/50
1715 Spoke Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73108

MINUTES 13 JULY 2024

SFA Chapter 32-50 met at the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Headquarters, 2101 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK, on Sat., 13 JUL 2024, at 1200 hours.

Officers Present

President: Roger "Rock" Taylor
Vice President: Bill Coultrup
Treasurer/Medal Sales Coordinator/ WebMaster: Jerry Cooper
Secretary/Assistant WebMaster: Pat Carr
Assistant Secretary: Charles Watts
Chaplain/Assistant Treasurer: Dick Goodman
Medal Presentation Coordinator: Doug Warden

Officers Absent

Quartermaster: Rick Cacini

Opening Ceremonies

President Roger Taylor called the meeting to order, at 1200 hrs.
Vice President Bill Coultrup led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Chaplain Dick Goodman led the Special Forces Prayer.
Rafael Elias played, and the members sang the Ballad of the Green Beret.

Guests

We were glad to see Ray Williams and Everett Bagley. J.O. Dickey reported that Jerry Haney is doing worse, and he has been placed on hospice. If you have time, he likes having visitors. Jim and Linda Vaughn were present, along with Jim and Keely Selders, Ellis and Thao Edwards, Johnny and Cindy McCharen, Greg and Zoraida Holmes, and Roger and Sylvia Routh. Friends of the SFA, Col. Kelly Zachgo and Ranger John Farris were present to tell us about the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame induction on Saturday, 26 OCT 2024, at 1830 hours, at the Norman Embassy Suites. Chaplain/Assistant Treasurer, Dick Goodman, brought donuts funded, as usual, by Larry Zimmerman. J.O. Dickey and Jerry Haney generously provided delicious barbeque catered by Bedlam Bar-B-Q.

Chaplain's Corner

INDEPENDENCE: King George III, the strongest tyrant in Europe during the 1700's, had a stronghold on the American Colonies to the point of strangulation. Loyalists

to the Crown were used as his spies and tattletales, making life for the rest of the colonists almost unbearable. Consequently, those not supporting the King of England were reminded why they had left that island for America to escape unfair governmental rule and forge a new freedom to live in a different world, free to make their own life choices.

Something had to change. Their lives were no different than before. These colonists, or should I say Patriots, had to literally start over again to figure out how to defeat the tyranny they had once left! Mistakes were made, and arguments were common on how to begin the task of freeing themselves from what had followed them to their new land. The odds were stacked against these freedom seekers in every direction. Life and death decisions were made on a daily basis. It seemed as though freedom from England's rule was going to be impossible without a miracle.

Defeat was around every corner, but defeat loses when confronted by God's Providence! You see, this desire for freedom was placed in the hearts of these men and women by God Almighty Himself! Without the belief that something better must be had, defeat was imminent. The only hope for victory was God's hand. And, as Paul Harvey would say, "And now you know the rest of the story!"

Yes, this nation is nothing short of a miracle! We have had many, many setbacks since 1776, and we will have in the future. World War II could easily have caused our great nation to be defeated, since we were so unprepared before 7 December, 1941. But God! God planted the desire in the hearts of men and women over two hundred years ago to start this wonderful experiment in freedom, and He will not allow it to fail. God does not fail, therefore, anything He starts cannot fail! Our fathers and mothers pulled up their bootstraps, got busy and engineered the greatest effort in history to defeat Nazi Germany and the Empire of Japan.

Currently, this nation is struggling in many ways. I have all the faith that these times we are experiencing will be corrected by God's Providence once more, because His plan is perfect, and He will not allow the sacrifice and deaths of patriots past, present or future to be in vain!

Let's just sum it all up with this: Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it will accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it." Enjoy your independence, soldier. With God's help you earned it!

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer/Medal Sales Coordinator Jerry Cooper reported, as of 3 July 2024

General Fund bank balance	\$3,429.82
ROTC Medals bank balance	\$11,329.89
Green Beret Benevolent Fund bank balance	\$2,754.00
Total Cash in Banks	\$17,513.71

Medal Sales Report as of 3 July 2024

Item	2024	2023	Difference	%
Medals sold since January 1st	489	643	-154	-23.99%
Remaining Medals on Hand	2,459	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gross Medal Sales	\$8,802.00	\$10,763.77	-\$1,961.77	-18.23%
Net Profit from Medal Sales	\$3,993.50	\$3,457.22	\$536.28	15.51%

Charles Watts' motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and the Medals Report, seconded by George Tabor, was unanimously approved.

Russ Higbie, presented his fascinating recollections from a stellar career in law enforcement with the Federal Marshall's Service, the Oklahoma County Sherriff's Department, the Oklahoma Bureau of Investigation, and the last 28 years with the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics. His Special Forces training was instrumental in preparing him for a long and illustrious career. For the last 10 years, Russ has served as a Sergeant At Arms in the Oklahoma Legislature. He previously reported on the Legislature's ceremony honoring Hmong refugees living in Oklahoma. At the request of the Chapter, Russ has arranged for eighteen (18) Hmong refugees and wives to be our guests at our 10 AUG 2024, meeting.

Old Business.

Historian, Maj (R) Joe Todd, is continuing to record videos of combat veterans. If you have not recorded an interview, contact Joe at (918) 914-2179.

Please give Pat Carr your submissions for The Drop. Please also give Pat your old photographs (in uniform or out) to be preserved on the chapter website.

SFA CARNIVAL CRUISE

SFA Members,

It is my honor to serve this Association as your newly elected Vice President. I still have a big job with this SF Cruise we are planning for October, where we are also going to have our SFACON for 2024.

Our cruise committee is lead by Chapter VIII (Hawaii); however, we have volunteers from all across the country and just completed our 29th IPR today. Below is a quick update...join us and book your cabin before they are all gone.

As you know, we are gathering over 2,100+ Green Berets, Gold Star Families, Medal of Honor recipients, family and friends. The responses have been overwhelming with **908 cabin registrations (1900+**

passengers) so far. This does not include 30 cabins that have purchased/donated for a Gold Star Family, Medal of Honor recipient, or currently serving AD/NG Soldiers and their spouse.

We expect to fill all 1,055 cabins in the next 60 days. **You need to register now if you want to go!** I understand many that are not retired, could not commit last year when we started planning, but we are now about 100 days out from sailing. It should be easier to commit or know your schedule. This event will provide Special Forces Benevolent Organizations, sponsors, and friends many opportunities to engage with over 7 decades of Special Forces soldiers and their families in formal and mostly informal settings. Since it is a charter, every venue on the ship will be available to best suit specific programs, symposiums, discussions, and lunch/dinner sessions, at no additional cost to the sponsor or individual.

Prepare to be inspired by an exceptional lineup of keynote speakers who have conquered adversity and achieved remarkable success both during and after their military service. Hear stories of resilience, leadership, and triumph, drawing upon the lessons learned from your time in the Special Forces and applying them to your civilian life. Potential speakers include: The Originals, Medal of Honor Recipients, Commanders of various organizations like USSOCOM, USASOC, etc. The 1st SFG has already committed to conduct their reunion on the ship as well.

There are only interior cabins remaining, and the rate is \$1320 for the cabin (for 2 persons), this pays for all your lodging, food, first class entertainment, taxes, port fees, and gratuities during the 5 day cruise.

Draft Schedule:

Day -1: Thu 10/17 Tampa (*Recommended arrival date*)

Opportunities: Scuba-Diving Recert / Trip, Deep Sea Fishing, Golf, Mini-reunions

Potential concert by Famous Artist

Potential Scott Mann's "Last Out-Elegy of a Green Beret" performance

Day 0: Fri 10/18 Tampa

SOCOM Command Briefing (location TBD)

SOCOM Memorial Event

Motorcycle Ride

Scuba-diving Trip/Recert

Various Pre-Cruise Ice-Breakers by SF Group

1st SFG Reunion Social at the Barrymore Hotel Tampa River Walk

Deep Dive 2024 Combat Diver Reunion at Horse Soldier Distillery

Potential concert by Famous Artist
Potential Scott Mann's "Last Out-Elegy of a Green Beret" performance

Day 1: Sat 10/19 - load 11am by 2pm, depart 4pm (Sail-away party)

Day 2: Sun 10/20 at Sea

Day 3: Mon 10/21 8am - 4pm Bimini, The Bahamas

Day 4: Tue 10/22 8am-4pm Nassau, The Bahamas

Day 5: Wed 10/23 at Sea

Day 6: Thu 10/24 8am arrive back in Tampa, FL offload by 1130

** Those returning home by air should plan flights after 12pm*

Ybor City Tours, Dinner and Pub Crawl

Potential concert by Famous Artist

Potential Scott Mann's "Last Out-Elegy of a Green Beret" performance

Day 7: Fri 10/25

We are hosting a Cruise Q&A session via Zoom next Monday, July 15 at 7:30pm, if you want to hear what's happening or have questions, join us.

The 2024 Special Forces and Friends Cruise Committee is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Kevin Harry (SFLI President), Pete Tingstrom (Lead Planner/Vice President SFA), and Carle Hurst (Travel Agent) will be giving updates and will answer your questions.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8084362901?omn=81531426047>

Meeting ID: 808 436 2901 (No Password required)

Make Lifelong Connections: Strengthen the bonds forged in the crucible of the Special Forces and form new connections with like-minded individuals who share a common mission and purpose. The reunion cruise is a chance to expand your network, exchange ideas, and collaborate with fellow warriors who are making a difference in various fields.

So don't miss out on this extraordinary gathering of elite warriors. Reserve your spot today on this Global Gathering of Green Berets and embark on an adventure that will reignite the fire within and create memories that will last a lifetime. Together, let's honor the past, celebrate the present, and embrace the future.

REGISTER HERE

<https://sfali.org/cruise-pre-registration-page/>

For more information, continue to follow us at:

<https://www.specialforcesassociation.org/sfacon-2024/>

or on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sfacon>

DON'T MISS THE BOAT!

De Oppresso Liber,

Pete Tingstrom

Vice President Special Forces Association

(808) 436-2901

Special Forces 2024 Cruise Lead Planner / SFACON 2024 Chair

specialforces2024cruise@gmail.com

New Business

Ray Williams' motion to approve the meeting minutes for both 11 MAY and 8 JUN 2024, which was seconded by Butch Graham, was unanimously approved.

Everett Bagley won the 50/50 raffle in the amount of \$140, which he generously donated back to the chapter. Those wishing to participate in the 50/50 drawing should bring small bills. Five dollars buys six tickets. A chapter coin gets an extra ticket.

Please save Saturday, 26 OCT 2024, on your calendars, when Special Forces Master Sergeant and recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, Earl Plumblee, will be inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. Our own Doug Warden is MSG Plumblee's sponsor. World War II era Rangers from Oklahoma will also be posthumously inducted. The event will take place at 1830 hours, at the Norman Embassy Suites.

Our next meeting is Saturday, 10 AUG 2024, at the Okla County Sheriff's Headquarters, 2101 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City. The entrance to parking is on the north side of NE 36th Street. The social hour begins at 1100 hours, and the business meeting begins at 1200 hrs. This is an important meeting, as Russ Higbie has invited eighteen (18) Hmong refugees and wives to be our guests. They will be accompanied by Oklahoma State Senator, Shane Jett. We will present Chapter Coins and Certificates Of Appreciation to each recipient. We will also serve a barbeque lunch, as the meeting will again be catered by Bedlam Bar-B-Q.

De Oppresso Liber,



Charles J. Watts

D-2833

Assistant Secretary