



**Special Forces Association  
Chapter XLV (45)  
Uniting Ohio's Green Berets**  
8226 S. Perimeter Rd., Bldg 933, Columbus, OH 43217-5933

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**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes 8 and 11 January 2018**

The January 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> meetings and luncheons of Special Forces Chapter XLV was called to order at the Hofbrauhaus Newport, KY and Columbus, OH. Notes from all meetings are in these minutes.

Chapter Officers in attendance were:

President: Mark Arnold  
Vice President:  
Secretary: Patrick Enlow  
Treasurer: Chadd Kuhn

Members and Guests in attendance were:

Charlie Mohr	Rob Thatcher
Danny Vinson	Mark Scott
Jesse Boyd	Bob Deis
Jan Hauger	Dorothy Schneider
Tom McGrath	Bob Schneider
Andy Schneider	Norm Lambert
Kevin Colwell	Bill Caruthers
James Saunders	Ken Horne
Eric Smith	Gene Taylor
Stuart Candis	Tom Edwards
Gene Adams	Frank Hicks
Jack Heist	Don Cassidy
Tom McCarthy	Don Thomas

**The TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Chadd Kuhn reported as of 12/31/2017 the Chapter's Operations Funds total \$43,886 and the Family Support Fund is \$2590, for a combined total of \$46,476. Additionally, the Chapter also received its first donations this month to support the 2018 3 Gun Shoot, and those donations will be included in the January report.

**MEETING DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (leads for actions noted in bold)**

-Meeting agenda was outlined by Mark Arnold. Discussion items follow:

1. **CHAPTER OFFICERS.** Danny Vinson volunteered to serve as the Chapter Treasurer during Chadd Kuhn's 2018 deployment.



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2. CHAPTER WEBSITE. [www.sfa45.org](http://www.sfa45.org) Updated with new fundraisers.
3. CHAPTER FACEBOOK PAGE. **SFA 45** is our Facebook page, and it can be updated by any chapter member.
4. RECRUITING AND MEMBERSHIP.  
**Bob Deis** volunteered to manage chapter membership and recruitment. This includes reminding chapter members who forgot to pay their annual membership dues.
5. EVENTS.
  - a. Memorial Marker Dedication Ceremony 21 April 2018  
Chapter member, **Bob Lucas**, in coordination with the Ohio History Connection and the Buckeye Wing Association, has scheduled a tentative date of 1330 hrs 21 April 2018 at Denver Williams Park in Wilmington, OH for the dedication of a stone marker that memorializes the C119 crash of 1964 when 17 airmen and SF troops were killed in a mid-air collision during an airborne operation. **Dan Hessler** has volunteered to serve as Chaplain for the ceremony. **Jack Heist** volunteered to play taps and provide a modest color guard for the ceremony. A reminder email will be sent during April about the ceremony.
  - b. Motorcycle Rally 2018 (no change)  
**Mark Arnold** briefed the chapter that he presented a Thank You plaque to the CEO and staff of AD Farrow, Ohio's first and largest Harley Davidson dealership for their generously hosting our fund raising motorcycle rally in August. The chapter will have another rally during 2018; AD Farrow has agreed to host it again! Mark will coordinate details of the event with AD Farrow, and he will manage the event on behalf of the chapter.
  - c. Lunch and Meeting location.  
The Columbus Hofbrauhaus has hosted our meetings for over two years by generously allowing us to use their large dinner hall upstairs when it is available. Because this room is unavailable to us consistently, John McCort suggested we seek another venue.  
**Tom McGrath** – please seek another venue that is in greater Columbus area, has a private room that can be committed to us monthly at no charge, has a restaurant, has a TV we can use for displaying meeting presentations, and is very close to an Interstate exit (makes it much easier for members traveling from outside central Ohio). **Patrick Enlow** will work with Tom to identify a potential alternative location: Quaker State Steak and Lube (yes, it's a restaurant with meeting room and TV that can be used for presentations).



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In the meantime, we will continue to meet at the Hofbrauhaus Columbus.

- d. 3 Gun Shoot 2018  
A discussion regarding this event concluded that we should make this happen during 2018. **Mark Arnold** met with Jason Conrad, the manager at Pickaway County Sportsmen, Inc. Circleville, OH to determine one or more courses of action for executing this during 2018. Jason has several ideas, and he will contact his network of shooters to determine the optimum registration fee, online advertising within the shooting community, online registration method and some insight into gaining new sponsors. He concluded that having two separate shooting bays dedicated to coaching novice shooters who are sponsored will expedite an efficient event. He also concluded that by having shooters who bring their own ammo and guns will enable two sets of shooters to compete in the four other bays: a morning group of 40 and an afternoon group of 40. Green Beret coaches can coach in the morning and compete in the afternoon.  
**Mike Robinson:** we need your masterful work again to craft a graphic that we can use in the Shooting community websites.
- e. KINGS ISLAND DAY.  
Fran Wessling of The Ohio District of the Green Beret Foundation contacted Mark Arnold to discuss her organization's idea: Provide a one-day Kings Island park pass for redeploying GBs and their families and significant others and two night's stay at the Gray Wolf Lodge (or another nearby hotel). This would be a welcome home event exclusively for members of B/2/19. If the GB is not married, then he can bring his significant other and family or another family member or friend. This will be an open opportunity during 2018. The GB can choose any time to do this following redeployment. It provides schedule flexibility to suit their needs; they simply must choose two nights and a day prior to the park's 2018 season closing.  
**Contact Mark Arnold: [markcarnold@yahoo.com](mailto:markcarnold@yahoo.com)**
6. HOME VISITS TO MEMBERS.  
From time to time some of our members fall ill or injured, and a morale visit by a few chapter members would be appreciated and enjoyable for everyone. **Danny Vinson** suggested we craft a Green Beret graphic that chapter members can sign as a demonstration of support for guys who are ill or injured. An 8"x11" card could be signed during our luncheon meetings. (**Mike Robinson**, another request to you.) **Jan Hauger** volunteered to create a roster of guys who should be checked on for health concerns, and he will identify guys who they and their family agree that a visit from chapter members would be welcomed. This action says a lot about our chapter. **Thank**



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**you, Jan**, for initiating this, and thank you in advance to those who will support this.

**Jim Wetz and John McCort** will help take leads on this too.

**Patrick Enlow** suggested the chapter compensate members for expenses incurred for travel when members conduct health and welfare visits to Green Berets and their families.

7. MONTHLY LUNCHEONS AND MEETINGS: **first Monday and second Thursday of each month at 1145 hrs.**

**5 February** at the Hofbrauhaus Newport, KY (moved to second Monday due to Day January 1<sup>st</sup> Holiday.

**8 February** at the Hofbrauhaus Columbus, 800 Goodale Street.

Both of these are fun events, and the chapter will hold brief meetings during our luncheons.

8. THE DROP:

**Andy Schneider** volunteered to manage the Chapter's quarterly submissions of text and photos for The Drop.

Chapter 45 will NOT be in The Drop's next issue because nobody volunteered to do this during the past six months. Mark Arnold submitted the autumn issue, but we missed the Editor's November deadline for the winter issue.

Thank you, Andy, for taking the lead on this. Don't blame him for missing anything; Andy volunteered as of January.

9. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL and NEW MEMBERSHIP.

Preferred method: Use [sfa45.org](http://sfa45.org) website and renew online using PayPal or credit card.

Alternate method 1: Pay online at the Special Forces Assoc. National HQ website.

Alternate method 2: Mail your \$40 renewal dues in a check made to *Special Forces Association*. Mail the dues with a membership renewal form to:

**SF Association**

**PO Box 41436**

**Fayetteville, NC 28309**

10. 501 (c)(3) status. The SFA is a 501(c)(19) "Fraternal" organization and not a charity.

**Tom McGrath** with support from Danny Vinson is prepared to create and submit to the IRS the documents required for establishing a 501 (c)(3) subsidiary charitable organization for the chapter.

- Since the December meeting, six chapter members plus Mark Arnold have committed to recruiting at least one \$1000 sponsor during 2018.
- 42 chapter members replied via email or during meetings that the chapter should continue fundraising
- 2 chapter members voted against continued fundraising



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11. CHAPTER FUNDRAISING.

If the chapter wishes to continue fundraising, then we must memorialize a mission statement for this Charity. This is the requirement for creating a 501(c)3 subsidiary, and establishing this subsidiary is the only way corporate and most private fundraising can be sought. Several chapter members provided insightful input regarding this since our December meeting. A discussion that lasted over an hour ensued during the January meetings. Mark Arnold also met with the B/2/19 leadership team regarding this subject. Key comments include the following:

- a. Other SOF support organizations. The Green Beret Foundation, the USASOC Association, and the Special Operations Warrior Foundation are multimillion \$, well-funded and professionalized organizations who are quickly available to support the needs of injured Green Berets and their families. These organizations have staff on salary (full time paid positions) who are committed to advancement (fund raising). These organizations have demonstrated their capability to rapidly support any injured or killed GB and their family. (Great summaries and real-life stories were provided by chapter members **Tim Ruffing and Ed Petkovich**). Summary: Chapter 45 can support immediate needs of families of members of B/2/19, but we should assure these large SOF support organizations are also committed to each incident, and our chapter should not donate to these larger organizations (they have professional fundraising staff, robust campaigns and broad support bases.)
- b. Fund-raising purposes.

**Tim Ruffing** messaged, and **Andy Schneider** spoke of focusing the chapter's financial and human resources on supporting Ohio-based Green Berets and their families as well as those GBs and families who call Ohio their home – the Ohio SF community.

As mentioned earlier, **Patrick Enlow** suggested the chapter compensate (when requested) travel expenses for members who make consistent health and welfare visits to GBs and their families.

**Philip Taraska** messaged the concept of establishing a scholarship for GB family members: children and grandchildren of chapter members. Perhaps an essay contest could be managed – similar to what SFA National HQ does for two students per year. Positive conversation ensued about this idea during our meetings.

**Charlie Mohr** spoke in detail about using funds to support families of deployed GBs (Ohio based guys or guys from Ohio) for immediate household emergencies such as a failed furnace, plumbing repairs, etc. Conversation ensued that concluded this applies to any GB family in Ohio: families of deployed GBs and severely injured or ill GBs who reside in Ohio (all GBs, not just B/2/19 families).



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The B/2/19 Family Support Group manages and communicates needs of families of their deployed GBs. **Mark Arnold** met with MAJ Siemer, unit commander, (MAJ Siemer's wife is the FRG leader) and Mark will provide the contact information of chapter officers to the FRG. The FRG and the unit's two stay-behind NCOs will contact us regarding individual requests for assistance during the unit's deployment. Please contact Mark Arnold if you wish to take a leading role in this support.

"One off" needs:

From time to time, other opportunities may arise that the chapter can vote upon that is related to the SF community.

- 1) An example is the *Save the Montagnard People*, a charity supported by SFA chapters in North Carolina. **John McCort** has details on this charity.
- 2) Another example: the chapter should discuss and vote on financially supporting the *Kings Island initiative* mentioned earlier.
- 3) **Jesse Boyd** mentioned the possibility of providing funds to SFA National HQ if the HQ has a special need, such as rebuilding after the 2016 hurricane that hit Fayetteville, NC.

Potential Mission Statement language can include the following:

The Charitable Trust of the Buckeye Chapter of the Special Forces Association provides transformative support to the men and families of the Special Forces community of Ohio to ensure death, wounds and illness do not stop Green Berets from completing the mission of providing for their families' comfort and success and to limit the hardships caused by these events.

An all-member vote will be held via email on this subject during February 2018. The outcome of the vote will decide whether the chapter establishes a charitable subsidiary. If a member votes in favor of establishing the subsidiary, then they are encouraged to provide input to the Mission Statement. "Berets off" to member **Tim Ruffing**; he wrote most of the draft statement above.