



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

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes 7 and 10 January 2019

The January 7th and 10th meetings and luncheons of Special Forces Chapter XLV, The Buckeye Chapter, were called to order at the Hofbrauhaus Newport, KY and at AMVETS Post 89 in 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	Mike Hurdzan
Jim Adams	Richard Carr
Ken Horne	Frank Hicks
Don Thomas	Jeff Baldwin
Bill Carruthers	Kevin Colwell
Carl Fuller	Jesse Boyd
Eric Smith	Gene Taylor
Stuart Candis	Gene Adams
Larry Verne	Pete Lowell
Don Thomas	Chris Twomey
Jeff Baldwin	Jim Butler
Jim Edwards	Andy Schneider
Joe Ballanger	Nelson Hastings
Jim Wetz	Bob Deis
Tom McGrath	Butch Betzo
Danny Vinson	Tom Edwards
Terry Dillon	Dave Wilhelmus
John Gonzalez	Jerry Spence
Eric Bornschlegl	Bill Cline

The TREASURER'S REPORT

Chadd Kuhn reported the Chapter's combined balance of general fund and family support fund (The Ohio Green Beret Support Group) is \$65,142.21 as of 1 January including \$10,5227.49 in the Operations fund and \$54,614.72 in the Ohio Green Beret Support Group (family support fund). This total does not include receipts collected by Jim Wetz during December from the gun



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raffle.

Chadd also reported that he received correspondence from the Portsmouth, OH Post of The American Legion; they stated The Ohio Green Beret Support Group will receive monthly income during 2019 from that Post based on its monthly charitable collections. Thank you SFA 45 member **Rick LaValley** for making this happen!

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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Membership Recognition for Service.

The chapter discussed nominating and paying for SFA Life Memberships for two people who stepped forward and made significant contributions to the chapter during 2018. The discussion was followed by a vote. **Chris Burlingame** and **Eric Stansifer** were selected to receive Life Membership (a value of \$445 each) to be paid for by the Chapter. Chris donated the custom AR15 and Eric donated the Glock pistol with suppressor for our 2018 raffle. This raffle netted over \$9500 to the chapter after expenses. Congratulations and Thank You Chris and Eric!

Members are encouraged to recommend recognition of other members who make notable contributions of their time and energy, leadership, cash donations and donations of items to the chapter. Life Membership is one of the most generous ways we can reward members. The chapter will discuss and vote on nominees during February and March meetings.

2. SFA International Convention 2019.

The dates are 13-18 August at Charleston, WV hosted by Chapter 68. Coordinating instructions are at the SFA HQ website and SFA 68 website.

3. American Legion Membership.

See note in Treasurer's report about 2019 donations to the Ohio Green Beret Support Group by the American Legion's Portsmouth, OH Post. Member Rick LaValley recommends that chapter members join and become leaders at multiple American Legion posts. The IRS requires the American Legion to donate 25% of charitable collections to charitable organizations; The Ohio Green Beret Support Group qualifies. Several members mentioned during the Columbus meeting that they are Legion members. Again, SFA 45 members are encouraged to be active leaders at Legion posts so they can make credible arguments for Posts to donate annually/monthly to The Ohio Green Beret Support Group. Our scholarship program is attractive to the Legion and the IRS.



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OLD BUSINESS:

1. CHAPTER OFFICER ELECTION. Tom McGrath managed the vote count for chapter officers during the 15 December-10 January election period. The results conclude the following members will serve in the noted positions during the 2019-2021 terms:

President: Patrick Enlow
Vice President: Mark Arnold
Treasurer: Tom McGrath
Secretary: Andy Schneider
Asst. VP: Jim Wetz
Asst. Treasurer: Chadd Kuhn
Asst. Secretary: Jeff Gallaher

These officers will be worn in during the 14 February meeting in Columbus.

2. CHAPTER WEBSITE. *SFA45.org*
There are multiple updates needed for our website. **Jim Wetz** and **Andy Schneider** volunteered to assist **Patrick Enlow** with this. Photos and videos from events, overhaul of the Donation page to focus entirely on The Ohio Green Beret Support Group, LLC, SFA 45's support to the Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor, among other items.
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, chapter membership manager, reminded the members that the chapter is not entitled to its \$10 per annual due per member for dues not paid before 31 January. Jesse Boyd recommended we review the most current roster provided by SFA National on 15 March; this will be the best "Members in Good Standing for 2019" roster.
5. CHAPTER MARKETING.
While managing the Gun Raffle, **Jim Wetz** briefed the membership of gaps he has found in our chapter's ability to communicate what the chapter does with funds it raises. He said we need a poster that includes all the things we do and for whom. Jim added that this should distinguish us from other veteran-based organizations. This is essential for all fundraising efforts and an essential area for our website. Action for **Mike Robinson** with assistance from Mark Arnold.
6. Chapter Business Cards.
Several members asked about having cards created that were generic and could be used by all chapter members regardless of whether they are officers or not. Mark Arnold will work with **Mike Robinson** to create a card design that the chapter could have printed.



7. EVENTS.

a. Motorcycle Freedom Run 2019

Jim Wetz will coordinate with owners of AD Farrow and The Buckeye Lake Winery and establish a date for this event.

b. 3 Gun Shoot 2018

Mark Arnold agreed to manage this event again in 2019. A date will be chosen soon.

Chapter member **John Healy** donated a WWII-era Mauser rifle. This will be used as a high profile prize during the 3 Gun Shoot.

c. KINGS ISLAND DAY.

Mark Arnold will follow up with The Great Wolf Lodge to collect residual cash from the deposit the chapter made to pay \$150 of expenses for B/2/19 SFG members and their families. This offer expired on 31 December.

8. HOME VISITS TO MEMBERS.

Jan Hauger is in Florida for the winter, and member Jesse Boyd will follow-up with this initiative during Jan's absence from Ohio.

9. GUN RAFFLE.

Jim Wetz managed this successful program and executed the drawing on 13 January during the chapter's monthly meeting at AMVETS 89. The commander of the Post conducted the actual drawing of the winning tickets using the AMVETS' ticket tumbler. The event was recorded and videoed. The winners were notified the same day. Great work, Jim!

10. Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor

Chapter member **Ted Mosure** briefed the chapter regarding initiatives and finances of The OMHOFV. It has just enough funds for its 2019 induction ceremony. The chapter discussed donating and voted positively to donate \$1000 immediately to The OMHOFV. Action: **Chadd Kuhn**.

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

4 February at the Hofbrauhaus Newport, KY

14 February at the AMVETS Post 89, Columbus.

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



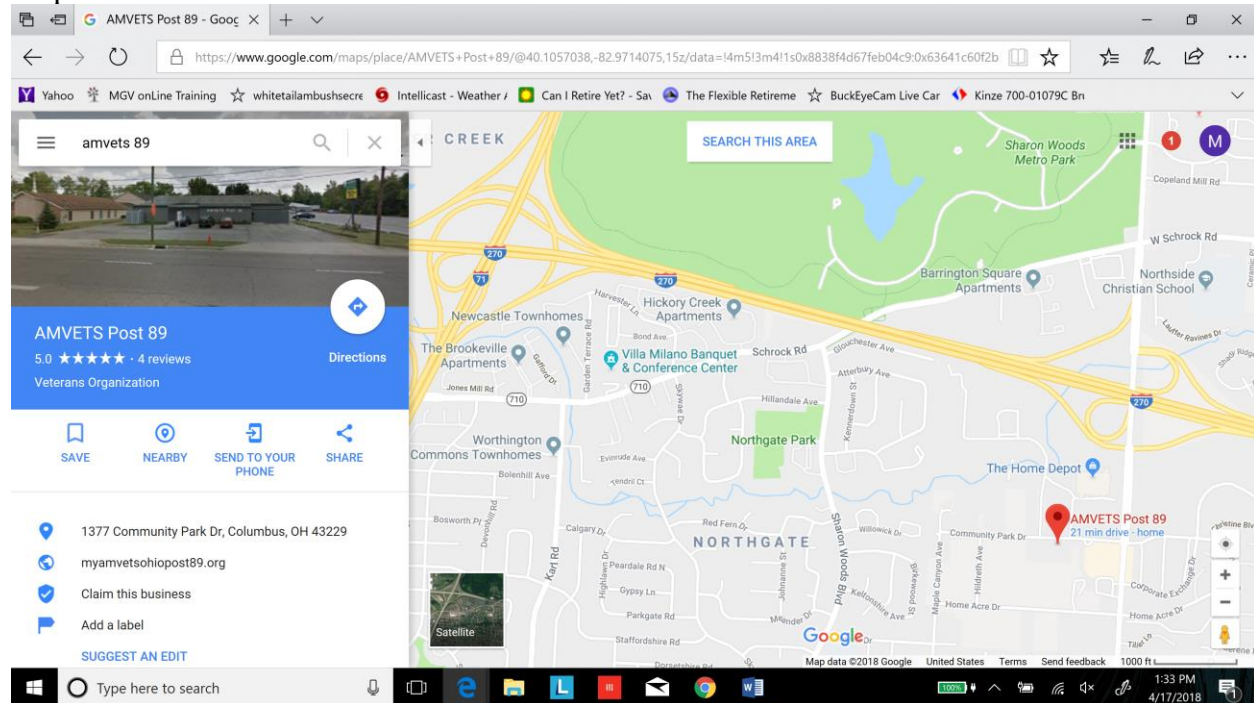
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Lunch cost at AMVETS 89 is paid by the chapter, and the Post committed to preparing and serving this for us monthly.

The chapter voted to change its Columbus meeting venue to AMVETS Post 89. It is at a convenient location: I-270 North and Cleveland Ave. exit. It is less than a quarter mile south of this exit.

Address: 1377 Community Park, Columbus,
Phone: 614-776-4552.

Map follows:



AMVETS Post 89 Lunch/Chapter Meeting 2nd Thursday monthly at 1130 – 1330 hrs.

12. THE DROP:

Email draft text and photos to **Andy Schneider**: andysfa@zoho.com

13. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL and NEW MEMBERSHIP.

Preferred method: Use sfa45.org website, print and complete the forms and mail it with a check payable to SFA45 to:

Treasurer SFA 45
3104 Geiger Rd
Millersport, OH 43046

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



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14. CHAPTER FUNDRAISING.

Tom McGrath is preparing a second filing with the IRS to establish The Ohio Green Beret Support Group, LLC. This is a 501(c)(3) Charitable subsidiary organization to Chapter 45. Tom is re-submitting the application on a new IRS form as requested by the IRS. The provisional tax ID number is still effective, and donors can use it to declare donations as entirely deductible when reporting income and preparing their tax returns. We will continue to use the unit's address as its home address (as we do for SFA 45): 8226 South Perimeter Road, Bldg. #93, Columbus, OH 43217.

Its Federal Tax Identification number is: 83-1512941.

We will include this number in receipts to donors to the chapter. Donations should be made payable to **The Ohio Green Beret Support Group, LLC**. All donations to this are entirely tax deductible.

Fund-raising purposes.

Funds will be used to support chapter members, members of B/2/19, and other Green Berets who call Ohio their home to support their family when specific circumstances inhibit Green Berets from supporting their family alone.

Other ideas for employment of fundraising funds.

The following list is based on discussion during past meetings and remains in these minutes to facilitate discussion during follow-on meetings:

Buying memorial bricks at SFA HQ for deceased members.

Create a memorial site in Ohio for Green Berets.

Support to a foundation dedicated to Afghans and Iraqis who directly supported SOF and subsequently relocated to the US.

We will vote on support to Vietnam's Montagnards during 2019. We will ask SFA HQ if they have vetted and support a particular Montagnard-focused non-profit charitable organization. Since support to the Montagnards has not been a theme during our fundraising to-date and it does not align with the mission statement that was provided to the IRS for The Ohio Green Beret Support Group, LLC, then we may dedicate a fundraiser specifically for Montagnards during 2019.

All ideas require further research by chapter members and discussion among the chapter.

The chapter already voted to support the Gold Star Family of SFC Daniel Crabtree; see item below.

15. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

This will be two to four annual \$1000 grants of tuition assistance for chapter members and their immediate family. Definition follows: Chapter member, spouse, or direct lineal descendent of the chapter member; or be a legally adopted dependent or acknowledged by The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) as a dependent of the



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chapter member. Tuition grant programs are normally for a four-year degree, but the chapter voted unanimously that the program may include tuition assistance for private or public learning institutions other than a university and other than a bachelors degree; this includes vocational training. Chadd Kuhn suggested we support the same educational categories covered by the GI Bill. The chapter established a Committee to propose the details of the Program, so it can be discussed before 31 December and executed by February 2019. **Mark Arnold, Ed Wheeler and Tom McGrath** will be the Committee, and Mark will recruit a fourth person and probably a fifth (non-chapter members) for the Committee; having an executive non-member is a practice recommended by the IRS for non-profit Boards. Mark Arnold will recruit one or two central Ohio based professional/executive for our Board.

16. SFA 45 will support an SF Gold Star Family. Per Chapter 68's request, SFA 45 voted positively to pay for the lodging expenses for an SF Gold Star Family to attend all or parts of the 2019 Convention. It will be hosted by chapter 68 in Charleston, WV. Our Gold Star family is the family of SFC Dan Crabtree, KIA Iraq 2005. **Kevin Colwell** volunteered to be the action officer for this initiative, and Kevin's next task is to determine from the family how many members and which dates they wish to attend. Kevin will then coordinate with SFA 68 to gain hotel reservations using the SFA discount. Our chapter's estimated expenses are \$500 to \$1000 depending on how many family members will attend and how many hotel rooms are required.