



**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 1 and 11 October 2018**

The October 1<sup>st</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> 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: Jeff Gallaher  
Secretary:  
Treasurer: Chadd Kuhn

Members and Guests in attendance were:

Charlie Mohr	James Summers
Jim Adams	Richard Carr
Ed Porter	Frank Hicks
Larry Verne	Ed Wheeler
Bill Smith	Ken Horne
William Carruthers	Kevin Colwell
Carl Fuller	Jesse Boyd
Eric Smith	Gene Taylor
Stuart Candis	Gene Adams
Jack Heist	Jan Hauger
George Thomas	Carl Fuller
Jeff Baldwin	Jim Butler
Jim Edwards	Andy Schneider
John McCort	John Stahl
Jim Wetz	Norm Lambert
Tom McGrath	Butch Betzo
Danny Vinson	Rick LaValley
Terry Dillon	Eric Stansifer
Chris Burlingame	

**The TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Chadd Kuhn** reported the Chapter's combined balance of general fund and family support fund is \$59,306.09 as of 10 October 2018. Mark Arnold and Tom McGrath completed an audit of the chapter's financial records on 3 October following the transition of Treasurer duties from acting Treasurer, Danny Vinson, to Chadd Kuhn. No discrepancies were found.



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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chapter member **Jim Cermak** passed away after a three-month battle with esophageal cancer. Jim was a highly capable 18E and supervised a Battalion Communications Section before he retired. **Patrick Enlow** is asked to provide an obituary to The Drop with assistance from Jesse Boyd.
2. The Chapter membership recognized and applauded chapter member **Ed Petkovich** for donating \$5000 for the third year in a row as a sponsor to our 3 Gun Shoot. Berets off to chapter member **Rick LaValley** too; Rick donated \$1000 for the third year in a row.
3. Mark Arnold introduced **COL John Stahl**, active duty SF, who is assigned as the Senior Advisor to the Ohio Army National Guard. John has served in 1<sup>st</sup> SFG, 3<sup>rd</sup> SFG and recently served as the Deputy Commander of 5<sup>th</sup> SFG. John helped lead the chapter in a discussion regarding fundraising and best practices employed by Chapter 38. John will invite two members of Chapter 38 to attend an SFA 45 meeting to continue the discussion and share best practices.
4. **Chris Burlingame** attended and brought a generous donation of a custom-built AR 15. **Eric Stansifer**, who donated a Sig Sauer pistol to the recent 3 Gun Shoot, brought photos of a Glock 17 with silencer (along with \$200 for the Tax Stamp fee); he is donating this to the chapter. Both weapons will be raffled combined into a first and second prize. **Jim Wetz** volunteered to manage this Raffle Program with graphics support from **Mike Robinson**. The raffle will be limited to 1000 tickets at \$10 each. This is time sensitive because both Chris and Eric will sell tickets at gun-related events they plan to attend this year.
5. **Chadd Kuhn** told the chapter that B/2/19 SFG was being charged an additional \$700 by the Hilton for its 2018 FETE; this is a charge that nobody anticipated nor considered when the registration fee was set. The chapter discussed this and voted unanimously to support the unit for this shortfall.
6. Fundraising Objectives. A discussion regarding potential objectives for the chapter included the following items: One member discussed establishing a chapter Safe House close to B/2/19. This is both a one-time then annually expensive and perhaps unrealistic objective unless the chapter secures a corporate sponsor for the entire site; we cannot use The Green Beret Support Group's funds for this. Other ideas included buying memorial



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bricks at SFA HQ for deceased members. Another idea is to establish a memorial site in Ohio for Green Berets. We will vote on support to Vietnam's Montagnards during 2019. John Stahl discussed potential support for Afghans and Iraqis who directly supported SOF and subsequently relocated to the US. All ideas other than the Montagnards require further research by chapter members and discussion among the chapter.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. CHAPTER OFFICERS. Chapter members were reminded that nominations for officer positions – especially the President's position – are needed for our November-December chapter elections. Nomination requests were emailed to all chapter members on 1 OCT.
2. CHAPTER WEBSITE. *SFA45.org*
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, did not attend the meeting.
5. EVENTS.
  - a. Motorcycle Freedom Run 2019  
**Jim Wetz** volunteered to manage this event for 2019. Jim will choose a date soon that works for AD Farrow Harley Davidson and The Buckeye Lake Winery; both agreed to support this again in 2019.
  - b. 3 Gun Shoot 2018  
**Mark Arnold** discussed the outcome of the 3 Gun Shoot and expressed his appreciation to the many chapter members who donated their time to set it up and manage and coach during the event. What a success! Every shooter left with a meaningful door prize, and the experienced competitors said it was a challenging match that they will register for again. Photos will be posted onto our website soon. Mark Arnold will follow up with PCSI to transfer the registration fees from PCSI to SFA 45. Generous donors and sponsors as well as the great Americans at PCSI are on board to support us again in 2019. Mark Arnold agreed to manage this event again in 2019. A date will be chosen soon.
  - c. KINGS ISLAND DAY. (This offer closes 28 December 2018) *Nothing new to report:*  
Fran Wesseling confirmed that the Green Beret Foundation will cover expenses of



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the Park Passes for this initiative. SFA 45 will provide the Soldier a \$150 gift card for use at The Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, OH. Members and family members of B/2/19 can choose any time to do this following redeployment; however, the Park closes Monday through Thursday operations on 20 August and weekends close after October 28th.

Winterfest (perhaps the best events to attend) begins in November and continues through December, and the Park pass offer and hotel gift card can be used for Winterfest through the end of this year. Soldiers are advised to review the Kings Island website to confirm operation dates after 19 August.

The Great Wolf Lodge has a network of resorts across the US, so unit members can use the gift card at a location other than Mason, OH.

Members of B/2/19 SFG who wish to participate in this should contact the following:

**Contact Mark Arnold: [markcarnold@yahoo.com](mailto:markcarnold@yahoo.com) for your hotel gift card.**

**Contact Fran Wesseling: [fwesseling@fuse.net](mailto:fwesseling@fuse.net) for your park passes.**

6. HOME VISITS TO MEMBERS.

**Jan Hauger** is leading this. Jan discussed this, and several members mentioned people they have not seen in over six months. Individuals committed to reaching out to them.

7. Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor.

The chapter will vote later this year regarding making another donation to The OMHOFV.

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

**5 November** at the Hofbrauhaus Newport, KY

**8 November** at the AMVETS Post 89, Columbus.

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

Lunch cost 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.

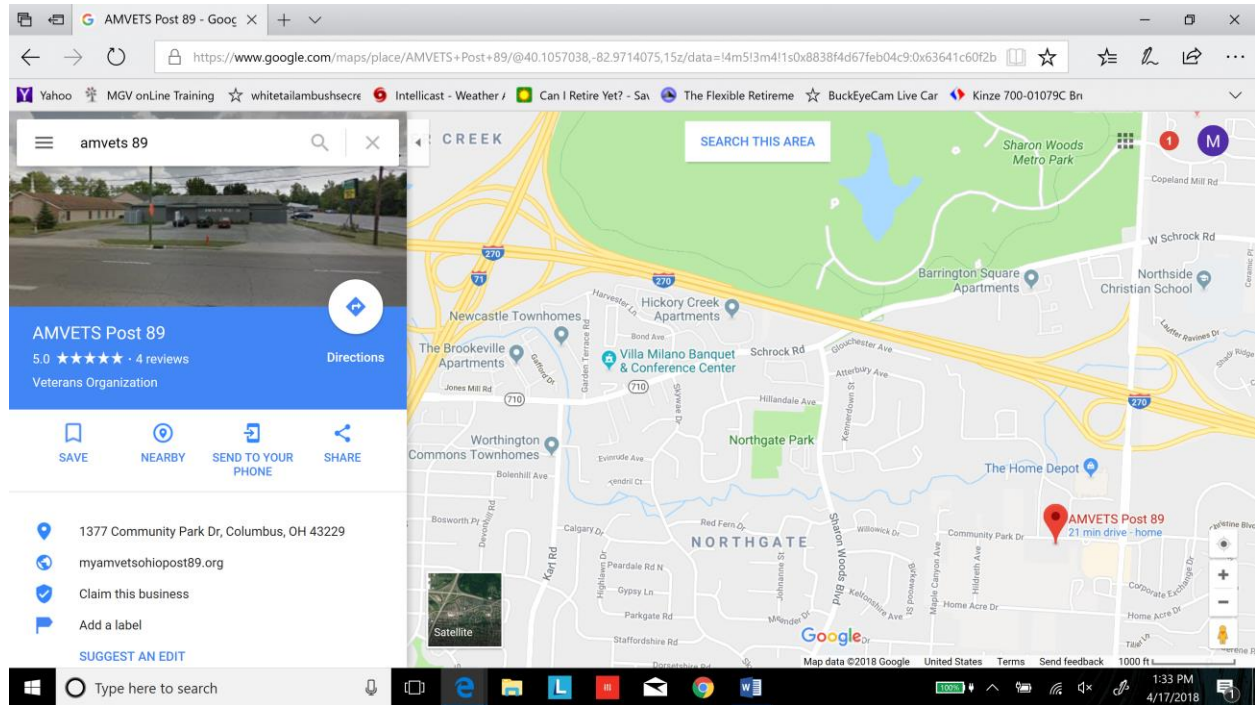
Address: 1377 Community Park, Columbus,

Phone: 614-776-4552.

Map follows:



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

9. **THE DROP:**

Email draft text and photos to **Andy Schneider**: [andysfa@zoho.com](mailto:andysfa@zoho.com)

10. **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL and NEW MEMBERSHIP.**

Preferred method: Use [sfa45.org](http://sfa45.org) website, print and complete the forms and mail it with a check payable to SFA45 to:

**SFA 45**

**Hoxton Ct.**

**Columbus, OH 4220**

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

11. **CHAPTER FUNDRAISING.**

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.

**Tom McGrath** is resubmitting the application on a new IRS form as of 3 October. The provisional tax ID number is still effective.

Tom has established The Ohio Green Beret Support Group, LLC. This is a subsidiary



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organization to Chapter 45. 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**. All donations to this are entirely tax deductible.

12. **CROSSBOW DISCOUNT.**

During his recruitment for sponsors of our 3 Gun Shoot, Mark Arnold met with the leadership of TenPoint Crossbows, an Ohio-based manufacturing company. The CEO of TenPoint Crossbow has approved a 30% discount of its line of TenPoint, Horton and Wicked Ridge crossbows. This discount is available only to SFA 45 chapter members. Contact **Mark Arnold** if you are interested in exploiting this generous offer.

13. SFA Life membership offer to members of B/2/19 SFG. The Chapter has had an open offer to pay \$300 of the \$440 total for members of B/2/19 SFG to become Life members. This offer has been open for three years. We discussed it and voted unanimously to end this offer as of 31 December 2018. In this vote, the chapter also agreed to offer to pay \$300 of the \$440 total to any member of B/2/19 SFG who graduates SFQC and becomes a Life member within 12 months of graduation.

14. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. This would 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 chapter member. Tuition grant programs are normally for a four-year degree, but this program may include tuition assistance for private or public learning institutions other than a university and other than a bachelor degree. The chapter discussed this concept and voted unanimously to establish 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 Tom will recruit a fourth person (non-chapter member) for the Committee; having an executive non-member is a practice recommended by the IRS for non-profit Boards.

15. **Norm Lambert** agreed for **Patrick Enlow** to remove the WWII German medals from the framed print he donated to the chapter for auction. The medals will then be evaluated by experts for their value.

16. SFA 45 agrees to support an SF Gold Star Family. Chapter 68's President reached out to Mark Arnold regarding support to the SFA Convention in June 2019; SFA 68 is seeking other chapters to support the lodging cost for SF Gold Star Families to attend all or parts of the 2019 Convention. It will be hosted by chapter 68 in Charleston, WV. Our Gold



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Star family is the family of SFC Dan Crabtree, KIA Iraq 2005. **Kevin Colwell** volunteered to be the action officer for this initiative.