



**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 December 2015 and Officers' Meeting 3 December

The December 7th and 10th 2015, meetings of Special Forces Chapter XLV were called to order at 1200 hours on 7 DEC at the Hofbrauhaus Covington, KY and at 1200 hours on 10 DEC at the Hofbrauhaus Columbus, OH by President Mark Arnold. An Officers' Meeting was held 3 DEC at Dick's Last Resort, Columbus; notes from that meeting are within these minutes.

Chapter Officers in attendance were:

President: Mark Arnold
Vice President: Tom McGrath
Secretary: Jan Hauger (acting)
Treasurer: Chadd Kuhn; Roger Hobson (acting)

Members and Guests in attendance were:

Jesse Boyd	Jan Hauger (at officers' meeting)
Carl Fuller	Pat Enlow
Smitty Morris	Jeff Gallaher
Mark Scott	Jim Butler
Larry Verne	Charlie Mohr
Ken Horne	Doc Adams
Danny Vinson	Jeff Baldwin
Eric Smith	Jack Heist
Dave Wilhelmus	Terry Dillon
Lauren Redkey	Dave Spriggs
George Thomas	Jim Adams
Jim Summers	Stuart Candis
Gene Taylor	

The TREASURER'S REPORT was provided by Chadd Kuhn

The MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING were reviewed and approved.

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

-Meeting agenda was outlined by Mark Arnold

1. AAR by officers of the Halloween Party 31 OCT 2015
Party at Dick's Last Resort Restaurant Columbus.



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Sustain: Use email plus phone call invitations

Improve: Food quality

Smitty and Mark updated the display case at the restaurant that Swede fabricated during OCT.

2. AAR Veterans Day Parade Columbus.

Sustain: Use of vehicles

Improve: Getting the word out about the event; look into other town's parades too; add signage to vehicles

3. AAR CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Chadd Kuhn did a great job of working with the unit's FRG (who did all the real work) to organize and set up the party. Chadd and his wife purchased the gifts for the unit members' young children. The party is run by the leadership and FRG of B/2/19 SFGA; our Chapter supports the event.

4. UW EXERCISE. The 19th SFGA runs a UW exercise called "Ridge Runner" in West Virginia. It is the military's most sophisticated UW exercise for SOF units – arguably as full spectrum as Robin Sage. SF units (among others) from active duty and the National Guard train here. Chapter members are encouraged to participate as role players (Gs, G Chiefs, enemy combatants, enemy regime members, civilians...other support. Details will be communicated soon.

5. CHAPTER WEBSITE. **Mark Arnold** edited and expanded the work done by **Greg Herbert** who built a new chapter website during September and October. The website remains **SFA45.org**. Members should visit it; they will find photos of the chapter's recent events, a calendar of events, meeting minutes, membership recruitment information and more.

6. CHAPTER FACE BOOK PAGE. **Greg Herbert's** wife, Vivian, has built the base for the Facebook page for the chapter. The chapter needs a member to help update and maintain it.

7. CHAPTER APPAREL. The chapter chose three items of apparel for personalization and purchase by members: Polo shirt, Lightweight fleece jacket (indoor and outdoor), and Weatherproof jacket. **Larry Verne** is acquiring these at cost and he has selected a company to embroider them based on individual members' choices. The apparel is a high quality dri-fit technology shirt; the fleece jacket is latest styling and moisture-wicking fabric; and the weatherproof jacket is sleek and comfortable. Members will personalize them with names and selected military embroidered items; the chapter logo will be on all apparel.

Ladies styles of each item and personalization are also offered.

Order forms will be sent to members and posted on the Chapter website by 12 DEC.



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8. CHAPTER T SHIRTS. Shirts will be offered in black and Coyote Green (so guys can wear them with their new style ACUs). We will try to have a batch ready to present to the deploying guys before they depart the US. **Mark Arnold**

9. RECRUITING AND MEMBERSHIP. This is the future of the Association and our Chapter. **Smitty Morris** led a discussion, and he outlined ways of recruiting SF guys who reside in or near Ohio. He outlined a few sources, such as SF Brothers Facebook page, as means to connect with potential members. An action plan will be written by **Mark Arnold**. We also discussed contacting the leadership of Cleveland's Chapter 35 and organizing a dinner or luncheon in the Akron area; we may find a willingness to fold chapter 35 into 45 or find ways of mutual support. We plan to host luncheons and dinners during chapter meetings at three or more sites in Ohio.

10. CHAPTER TEAM HOUSE. Currently, the Hofbrauhaus Columbus and Newport, KY as well as Dick's Last Resort in Columbus are meeting locations and unofficial safe/team houses. As stated in meeting minutes during the past several months, **anyone** who can find a suitable(s) to use it as a team house will receive the appreciation of the entire chapter. **Mike Hurdzan** has offered his business office as a site, and **Dennis Murphy** may help us land a location.

11. QUARTERLY EVENTS. Ideas for 2016 include:
 - a. Golf outing. **Roger Hobson** did a great job of nailing this with his contacts at Raccoon International Golf Course near Granville, OH. The chapter members chose 30 July as the date for the event. Roger will take on management of this event with support from **Mark Arnold and Jan Hauger**.
 - b. **Roger Hobson** has generously offered to host our summer picnic at his home.
 - c. Motorcycle Poker Run and cookout. **Swede** will create a plan for this, and take the lead for management of it. Expect execution in September 2016.

OTHER IDEAS FOR FUTURE EVENTS:

 - d. b. Shooting center and cookout. **Kevin Colwell** will craft a plan for this by 1 February 2016. **Mark Scott** suggests a 3-gun shoot and he will try to find a venue with Kevin.
 - e. Family day and cookout during a unit airborne operation in conjunction with a skydive event by retired members – all at one location. Potentially, Lancaster Airport and Sky Dive Ohio. **Chadd Kuhn** to craft a plan for review next year; perhaps the Poker Run could have its finish line at a drop zone B/2/19 is using that day

12. CHAPTER BUSINESS CARDS. Cards are available for members; they are useful for recruiting and gaining support from businesses. Contact Mark Arnold for acquiring personalized cards.



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13. **FUND RAISING.** This is an essential element of having a successful chapter. Mike Hurdzan and others have been quite generous, but we need to raise more funds to enable events and other support. **Smitty Morris** mentioned that we should offer to include local sponsors in our website and FaceBook site as well as public events we participate in – where appropriate. The chapter will appreciate any offer by its members to provide attractive items to raffle and to members who secure outside donations of items to raffle. POCs for this are Mark Arnold and Tom McGrath.

14. **NEWSLETTER.** We need this, and the chapter is looking for anyone who is interested in helping with this. Content updates to our website and Facebook page may be acceptable alternatives to a newsletter, but only if our members create their own Face Book accounts. (Individuals can do this and have zero personal information in their accounts – just look at Mark Arnold's account.)

15. **OHIO MILITARY HALL OF FAME:** We have the required information from five (plus one) members who qualify and agree to be nominated for this. **Mark Arnold** will submit the information to the OMHOF Board. Any member who received a valor award and who also entered the military from Ohio qualifies. Please send award documents and DD-214s or copies of military contracts to Mark Arnold.

16. **OFFICER POSITIONS** **Pat Enlow** formerly of C/2/11, B/2/19, SOCKOR, and SOCPAC has volunteered to be the chapter's acting secretary during Dan Waldron's deployment.

17. **MONTHLY LUNCHEONS AND MEETINGS: first Monday and second Thursday of each month.**

Next luncheons and meetings:

5 January at the Hofbrauhaus Newport, KY

14 January at the Hofbrauhaus Columbus.

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

18. **THE DROP:** **Tom McGrath** is assembling items for the chapter's portion; please send your contributions and advice to him. His email address is trmcgrathesq@gmail.com

19. **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL and NEW MEMBERSHIP.**

Chapter members can renew membership in two ways:

- a. Renew online via the SFA national website using *PayPal* or Credit card information. The link is: <http://www.specialforcesassociation.org/about/membership/> Of course, you must also send an email to National and to a chapter officer to state chapter 45 when you renew or apply for a new membership.
- b. Preferred method: Mail your renewal dues in a check made to *SFA Chapter 45*. Mail the dues with a note of your name and member number to:



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**SFA Chapter 45
2311 Hoxton Ct.
Columbus, OH 43220**

The chapter officers will forward your dues to National.

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION.

Go to the National SFA website, print the application form, and mail the form and new member fee/dues check to the same address, above. This is the easiest method for you, and the chapter will quickly process this to National.

We will attempt to update the Chapter website, *SFA45.org* by adding the forms to it as well as a method of paying the renewal dues and new member dues/fees to the chapter online (as an alternative method for chapter members and prospective members). The chapter sends the appropriate funds to National on a monthly and sometimes weekly basis.

20. RECOGNITION CERTIFICATES. MSG(R) Ron Rinto's wife, Erin will be presented an Honorary Chapter Membership certificate for their family's generous donation to support the Christmas Party.
21. Bob Deis made a motion to donate to the Buckeye Chapter of the Boy Scouts of America. The chapter voted to make a \$100 donation. Discussion ranged around chapter members participating in Boy Scout events in order for the boys to have more tangible support and visibility of Special Forces. **Bob Deis** has this for follow up.
22. FUNERAL SUPPORT. The chapter is looking for volunteers to participate in Funeral details for deceased SF Soldiers. The actions may range from folding and presenting US flags to pall bearing. Please contact **Mark Arnold** if you are interested.
23. THE GREEN BERET DISCUSSION. One member asked we discuss this subject as a group: Should we not use the term "Green Beret" in our chapter apparel and banners? His concern is that it may be too overt and approaches bragging – instead of exclusively using the term "Special Forces." This discussion lasted 20 minutes, and we had two teleconferences about it. For multiple reasons, the discussion was unanimously in favor of using the term Green Beret as often as we can. Among the many reasons cited, perhaps the top reason is: the term Special Forces is widely misunderstood by civilians and even within the US military, whereas "Green Berets" is more widely and accurately recognized; SF has been confused with many other SOF formations. SF Command and SWC both are widely using the term, "Green Berets" for reasons of identity. As one member concluded, "The Green Beret is the primary symbol of our brotherhood."