



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

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes 2 and 12 August 2021

The August 2nd and 12th meetings of Special Forces Chapter XLV, The Buckeye Chapter, were called to order by SFA 45 Chapter President Mark Arnold and Vice President Patrick Enlow. Notes from both meetings are in these minutes.

Chapter Officers present or who called-in were:

President: Mark Arnold
Vice President: Patrick Enlow
Secretary:
Treasurer: Tom McGrath
Asst. Vice President: Jim Wetz
Asst. Treasurer:
Asst. Secretary: Jeff Gallaher

Other Members and Guests in attendance were:

Dan Vinson	Dave Wilhelmus
Nick Largarno	Don Cassidy
Tom Edwards	Stuart Candis
Jim Butler	Eric Smith
Jim Adams	Ken Horne
Larry Verne	Tom Edwards
Ed Wheeler	Jim Adams
Don Thomas	Gene Adams
Nelson Hastings	Pete Becker
Jesse Boyd	John McCort
Philip Taraska	

The TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom McGrath reported he did not have an updated monthly report at the time of the meeting. Tom reported he needed to gain the access code and signature authority for our two accounts during Chadd Kuhn's absence. Tom said he will get this reconciled during August and he will also establish checking ability for both accounts since the nature/sources of income and expenses are different between the Chapter operational requirements and the charitable Ohio Green Beret Support Group's. Tom and Patrick Enlow reported the chapter's PayPal account is finally closed and non-operational. Our Stripe account is now the chapter's means of online payments (such as registration for the 3 Gun Shoot fundraiser and renewing SFA membership). \$75,000 is invested in the Ohio Green Beret Support Group Scholarship Endowment (see Scholarship section of these minutes).



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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

1. SF for Life (SF4LLife). This is a joint initiative with USASOC that will link SFA members with other SFA members for the purpose of networking. Chapter member, **Pete Becker**, volunteered to serve on the SFA National Committee for SF4Life and represent our chapter. As an example of SF4Life's potential for assisting SFA members, Pete discussed mass dissemination of the VA's recent memo regarding veterans' who served in Special Operations and this classification may enable approval and processing of disability claims.
2. Club Express; SFA Team House. This online program at SFA National is now active. **Mark Arnold** will email a sharable link to all chapter members that opens a familiarization and training video regarding SFA's Club Express. SFA's officers noted that the only way to gain competency in using Club Express is to login to it and begin navigating it and using it. Members access Club Express through the SFA website. Members have a username and logon PW. If you are not receiving quarterly email notifications from SFA, then they do not have your email address. Send your correct email address to Patrick Enlow patrick@efsnm.com He can enter it into the Club Express data base so you can gain access to the following benefits:
 - You can find members via a state and town search in this website.
 - Enables sharing of chapter calendars among all SFA.
 - Members can update their individual information.
 - Enables email "blasts" to all chapter members and all SFA members. These emails will hide members' email addresses, so they are not visible to everyone who uses it.
 - Opens a network for purposes of local employment opportunities, local housing, VA contacts in your area, and local educational opportunities.
3. Chapter By-Laws. **Tom McGrath** led a discussion regarding chapter voting on significant issues. Tom will draft a change to these by-laws that establishes a monetary threshold for voting on projects and initiatives, such as the SFC Dan Crabtree memorial monument project. He will recommend a threshold that requires quorum voting vs. decisions that can be made by chapter officers following member discussion at monthly meetings. Related, Tom will seek written guidance from SFA National regarding the approval to vote via email since gaining a quorum among our 210 chapter members during monthly meetings is impossible.



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4. Recognition of GB Foundation's Fran Wessling. **Jim Butler** (who is now transferring his membership to SFA45) suggested the chapter contribute \$500 toward a gift to Fran to recognize the work she has done for GBF in the Ohio area; she has raised approximately \$2 million during the past seven years. Members at the meeting agreed the chapter could do this and advised Jim to order and purchase the gift so it can be presented to Fran at her fundraising Gala during the 11 SEP weekend. This is an example of the need to gain a change to chapter by-laws for a spending threshold and decisions.

5. Chapter Scholarship Program. **Mark Arnold** briefed he discussed with the Columbus Foundation's leadership the potential to open this to chapter members' grandchildren. It can be done; however, the Foundation recommended against it due to the complexity of vetting applicants who are not immediate family members. The vetting responsibility would fall to the chapter to confirm applicants' eligibility. The earliest we would consider this expansion of eligibility to grandchildren is January 2022. The Program is currently open for applications and closes 15 October. See this section near the end of these meeting minutes.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **CHAPTER WEBSITE.** *SFA45.org* and Chapter Facebook page.
Patrick Enlow continues updating our website, and he reported that the new standardized chapter website format in SFA National's is inferior to our current website. We will continue to use our own; however, the chapter must develop depth in its members' abilities to update and support the website.
2. **RECRUITING AND MEMBERSHIP.**
Peter Becker reminded the chapter that Kevin Harry's top priority is SFA membership.
3. **Memorial marker for SFC Dan Crabtree, KIA Iraq June 2006.**
Chris Belford reported via email he has met with Nathan Henry completed a site survey at the unit location as an initial step and that design concepts are in progress. This initiative's members include:
Chris Belford (Project Team Leader)
Kevin Colwell
Dave Spriggs
Philip Taraska
4. **Raffle.** Online ammo raffle fundraising initiative.
Jim Wetz reported the limiting factor in this initiative is promoting it. Event Groove does not provide marketing of its raffles, so we must do it ourselves. The current raffle is live, and it concludes late August. A link to it is in the chapter website. Members are encouraged to send this link to their entire network of friends:
<https://go.eventgroovefundraising.com/sfa45/Raffle>



5. EVENTS.

a. **Motorcycle Freedom Ride 2021**. 21 August

Registration 1000-1200 hrs.

Kickstands Up 1200 hrs.

Jim Wetz reported on the final plan for this event. It begins at Farrow Harley Davidson's store in Sunbury, departs to the Buckeye Lake Winery for some food and a fundraising auction, and terminates at Farrow's store in Reynoldsburg. Jim briefed that food, a beer truck, and a live band will also be provided by Farrow. The American Motorcycle Association will not support the event. Jim said Farrow is hosting its Bike Night at the Reynoldsburg store and this will provide a boost to participation and our fundraising efforts. **MSG Philip Taraska** confirmed he will have two Soldiers and Razors and SF display at the Reynoldsburg location.

b. **3 Gun Shoot 2021** 18 SEP

Practicore.com is up and running; 29 people have already registered online, and 31 slots remain open. Door prizes have been secured by our loyal patron, Jen Blake. **Volunteers are needed for the event and the Thursday 16 SEP range set up day.**

Volunteers for Thursday 16 SEP set up are:

Jim Wetz

Kevin Colwell

John McCort

Jeff Gallaher

Jim King

Pete Becker (tentatively)

Shooting Coach volunteers for Saturday 18 SEP:

Butch Betzko

Mike Vault

Jordan Berry

Dan Kelly

John McCort

Jim Wetz

Pete Becker (tentatively)





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c. Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor.
24 SEP at the Ohio State House.

6. HOME VISITS TO MEMBERS.

Jan Hauger's wife is in the hospital.

Larry Verne had successful pulmonary surgery.

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

6 September at the Hofbräuhaus Newport, KY

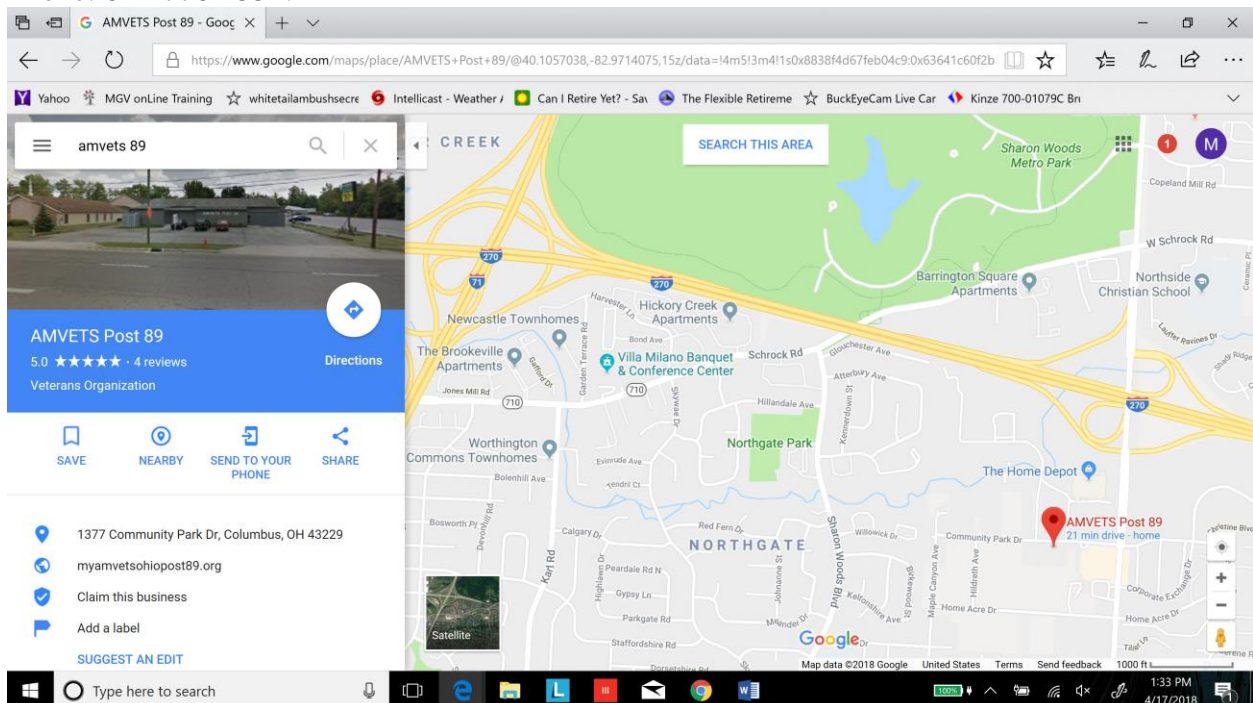
9 September at the AMVETS Post 89, Columbus.

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

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.



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



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8. **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

Tom McGrath

PO Box 12093

Columbus, OH 43212

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

9. **CHAPTER FUNDRAISING and The Ohio Green Beret Support Group**

Its Federal Tax Identification number is: 83-1512941.

Donations should be made payable to **The Ohio Green Beret Support Group, LLC**. All donations to this are entirely tax deductible.

Directors (also referred to as Board members) are chapter officers and civilian executives recruited for their leadership and connectivity to networks. Directors are unpaid positions, and they and their families are not eligible for the Scholarship Program.

Open Actions:

Tom McGrath: Create an agenda for OGBSG Directors meeting.

10. **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

We have three annual \$1000 grants of tuition assistance for chapter members and their immediate family.

The program re-opened on 1 August for applications and closes 15 October.

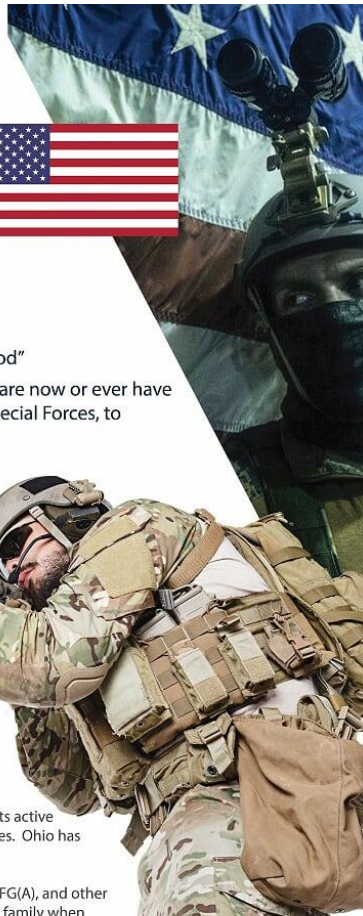
The entire application process can be accessed via a link on the SFA 45 website.

The direct link to the application process managed by The Columbus Foundation is:

<http://cfprograms.smapply.io/prog/ohiogreenberet>



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Our Mission Statement "Sense of Brotherhood"

"Our purpose is to unite, fraternally, all who are now or ever have been assigned to the United States Army Special Forces, to perpetuate Special Forces traditions."

The Special Forces Association is the largest special operations association in the World. Our members include active duty Green Berets, Army National Guard SF Soldiers, veterans and retired members and of the US Special Forces.

The Ohio Green Beret Support Group, LLC.

Is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that solely supports active duty and retired Special Forces soldiers and their families. Ohio has one Special Forces unit that deploys frequently.

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

SUPPORTING OHIO'S

Federal Tax Identification number is: 83-1512941. Donations should be made payable to: **THE OHIO GREEN BERET SUPPORT GROUP, LLC.** All donations to this are entirely tax deductible. Examples of our programs include:

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. This is our primary program for our fund raising which includes two-to-four annual \$1,000 grants of tuition assistance for chapter members and their immediate family.

SF Gold Star Family: The family of SFC Dan Crabtree, KIA Iraq 2005 is our family for the SFA Convention in 2019. SFC Crabtree, 31, was a Special Forces weapons sergeant assigned to the Ohio Army National Guard's Company B, 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Columbus, Ohio. He died June 8, 2006, in Iraq after a roadside bomb exploded next to his vehicle during a combat patrol. In civilian life, Crabtree worked as a police officer first in his native hometown of Hartsville, and then as a member of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics, or SWAT, unit.

Support to families of wounded Green Berets: We pay for all expenses of the unit's annual Christmas party including gifts for the children of Green Berets. We also provide support for the expenses of the unit's family days and awards parties and we support nominations of qualified Green Berets into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor and make donations to that organization.

GREEN BERETS



www.sfa45.org