



THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SENTINEL

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 78
NEWSLETTER OF THE QUIET PROFESSIONALS

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MARCH 2012



**CHAPTER 78
MEMBER OF THE YEAR**



Steve Cowan
Chapter 78
2011 Member of the Year

**Presidents Page
2011 Christmas Dinner
Upcoming Events
Shooters Cup**



Please visit us at www.specialforces78.com

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D-6067

Vice President

Steve Cowan
M-12798

Vice President

Lost Commandos
Thai Van Tong
A-2527

Vice President

Nungs
John Du
A-3257

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D-7907

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Brad Welker
M-2319

Director at Large

John Joyce
M-11877

Director at Large

John "Tilt" Stryker Meyer
D-6535

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D-7920

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Mark Miller
D-8296

Coordinator of Special Events

Steve Cowan
M-127980

Coordinator of ROTC Program

Ed Barrett
M-11188

Chaplain

Richard Simonian
D-7920

Immediate Past President

Terry Cagnolatti
M-9747

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THE PRESIDENTS PAGE



Lonny Holmes
President SFA 78

PRESIDENTS COLUMN March 2012

The Sentinel is back in publication thanks to Chapter 78 member Richard Simonian CEO of Santiago Communities and Veterans Affordable Housing Program and his support for the Green Beret Foundation. Our new publisher is Debra Holm, Creative Director for Dinwiddie Holm Graphics. Our plan is to return to a monthly edition following the general format developed by John Joyce and continue with the same masthead.

A lot has happened in Chapter 78 since our last edition of The Sentinel in August 2011.

The First Annual Special Forces Green Beret Shooters Cup was a big success with both competitors and observers. Sixteen 5 man teams competed for the 'coveted' Green Beret Shooters Cup Trophy on five very tough shooting events. Los Angeles Police Department 'LA LAWYERS' Team Blue took home the trophy which resides at L.A.P.D. Elysian Park Academy facility for one year. Team members included Team Captain Russ Freeman, Ed Asawesnda, Bob Becerra, Jim Shray and Chris Yamate. The "top shooter" also from L.A.P.D. Team Blue was Ed Asawesnda who took home a Kimber cal .45 1911 pistol. Jim Shray of the same team won a FAL .308 rifle. All members of the winning team were presented with Springfield XD 9mm pistols. Two of these winning L.A.P.D. Officers returned their Springfield XD's to Chapter 78 to raise funds for the Green Beret Foundation.

Colonel (R) Roger Donlon, MOH was the 'Shooters Cup' guest of honor and presented the Green Beret Trophy and prizes to winners. Colonel Donlon flew in from Kansas and was sponsored by chapter member Mike Keele.

Both law enforcement officers and military competitors stated that the Green Beret Shooters Cup is a 'tough competition' due to the requirement of physical stamina and excellent shooting skills. Competitors who were interviewed after the event all expressed a desire to compete in the Second Annual Cup. To view the official video of the event go to www.sfa78cup.com and over 800 photographs are also posted. Jon Gutierrez from an L.A.P.D. Team wrote a very favorable article about the Green Beret Cup in the Police Magazine "The Thin Blue Line." This may also be viewed on our home web page.

Chapter 78 would like to thank our sponsors who allowed many teams to take home very nice prizes that were donated. These sponsors included the following corporations; SureFire, Rapid Reticle/Pride Fowler Industries, Enterprise Arms (FAL .308 rifle) Aim Sports (also a sponsor of the FAL .308 rifle), Springfield, Kimber, Special Forces Gear, Glock, Safariland.

The proceeds of the Green Beret Shooters Cup were donated by Chapter 78 to the Green Beret Foundation. This check was presented to Aaron Anderson, CEO and Founder, at the Annual Chapter 78 Christmas Dinner at the Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club.

As Chapter 78 President I would like to personally thank many members who toiled long hours to develop, promote and host the Green Beret Shooters Cup; Steve Cowan who originated the idea and directed it to fruition, Terry Cagnolatti-team coordinator, John Joyce-media, weapons procurement and DOJ-DEROS coordinator, Bruce Long who procured the U.S. Coast Guard Team (MSST) and cooks, Tom Redfern with many logistical ideas and sound system, Mike Keele who provided help and guidance at every level, John 'Tilt' Stryker Meyer for Chapter 78 escort to Colonel Donlon and coordination for media liaison. Nearly all chapter members played a role in the action day including Richard Simonian who loaned his large trailer as our operational headquarters, Brad Welker with his intelligent decisions and guidance, and those who worked the ranges and admin areas.

A tip on the 'beret' to Ron Jung at Raahauges Range who constructed and organized our targets; Joel Adams of the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office who devised many of the scenarios for the days' events and was overall Senior Range Safety Officer, and Bill Murphy of Fire Arms Training Associates who loaned us 6 range safety officers led by Hal Patterson.

Bill Darnell a Chapter 23 officer recruited and sponsored an active duty Green Beret Team from the Naval Postgraduate Institute in Monterey, CA. These five SF Officers did very well and we thank Bill and his chapter for their dedication and hard work.

2012 is a new year and we are starting off running with the Second Annual Special Forces Green Beret Shooters Cup Scheduled for Friday and Saturday October 12 and 13. See the event brochure and ad in this issue for further information.

Chapter elections were held in November and the new officers were given the oath of office by Cliff Newman, Administrative Director of SF National Office, at the December Christmas Dinner.

New officers for 2012-2013:

President	Lonny Holmes
Vice President	Steve Cowan
Secretary	Tom Redfern
Treasurer	Richard Simonian
Sergeant at Arms	Mark Miller

I thank Past President Jim Duffy for attending the Las Vegas SHOT Show and helping recruit sponsors for the 2012 'Cup.' Jim did an outstanding job and corporation are contacting him with requests to help with our event. Believe me this was a tough job, long hours, always on your feet, and speaking with many individuals to convince them to help. ❖

Lonny Holmes
SFA 78



SENTINEL

THE PRESIDENTS PAGE



First Annual Special Forces Association Green Beret Shooters Cup



Quarter mile run



Shooting after pistol assembly and running



Break time



Steve Cowan Green Beret Cup Director welcomes the teams.



Colonel Roger Donlon presenting LAPD Blue the
Green Beret Shooters Cup Trophy.



Special Forces Green Beret Shooters Cup trophy

CHRISTMAS DINNER 2011

Chapter 78 held its Annual Christmas Dinner at the Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club and the attendance with members and guests reached a record of 110. For the second year in a row one of the highlights of the evening was singer **Andrea Miller** who preformed for more than one hour and had a standing ovation following her rendition of the “**Ballad of the Green Berets.**”

Cliff Newman, Administrative Director, for the Special Forces National Office was a guest of honor. Cliff enjoys returning to Southern California since he spent many early years living here. Besides renewing old friendships Cliff gave the Oath of Office to the 2012 – 2013 Chapter 78 Board of Directors.

The new chapter officers are: President **Lonny Holmes**, Vice President **Steve Cowan**, Treasurer **Richard Simonian**, Secretary **Tom Redfern**, and Sergeant of Arms **Mark Miller**. They hold a term of office for two years.

Many members of A Company, 19th SFG (A) led by SFC **Kris Boodaghian** and the members of the Los Angeles Police Departments’ Team Blue who took home the First Annual Green Beret Shooters Cup Trophy, led by Team Captain **Russ Freeman** attended.

Chapter member and host of the evening, **Richard Simonian**, began the evening by presenting the invocation. This is the 12th year that Richard has hosted Chapter 78’s Christmas Dinner. His son joined us with his fiancée, **Andrea Miller** for dinner.

Steve Cowan was honored as the Special Forces Chapter 78 “**Member of the Year**” and presented with a fine plaque mounted with the Chapter 78 and Green Beret Shooters Cup Coins. Steve recently retired from the 1st Special Forces Group (A) and joined Chapter 78. In his first year as a chapter member he became very involved with our activities. Steve originated the “Idea” to develop a method to raise funds to help support our Wounded Green Berets in the current War on Terrorism. He proposed the Special Forces Association Chapter 78 Green Beret Shooters Cup in February 2011. Following chapter approval he ramrodded the event to fruition in

October, thus providing a vehicle for fund raising as well as the development of a World Class Action Pistol Shooting event. Profits from the Green Beret Shooters Cup were donated to the Green Beret Foundation for distribution to our wounded warriors.

The National Infantry Association Award, The Order of Saint Maurice, Level of Legionnaire was presented to four Chapter 78 members for their contribution to Chapter 78’s endeavors; **Steve Cowan, CSM Robert Crebbs, Mark Miller** and **Tom Redfern**. **Colonel (R) Mark Brelsow** did the honor of presenting the medals and **John Stryker ‘Tilt’ Meyer** read the citations. (Continued on page 4)



Chris Martin and Terry Cagnolatti



Steve Cowan, Chapter 78 Member of the Year 2011



2012-2013 Chapter 78 Officers — Lonny Holmes, Steve Cowan, Tom Redfern, Richard Simonian, and Mark Miller



(Continued from page 3)

Past President Terry Cagnolatti presented Honorary Chapter Memberships to **Ron Jung** Target Master at Raahauges Range and **Joel Adams** Chief Range Master at the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office for their dedication and support for Chapter 78's "Shooters Cup." Other honors presented that evening included "Green Beret Shooters Cup" Sponsorship Awards to **Matt Garcia** of Aim Sport Corporation, and **Jason Monroe** who did the video for the 'shoot." **John Pride** of Pride Fowler Industries/Rapid Reticle, **Bill Murphy** of Fire Arms Training Associates, and **Mike Raahauges** of Raahauges Range were not present and were given their awards at a later date.

The Grand Buffet Gourmet Christmas Buffet Dinner provided by the Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club was excellent and was completed with a scrumptious high calorie selection of deserts. A no host bar was provided by the club for our enjoyment. Immediately following the Christmas Dinner was the Newport Beach Yacht Club Christmas Boat Parade and many adjourned to the outside balcony for a better view and cigars.

The Los Angeles Police Department LA LAWMEN Team Blue all won Springfield XD 9mm pistols as first place prizes. Two members of their team donated their pistols back to Chapter 78 to further raise funds for our wounded soldiers. One Springfield XD 9mm was raffled/silent auctioned off and member **Chris Martin** of the Long Beach Police Department won.

The final highlight of the evening was **Steve Cowan**, Director of the SF Green Beret Shooters Cup presenting a check to chapter member **Aaron Anderson**, CEO of the Green Beret Foundation. ❖



Terry Cagnolatti, SGT Jon Holmes, and Joel Adams



Steve Cowan and Wife



SFC Kris Boodaghian, A Company 19th SFG (A)



Andrea Miller, Guest Singer

UPCOMING EVENTS

DAY AT THE RANGE

The Third Annual Day at the Range will be hosted by chapter member Tom Redfern at the Burbank Revolver and Rifle Club's Range on Saturday April 14, 2012. This is a family oriented BBQ and weapons shoot. The cost is \$25.00 per person and you must sign the range liability release. Please pay at the March 10 chapter meeting or send a check to our office; SF Chapter 78, P.O. Box 11927 Santa Ana, CA 92711.

CROSSROADS OF THE WEST GUNSHOWS

We will host a Chapter 78 Sales Booth at the following locations. Please sign up to help. Both days start at 0900 hours and continue to 5 or 6 pm. We need your help. After you sign up I can order the name badges and pass. This is how we raise funds to operate the Green Beret Cup. It is also an opportunity to speak with the local community about our fellow soldiers in the War on Terrorism.

March 24 & 25

Costa Mesa — Orange County Fair Grounds

May 4 & 5

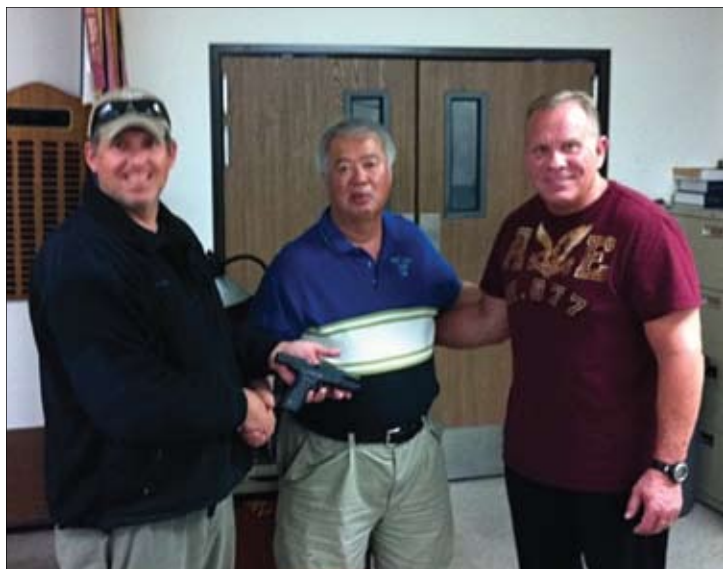
Ontario Convention Center

MIKE RAAHAUGES SPORTS FAIR

June 1, 2 & 3

(3 DAYS, Friday, Saturday, Sunday)

Raahauges Range Corona, CA



On Saturday February 11 Green Beret Shooters Cup Director and Chapter 78 Vice President Steve Cowan presented Ron Jung, Raahauges Range Target Master with a custom engraved Springfield XD 9mm Pistol for his dedication and hard work supporting the "Shooters Cup." Ron custom built many targets for the event including the bamboo "tiger cage."

Special Forces Association • Chapter 78

Second Annual

Green Beret Shooters Cup

13 October, 2012

Click on the image below to visit sfa78cup.com to download the Green Beret Shooters Cup brochure.





Special Forces Association



Green Beret Shooters Cup

On October 12, 2012 starting at 0800

At

Mike Raahuage Shooting Enterprises

14995 River Rd., Corona, CA 92880

SFA Chapter 78 is hosting this 2nd Annual Green Beret Shooters Cup. The Green Beret Shooters Cup is 5-6 event team pistol Shoot. Events will test the team's accuracy, speed, physical stamina and target selection. Teams consist of 5 shooters per team with a goal of 20 teams this second year. Teams must be active duty or reserve military, law enforcement, or fraternal military organization. Make no mistake this is a team event, teams will be scored as a team, and the team with the lowest cumulative time wins.

Besides the bragging rights teams will get for winning the cup this is also a Charity event that will benefit the Green Beret Foundation.

Email or Call for further details

sfa28shooterscup@gmail.com

(360) 528-9556

www.sfa78cup.com