



THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SENTINEL

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THE LTC FRANK J. DALLAS CHAPTER

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COVER PHOTO: Afghanistan – Special Forces on operation.
Photo by Hans Halberstadt, a professional military photographer
and author.

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THE PRESIDENTS PAGE



Lonny Holmes
President SFA 78

PRESIDENTS COLUMN JANUARY 2013

Jim Duffy organized and led Chapter 78 members to attend the Third Annual Salute to Veterans held at the Nixon Presidential Library in Yorba Linda, CA, on Sunday, December 9, 2012. Members who attended included **Grant Lee Martin, John "Tilt" Meyer, Mike Keele, Bob Crebbs, David Sullivan** and **Jim Duffy**. For a great review of the event see Mike Keele's article

in this issue, "Nixon Library Honors Veterans."

Richard Simonian hosted Chapter 78's Annual Christmas Dinner at the Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club on Saturday, December 22. One hundred three members and guests attended a very fine buffet dinner and enjoyed the singing of **Andrea Miller**. Before dinner she sang the "Ballad of the Green Beret" and had a standing ovation. A tip of the "Beret" to both Richard and Andrea.

Invited guests for the Christmas dinner included **Captain Cedillos, SFC Boodaghian, SSG Dougherty, SSG Patito, SSG Tomaz** and **SSG Phillip Thornburgh** all members of **Company A of the 19th Special Forces Group (A)**. The 2012 Green Beret Shooter's Cup Champion Team from the **Long Beach Police Department** was represented by four members, **Scott Holder, Jeremy Haining, Pat Dougherty** and **Robert Owens** and their wives. The Long Beach P.D. Champion Team brought the "Shooters Cup Trophy" for all to look at during the evening.

Matt Garcia and his wife attended representing **Aim Sports Corporation**. Aim Sports is one of the largest supporters of the Green Beret Shooters Cup event. **Andrew Gabroy** and **Thomas Tringali** of **G35 Grid Corporation** who designed and host our two web sites enjoyed the evening very much. Andrew and Thomas were presented with a Chapter 78 plaque honoring G35 Grid for their devotion and hard work supporting Chapter 78 during the year and also for all their effort in scoring the Second Annual Green Beret Shooters Cup.

The highlight of the evening was the Newport Beach Christmas Yacht Parade. The yachts were all highly decorated with Christmas themes and the view was spectacular from the dining room and outside balcony which was just above the harbor.

National Infantry Association Awards, the Order of Saint Maurice, Level of Legionnaire were presented to **John "Tilt" Meyer**,

Bruce Long, Christopher Martin, and Lonny Holmes. John Joyce was also awarded the O.S.M. however he was not present and will receive the award at the January 2013 Chapter Meeting. **Jim Duffy** worked closely with the National Infantry Association in preparation of these awards and has forwarded the presentation picture for publication in the Infantry Association Journal.

Chapter 78 Member of the Year Award(s) were presented to **Tom Redfern** and **Bruce Long**. This is highly unusual and the first time that two individuals receive this award in one year. Both Tom and Bruce deserve Member of the Year Award for their dedication, hard work and support to both Chapter 78 and the GBSC. Tom has also hosted the Annual Chapter Day at the Range and BBQ for the past three years. Bruce has coordinated with A Company of the 19th SFG(A) and active duty SF with Major General Reeder and his CSM. These statements represent only a small portion of the work they performed.

A special (and first time) award, The Green Beret Shooter's Cup Leadership Award was presented to **LTC (R) Jim Duffy**. Jim was the Chairman of the Corporate Sponsor Development Program thru which we garnered funds, prizes and support from more than twenty five corporations for the event. He would not take "no" for an answer when dealing with these corporation and his persistence paid off with prizes going to all teams who competed in the "Cup."

A second highlight of the evening was a silent auction for a Springfield M1A .308 rifle. This was a fund raising activity for the chapter and five substantial bids were recorded. The winning bid was from chapter member **Thad Gembacz** for \$1951.00. A tip of the "Beret" to Thad. Please note that he has been a strong supporter all year and also dedicated a solid days hard work on the range during the GBSC. (Continued on page 2)



Richard Simonian, host of Chapter 78's 2012 Annual Christmas Dinner at the Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club and **Terry Cagnolatti**



THE PRESIDENTS PAGE

(Continued from page 1)

The year long raffle for a second Springfield M1A .308 rifle was won by GBSC Team Captain **Tom Morgan**, of the **United States Coast Guard Team, P-311, The Fighting Sea Horses**. Member **Mike Keele** contacted him by phone after the dinner and Mr. Morgan was quite happy.

At the November Chapter meeting **Bruce Long** proposed having a raffle for a military decorated Christmas Tree, which was approved by all. This beautifully decorated tree (see picture on page 5) was won by **Fritz Saalman**, a retired SF MSG who is the JROTC leader at Sonora High School.

The 2012 Chapter 78 Christmas Dinner ended with the drawing of forty door prizes.

As 2013 begins Chapter 78 has many plans for the new year; please join us in the fun and support SFA, the chapter and our "active duty fellow SF brothers." ♦

Lonny Holmes

SFA C-78

12:31:2012



Lonny Holmes in Red Rock Canyon, NV,
after snow in December 2012.



Bruce and Geri Long's friendly Bobcat eating in their backyard.

IN MEMORIAM

CAPTAIN JAMES P. MONAGHAN AUGUST 9, 1936 - DECEMBER 7, 2012



JAMES P. MONAGHAN SOA # 27-GL - SFA # D-506, Captain, US Army, (Ret) passed away on December 7, 2012 at St Mary's Hospital in Long Beach, California from complications relating to exposure to Agent Orange.

Jim was born on the 9th of August 1936 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He entered the Army in 1953, and his first major assignment was to the 557th QM Co (Abn), an Aerial Delivery Unit in France. His Special Forces Assignments started with the 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg. Then to 1st Special Forces Group Okinawa, Vietnam (A-421 Plei Mrong 1963, A-422 Ashau Valley 1964), and the Republic of China (Taiwan); 3rd Special Forces Group; 5th Special Forces Group (III Corps Mike Force A-302 1966; SOC-PAC Okinawa; 10th Special Forces Group Germany; 5th Special Forces Group (B-56/ Advisor to Team 162 Delta Project change-over to 81st Airborne Ranger Group 1970); 1st Special Forces Group Okinawa A-323

(SCUBA) and Army Readiness Region IX Presidio of San Francisco as Senior Enlisted Advisor to 3rd Bn, 12th Special Forces Group.

His many awards and decorations include the Silver Star, Soldier's Medal, Purple Heart w/2 OLC, ARCOM w/"V" Device, Presidential Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Citation, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Vietnamese Service Medal w/6 Campaign Stars, Master Parachutist Badge, SCUBA Badge, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Palm, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Silver Star, and Vietnam Parachute Badge.

Jim was President of Chapter 2, Founding Member of Chapter 23, and a member of Chapter 43, Special Forces Association. He was also the second President of Special Operations Association. After his retirement in 1978 Jim was the Military Advisor in the

production of the movies "Wild Geese 2", "Blue Skies", "Body Snatchers" and had a part in the movie "Chips and the War Dog".

Jim is survived by his former spouse Marie (they were planning to get remarried); two daughters, Helen Monaghan, Patricia Monaghan Wilson; two granddaughters, Amanda, Angie; one great granddaughter, Aubrey. There are tentative plans for a Memorial Service to be held at Fort Bragg. Burial will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a date to be determined and announced by the Arlington Cemetery. James P was noted for always saying: "You might be out of sight, but you are never out of mind".

God bless Jim Monaghan.

Sincerely, SGM Bill Darnell (ret.)



Jim Monaghan with Op Det A4 CoA 3rd Bn 12th SFG(A) during SCUBA Training in 1974



NIXON LIBRARY HONORS VETERANS

By Mike Keele, DFC

On December 9, 2012, the Nixon Presidential Library in Yorba Linda, California hosted their third annual salute to veterans. All veterans were invited, and special attention was paid to Blue Star and Gold Star families. Groups such as Special Forces Association Chapter 78 were acknowledged; each chapter member had his name called and a photo showing the soldier in his younger days was projected on the video screen. Members of three Gold Star families from the Vietnam era were acknowledged, as were the Gold and Blue Star families from the current War on Terror.

Retired Air Force Colonel Wayne Scott was the narrator. He did a superb job of describing awards and achievements for each of the honored soldiers and sailors, while a photo of each service member was shown on the video screen. A poignant moment was experienced by all in attendance when Col. Scott, his voice quivering with pride, described his father's contribution while serving as a fighter pilot during the Korean Conflict. The elder Scott stood with difficulty and acknowledged the cheers and applause of the crowd, which numbered more than 500 people.

As the name of each soldier was called, family members came forward and placed an ornament on a Christmas tree, the name of their soldier imprinted on the ornament. The tree was later rolled into the library foyer where it took its place among several other trees, all decorated with ornaments listing the names of those KIA during that war. Chapter member "Tilt" Meyer, who is also president of the Special Operations Association and I approached the tree decorated to honor local soldiers killed in Vietnam. We found the name of Henry T. Herrick on the first ornament we saw. Lt. Herrick was the leader of the "lost platoon" and was KIA on 14 November, 1965 in the Ia Drang Valley. He was from Laguna Beach, California.



The gathering proved a great success for Chapter 78, as we made many new friends and took the opportunity to spread the gospel about our charity, the Green Beret Foundation. For those unaware, the Green Beret Foundation was formed by retired Green Beret Aaron Anderson. He suffered grievous wounds in an IED explosion in 2006. After many surgeries, and being told by the V.A. that nothing more could be done for him, he decided to form the Foundation to help other Green Berets who found themselves in the same position. Now in its third year of operation, the Foundation has helped soldiers and their families with various forms of assistance not provided by the V.A.

To learn more about the Green Beret Foundation, visit their website at www.greenberetfoundation.org.



SFA CHAPTER 78 CHRISTMAS DINNER 2012



- 1 A highlight of the evening was viewing the Newport Beach Christmas Yacht Parade
- 2 Green Beret Shooters Cup Champs, Long Beach Police Department. Terry Cagnolatti in center
- 3 Joel and Allison Adams
- 4 Thad Gembacz, winner if the silent auction for a Springfield M1A .308 rifle

- 5 GBSC Champions, Long Beach P.D. with Trophy. Lonny Holmes to left
- 6 Geri Long with Military Christmas Tree
- 7 Terry Cagnolatti, Bruce Long, Brad Welker, Lonny Holmes
- 8 Military Style Christmas Tree raffled at Chapter 78 Christmas Dinner, 2012

SFA CHAPTER 78 CHRISTMAS DINNER 2012

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS



① National Infantry Association Awards, the Order of Saint Maurice, Level of Legionnaire were presented to Bruce Long, Chris Martin, Lonny Holmes and John "Tilt" Meyer

② Bruce Long accepting one of two Chapter 78 Member of the Year Awards given for 2012

③ Jim Duffy discussing the Order of Saint Maurice Awards

④ National Infantry Association Order of Saint Maurice Awards

⑤ Tom Redfern, second recipient of the Chapter 78 Member of the Year Award for 2012

⑥ Steve Cowan presenting \$9000.00 check to Aaron Anderson for the Green Beret Foundation

⑦ Andrew Gabroy of G35 Grid along with Thomas Tringali thanking SF Chapter 78 for their award for developing and maintaining the chapters web sites