



THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SENTINEL

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 78
NEWSLETTER OF THE QUIET PROFESSIONALS

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JUNE 2013



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2013 University ROTC Awards

I Told You So

In Memoriam... Mike Raahauge



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COVER PHOTO: Bruce Long hard at work doing what we do best! Photo taken at the 4th Annual Day at the Range and BBQ.

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THE PRESIDENTS PAGE



Lonny Holmes
President SFA 78

PRESIDENTS COLUMN JUNE 2013

The end of May concludes the final University ROTC awards presentations with **Bruce Long** and **Lee Martin** presenting the Chapter 78 Challenge Coin, SF Medal of Merit and a check of \$200.00 to California State University Fullerton Cadet Robert Santa Ines.

Lee Martin presented the U.C.L.A. ROTC award to Cadet Jeffery Jarvi on April 2 beginning the 2013 season. **Brad Welker**

and Lee Martin presented the awards to Cadet Jonathan Choi of the University of Southern California Trojan Battalion held at California State University Dominguez Hills. **Mike Keele** and **Lonny Holmes** presented awards to two cadets at a formal "Dining In" held at Claremont McKenna College's Marion Miner Cook Athenaeum. Cadet Elliot Adams received the Claremont McKenna award and Cadet Marcellino Valdez was awarded the California State San Bernardino award from Chapter 78.

We thank **Ed Barrett** for more than ten years of dedicated service to the Chapter 78 ROTC project. Ed as ROTC coordinator contacts each university ROTC program and collates the time and dates of the ceremonies, names of the cadets and sends each school a questionnaire for the cadet to complete. This questionnaire asks a mini bio as well as planned career goals.

In this issue of the Sentinel you will read a short humorous note from **Mike Keele** titled "I Told You So" which is about the Rancho Remembers Veterans event at Rancho High School in the city of Rancho Cucamonga. This project which has students from the junior class interview veterans from previous war's; WWII to the current War on Global Terror, is in its sixth year and was attended by Chapter 78 members Brad Welker, Mike Keele and Lonny Holmes. Rancho High School sets the standards on organization for events. A fine tuned military operation could not run better. Many thanks to Mike Keele who has attended this event for two years and has written three articles for the Sentinel. Mike provides copies of the Sentinel for the school's coordinator of the event.

May 31 thru June 2 is Raahauge's Shooting Sports Fair and Chapter 78 will have a booth for the third consecutive year. The "Fair" is the largest hands on for shooters in the U.S.A. with 15,000 attendees who have the opportunity to actually fire a weapon of their choice. Chapter 78's goals are to promote the chapter, Green Berets, and raise funds to operate the Third Annual Green Beret Shooters Cup. **John Joyce**

and **Steve Cowan** have been working hard for weeks planning the event, creating brochures, logos for raffle tickets and on the search to purchase three Glock 17's for raffle. Thanks to Mike Keele's friendship with a local gun store manager this purchase became possible. John has reconfigured the way our booth is set up and contracted with four models to help on Saturday. ♦

Lonny Holmes
President SFA 78
May 29, 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS

Raahauges Sports Shooting Fair, May 31, June 1-2, 2013

See their website for time and exact location.

<http://www.raahauges.com/sports-fair.php>

14995 River Rd, Corona, CA 92880 | 951-735-7981

Chapter Meeting

Saturday, June 8, 2013

American Legion Post 295, Cypress, CA

Special Forces Association Annual Convention

San Antonio TX, June 26 to June 20, 2013

See your issue of the "DROP" or go to their website

www.specialforcesassociation.org for registration and hotel information.



Staff GBSC logo designed by John Joyce.



4TH ANNUAL DAY AT THE RANGE AND BBQ



Tom Redfern, host and "chef" at C-78 Annual Day at the Range & BBQ.



Allison and Joel Adams



Gary MacNamara giving Geri Long weapons instruction.



Lunch time with Tom Redfern's excellent BBQ hamburgers.



John Joyce giving his wife pistol instruction.



Terry Cagnolatti and Bruce Long.



Jim Duffy with his competitor special pistol.



Steve Cowan and son speaking with Jim Duffy — Note hand carved weapon made from an oak branch.



Juliette Cagnolatti resting between shooting sessions.

2013 UNIVERSITY ROTC AWARDS

Chapter 78 congratulates the recipients of 2013's Special Forces Association award.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES



UCLA Cadet Jeffrey Jarvi, left, Ken Miller, center, and Lee Martin, right

CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN BERNARDINO



Cadets Elliott Adams of Claremont McKenna, left, Marcellino Valdez of CSU San Bernardino, center, and Mike Keele, right

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



Brad Welker, left, Lee Martin, center, and USC ROTC Cadet Jonathan Choi, right

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON



Bruce Long, left, Lee Martin, center, and CSUF cadet Robert Santa Ines.



I TOLD YOU SO



By Mike Keele, DFC

This time last year, I had just participated in my first RANCHO REMEMBERS VETERANS event at Rancho High School. It was very gratifying to find that contemporary high school students could put together a program honoring veterans – some of whom were old enough to be the kid's grandfather's grandfa-

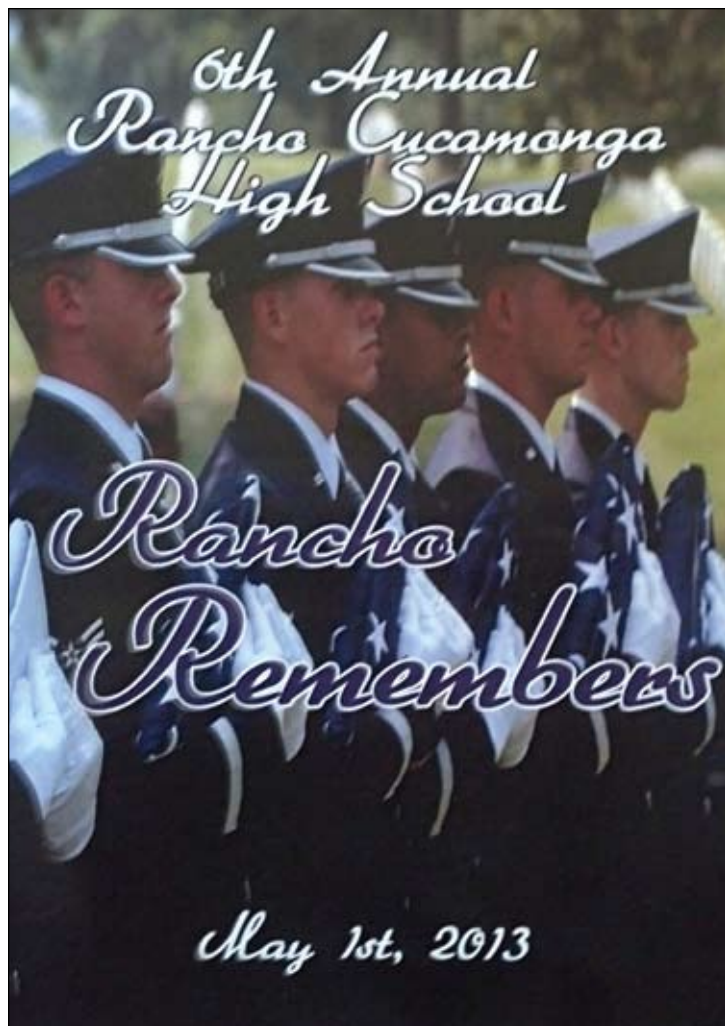
thers. So, last year I wrote an article for the Sentinel titled *Blown Away by Some High School Kids*. It drew the interest of a number of Chapter 78 members, and this year three of us attended. The head of our delegation was Chapter Prez Lonny Holmes and covering his six was Brad Welker. I had, well, Brad's six, which made me, I guess, the one-one-six-six.

Lonny volunteered to drive. I was the navigator, having spent much time in this treacherous A.O., and knowing the route to the school. "Um, just go east on the freeway, and get off at, uh- I'll let you know when I recognize something." When we did find the school, cars were parked at least two blocks from the objective in all directions. Lonny kept saying, "should I park? Should I park." With the patience of a true vet, already having one tour of duty under my belt, I assured him we could do better. Upon seeing the first of several driveways into the school, Lonny resumed his chant. "Should I park, should I park?" "No, no," I replied with exaggerated patience, "we'll get there." By now, we were seeing male students who were keeping the weak of heart out of the distant parking lots, and waving them onward. Upon reaching the main parking facility, a well-dressed young man in white shirt and tie stepped into the street and directed us into the parking lot. More well-dressed male types guided us forward, until we were directed to park right in front of the entrance. Now things got interesting. All these sharp looking young men greeted us while thanking us for our service and falling over one another for the privilege of escorting us up to the entrance to the school.



It didn't end there. We were met at the sidewalk by a cadre of young ladies, dressed to the nines, lining the walkway, smiling, and greeting us while literally reaching out to touch us. Stuck in my sub-six-six position, I couldn't see, but knew the first string was impressed and, no doubt grinning. A young lady took each of us to our respective

(Continued on page 5)



Mike Keele at the 2013 Rancho Remembers Veterans.

(Continued from page 1)

sign-in point and got us our name tags, then took us to what could best be described as the maitre'd of a grand event.

More than three hundred tables were lined up perfectly in rows and columns. Lonny and I were escorted to adjacent tables and offered coffee. A Danish? Water, perhaps!? The young lady looked so disappointed when I said "no thank you," that I regrouped and allowed as how a Danish would be nice.

By now, students were starting to congregate at the tables, where they politely introduced themselves and took their seats. As we got to know one another a little, the program was called to order and we stood for the National Anthem, the Pledge of Allegiance and the posting of The Colors. I stole a look at Lonny, who was grinning from ear to ear.

Unlike Brad and me, he had not three kids, but five. Not just any five, but five gorgeous young ladies dressed to the hilt, as if this was an important event. For an old bone-bag like Lonny (who might be able to claim 5% body fat on a day of gluttony), this must have been heaven. I was stuck with a 280 pound lineman, a basketball player and a SS SC scholar, none of whom would have looked good in a skirt.

There was a moment of redemption though, as even the fire marshal was jealous — if body language is any indicator. He stomped up the aisle, thrust his hands onto his hips and informed Lonny he had to get rid of some of his charges.

The girls exchanged glances, shrugged and stayed right where they were. Twice more the marshal came back, each time more forceful than before, and each time, equally ineffective. Finally, the marshal brought a woman staff member who selected one of Lonny's girls and dragged her to another table. It's true, every word of it, I swear.

The kids had a prepared list of questions, and once those were out of the way, we got down to specific details they were interested in, and we spent some time comparing our families and our own lives. Only one of my boys had a father who had military experience.

His questions were a little more specific than those asked by the others. We discussed where the boys were headed, since they were 11th graders and had another year of school left. The son of the vet asked if I felt the military had been a positive experience for me. I told him every teenager should have to serve a military enlistment for their benefit, as well as the benefit of the nation. Their reaction was mild surprise and they seemed to accept that life has to be more than self indulgence. We were served a lunch of fried chicken, potato salad and several kinds of dessert.

All too quickly, the scheduled 45 minutes were up and my group moved on, replaced with some new smiling faces. Lonny somehow got five more girls, while I could only muster two. Brad had similar luck, so Lonny got the braggin' rights. (Refer to the photos on this page).

The program is headed up by Aaron Bishop, a history teacher at Rancho who felt cheated when his five uncles all passed away without having shared their stories of WWII service. Aaron's wife suggested he put something together. Aaron has shepherded this program from a handful of veterans six years ago to the approximately 320 who participated this year. All branches of service were represented, and the school band played the theme

song for each service branch during the intermission period.

The program ended almost abruptly, as the kids were told they had but a few minutes to report to their 5th period classes. Lonny's girls, of course, were the last to leave, but they all got pictures with Lonny, while Brad and I got a handshake and a wave. Maybe next year. ❖



Rancho Remembers Veterans student and Lonny Holmes.



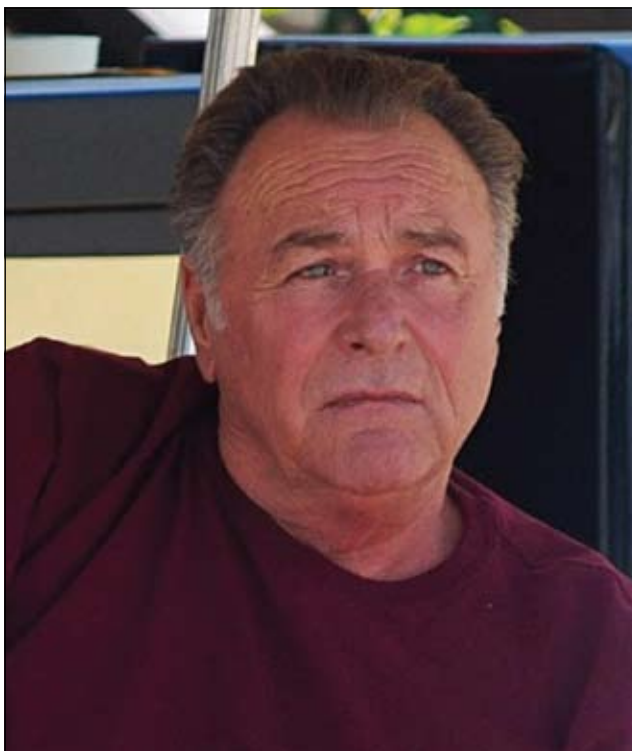
Two students who interviewed Lonny Holmes.



Rancho Remembers Veterans students of the junior class.

IN MEMORIAM

MIKE RAAHAUGE



A "Celebration of Life" was held at Mike Raahauge's Shooting Complex on May 14th to pay a final tribute to Mike Raahauge who died on Monday, May 6 2013. Hundreds attended including family, friends and almost the "entire shooting sports industry."

Mike followed in his father's footsteps developing Linc Raahauge's Pheasant Hunting Club into one of Southern California's most popular bird hunting and shooting complexes which also included duck hunting, dog training and special events. He also developed the "Youth Outdoor Safari Day" which evolved from his relationship with the Orange County and Los Angeles chapters of the Safari Club International. This annual kids' event will celebrate its 15th anniversary in July.

In 1982 Mike recognized the need for sportsmen to become familiar with rifles, shotguns and pistols, and began the annual Raahauge's Shooting Sports Fair with the support of Turner's Outdoorsmen and the firearms industry. The "fair" has grown to become the largest "hands on" shooting event in the United States. This huge event currently draws over 15,000 visitors yearly.

Mike Raahauge's was very supportive of Special Forces Association Chapter 78 in developing the annual Green Beret Shooters Cup and offered many suggestions in our hosting the even.

Mike is survived by his wife Elaine of 48 years, son Pat and daughter Cindy. Elaine and Pat will continue to operate the shooting complex.