



THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SENTINEL

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 78
NEWSLETTER OF THE QUIET PROFESSIONALS

THE LTC FRANK J. DALLAS CHAPTER

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 7

JULY 2016



Presidents Page

**Walking With Giants –
2016 Special Forces Association
International Conference Honors Green
Beret Medal of Honor Recipients**

Memorial Day 2016 – Washington D.C.

**Distinguished Service Cross Presented
to Sergeant Gary M. Rose**

Letter to the Editor





Lonny Holmes
Sentinel Editor

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Chapter 78 was well represented at the Special Forces Association International Conference held in Jacksonville, Florida with the Chapter President **Bruce Long** and Past Chapter President **Jim Duffy** attending many of the scheduled events. Both said that SFA Chapter 88, the host of the meeting, did a splendid job. A tip of the "Beret" to Jim who has attended every SFA Conference for

ten or more consecutive years! Jim mentioned to me the greatest benefit of attending the conference is the camaraderie with old SF teammates and others who you served with over the years. By the way, Jim met with the original A-Team Commander of A-109 (1966), and he is seen in one of the photographs.

Bruce Long pens in this month's extended Presidents Page a great summary of the SFA International Convention and provided some excellent photographs which compliment his article. Looks like Bruce had fun and the photo demonstrates that he can still dive!

Also in this issue is a short pictorial layout of my attendance at the Memorial Day Ceremonies in Washington, D.C. Since the last SF Conference that was held in Fayetteville, N.C. I have attended and participated in Washington's Memorial Day celebration every year with three Green Berets who served in Viet Nam and have been close friends for years. Both **Gene and Jack Williams** (twins, their father was a 2nd Lieutenant assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division as a Pathfinder on D-Day, who jumped into Normandy and was unfortunately KIA) have been friends since our days at Fort Bragg, N.C., in late 1965-1966. Gene and I were both in A Company of the 3rd SFG(A) while Jack was completing Training Group. Jack was later assigned to 6th SFG(A) and on the Gabriel Demonstration Team prior to Viet Nam. **Bob Shaffer** was assigned to A-251, Plei Djereng, and wrote a nice article for the Sentinel on the A Camp last year.

SGT Gary Rose has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. The Medal of Honor award to SGT Rose was discussed at April's Operation Tailwind Reunion, and the National Defense Authorization Bill for 2017, Section 583 contains a paragraph to award the Medal of Honor to SGT Gary M. Rose (actual up grade from a D.S.C.). The Secretary of Defense has signed the order.

This is the 79th issue of the Sentinel (Volume 7, Issue 7) that I have helped produce and we have made our time schedule on the 1st of each and every month since Volume 1, Issue 1. However the August 2016 issue of the Sentinel will be a little tardy since I will be visiting relatives in Luxembourg, Copenhagen and touring the British Isles. My apologies. ❖

Lonny Holmes
Sentinel Editor

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COVER: Gene Williams, Bob Shaffer and Jack Williams standing in the World War II Memorial with the Lincoln Memorial in the distance. Cover photo and photos shown on pages 4 and 5 all by Lonny Holmes.

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Funding for publication and printing of the
Special Forces 78 Sentinel is provided by



VETERANS AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM

A program of American Veterans Assistance Group

888-923-VETS (8387) • VeteransAffordableHousing.org

Sentinel Graphic Design by Debra Holm/Dinwiddie Holm Graphics

The Sentinel is published monthly by Special Forces Association Chapter 78, Southern California. The views, opinions and articles printed in this issue do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Army or the United States Special Operations Command the Special Forces Association or Special Forces Association Chapter 78. Please address any comments to the editor, "Sentinel" to dhgraphics@earthlink.net.

THE PRESIDENTS PAGE



Bruce Long
President SFA 78

PRESIDENTS COLUMN JULY 2016

"WALKING WITH GIANTS" — that was the theme for the June 2016 Special Forces Association International Conference held in Jacksonville, FL from June 12th through June 18th, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency Riverfront Hotel.

Registration began at 1200 hrs. sharp and we (my wife Geri attended) found it was a breeze as we processed through the different stations that SFA Chapter 88 had setup.

The first briefing that I attended was given by Anita Swift, the granddaughter of John Wayne. Anita is one of several spokespersons for the John Wayne Cancer Institute (as most of us know John Wayne died of the disease in 1979). Anita is also involved in Patriots Point Naval Maritime Museum located in Mount Pleasant, SC, home of the USS Yorktown Aircraft Carrier. Anita personally told me she is just loves Green Berets and is an honorary member of SFA Chapter 34 in Texas.

Patriots Point is also in the process of developing a Green Beret display that should be ready for viewing by the 2017 SFA Conference that will be held in Fayetteville / FT Bragg, NC.

The next briefing that I attended was hosted by no other than **CSM (Ret) Billy Waugh** who basically covered his exploits while

serving in SF and as a contractor for the CIA. Billy still travels by car twice a month to give a briefing to the newly qualified 18A's (SF Officers). Billy is 86 years old and is still going strong. He was really sorry that he couldn't get out and speak with A/5/19 and Chapter 78 members last year due to a new bout of cancer, which is says is in remission.

That evening I attended the President's Reception hosted by SFA Chapter 88. I can't say enough about what a GREAT job Chapter 88 did. The following day I attended the Army Birthday Breakfast, followed later in the day of the cutting of the birthday cake.

The Warrior Diplomat Briefing was well attended and was presented by **SF LTC Michael G. Waltz**. He served as Vice President Cheney's Special Advisor for South Asia and Counterterrorism and was Director for Afghanistan policy for the Office of the Secretary of Defense. If you get a chance read his book *Warrior Diplomat* on how difficult it was in dealing with the centuries old feuds, insurgency and especially dealing with the government bureaucracy. All proceeds from the purchase of his book go towards Veteran Charities.

The next briefing that I attended was on the SonTay Raid into North Vietnam. I read a book about the raid many years ago, but I found his briefing more personal in detail.

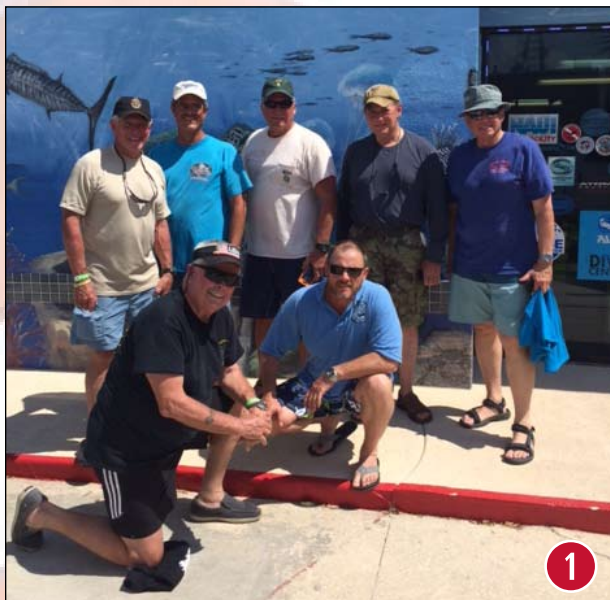
Two special events that Chapter 88 offered were going to the shooting range or scuba diving. Since I already do a fair amount of live fire shooting, I decided to go scuba diving, as I haven't done so in more the ten years. Well let me tell you, what a GREAT two tank dive trip. Can't say enough. There were only five of us and two of these guys had served on scuba teams in Panama and Key West. So I made them promise not to let me drown. Our

average depth was 60 feet, with the deepest being 70 feet, and the water was 82 degrees! Visibility 35-40 ft. (See photos 1 & 2)

We also attended the Alhambra Dinner Theater which was completely sold out the first day of the conference. We saw an excellent performance of *Beauty and the Beast*.

The SWC Command brief was presented by the Deputy Commanding General for the 1st Special Forces Command **BG Edwin J. Deedrick Jr.** The main changes to the command of all CIVIL AFFAIRS and PSY-OPS now under their TO&E.

Continued on page 2



PRESIDENTS PAGE CONTINUED

One of the major highlights of the conference was the Medal of Honor Panel. This was moderated by Alex Quade, a noted award winning female journalist who has spent years embedded with Special Operations, specifically Green Berets, both in Iraq and Afghanistan. I might also add she was very easy on the eye, and one really sharp lady. She's in the process of writing a book titled "Danger Close" and is currently in negotiations with Hollywood on a documentary.

The MOH Panel consisted in the following: From left to right (see Photo 3)

1. **Alex Quade**
2. **Bennie Atkins**
3. **Drew Dix**
4. **Roger Donlon**
5. **Gary Beikirch**
6. **Melvin Morris**

The discussion consisted of the following topics; character development, SF values, lessons learned, and was followed by a Q & A.

The Annual Business meeting culminated with the introduction of the new SFA President **Gary Koenitzer** and the presentation of a handcrafted knife to outgoing President **Jack Tobin**. As in past SFA business meetings the main topic has always been the filing of tax forms for the IRS, raffle tickets, and annual dues. Fortunately, our Chapter is in compliance in all of these areas.

Our Chapter was again awarded the Golden Quill Award for 2016. Way to go!!! **Lonny Holmes** gets the credit for this endeavor. (see Photo 4)

One of the BIG changes at this conference was the Hospitality Room was only open from 1700- 2300 hrs. It was agreed by all Chapter Presidents this would be the norm for all future conferences. The Special Operations Command will then let Active Duty Personnel attend future conferences.

The SFA Military Ball had over 600 attendees, and I was able to

spend a few minutes talking with **LTG John Mulholland** our guest speaker and I presented him with a SFA Chapter 78 Coin. LTG Mulholland is now the current Associate Director of the CIA for Military Affairs. MOH recipient **COL (Ret) Roger Donlon** was also present, (see photo 5)

Also, we spent some time with the George & Rumi McClinock. Rumi works for the Hyatt Regency and George is retired Navy and now works for the Navy as a civilian employee. On January 5th of this year **SFC Matthew McClintock** was killed in action while serving with A/1/19 in Helmand Province South Afghanistan. SFC McClintock originally served with 1st Group.

Overall, we had a GREAT time, I really enjoyed the conference. SFA Chapter 88 is to be applauded for a job well done.

The next SFA National Conference is scheduled for June 12-17, at the 2017 Double Tree in Fayetteville, NC; Theme — *Unconventional Warriors, The Mission Continues.*

I did bring back trinkets for Chapter members who attend our next meeting.

Our next Chapter meeting will be held on July 16, 2016 at the Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club on 1601 Bayside Drive Corona Del Mar, CA 92625. The breakfast business meeting will begin at 0830 hrs and the Chapter meeting at 1000 hrs.

As usual, please feel free to contact me. ❖

Bruce D Long
President
SGM, SF (Ret)
SFA Chapter 78



WALKING WITH GIANTS

2016 Special Forces Association International Conference Honors Green Beret Medal of Honor Recipients



A ROSTER OF GIANTS: Green Beret Medal of Honor Recipients

* Indicates a posthumous award

*Eugene Ashley, Jr.	Viet Nam
Bennie G. Adkins	Viet Nam
Gary B. Beikirch	Viet Nam
Roy P. Benavidez	Viet Nam
*William M. Bryant	Viet Nam
*Brian L. Buker	Viet Nam
Jon R. Cavaiani	Viet Nam
Drew D. Dix	Viet Nam
Roger H. C. Donlon	Viet Nam
*Gary Gordon	Somalia
*Loren D. Hagen	Viet Nam
*Charles E. Hosking, Jr.	Viet Nam
Robert L. Howard	Viet Nam
*John J. Kedenburg	Viet Nam
Franklin D. Miller	Viet Nam
Robert J. Miller	Afghanistan
Melvin Morris	Viet Nam
*Randall Shugart	Somalia
*George K. Sisler	Viet Nam
*H.R. "Rocky" Versace	Viet Nam
Charles Q. Williams	Viet Nam
*Gordon D. Yntema	Viet Nam
Fred W. Zabitosky	Viet Nam



1



2



3

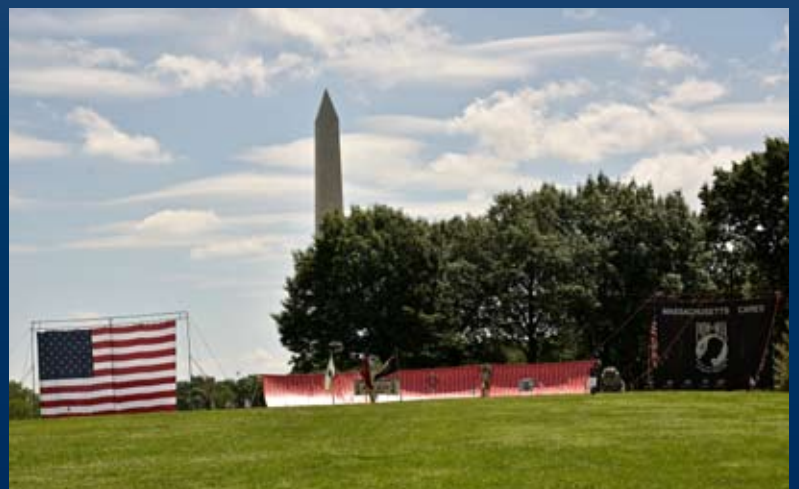


4

- 1 Left, Chuck Stulga was with the first Detachment A-109 Commander. He and his team created the Thuong Duc camp starting with two French colonial bunkers already in place. With his guidance and that of his counterparts, some Seebees and CIDG soldiers, they built a survivable camp.
- 2 Jim and freelance war Reporter Alex Quade, who covers U.S. Special Operations Forces on combat missions. The recipient of two national RTDNA Edward R. Murrow Awards, as well as the Congressional Medal Of Honor Society's "Tex McCrary Award For Excellence In Journalism" for her war reportage, she is the only reporter ever embedded long-term with these elite, secretive units downrange.
- 3 Jim and Billy Waugh
- 4 Right, Ron Huegel who was attached to Det A-109 as the 1st Force Marine Recon communication liaison. During the siege Ron was in a concreted bunker that took a direct hit from a 122mm rocket. He survived remarkably — "Can you hear me Ron". Center is Greg Biela who organized all the others from Det A-109 to get together at the convention. He still has a couple of others to work on for the future. His efforts a greatly appreciated by all. He worked with Steve Sherman to get the list of names and he then contacted all (over 100) to get updated contact information where possible.

MEMORIAL DAY 2016 – WASHINGTON D.C.







DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS PRESENTED TO SERGEANT GARY M. ROSE

Awarded for actions during the Vietnam War

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918 (amended by act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Sergeant Gary M. Rose, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in action in connection with military operations

involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam while serving as a medical aidman with a company-size exploitation force, Command and Control (Central), Task Force 1, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces. On 12 September 1970, his company was engaged by a well armed hostile force. Enemy B-40 rockets and mortar rounds rained while the foe sprayed the area with small arms, automatic weapons, and machine gun fire, wounding many and forcing everyone to seek cover. One ally, was unable to reach protective shelter due to his weakened condition. Sergeant Rose, braving the bullet-infested fire zone, sprinted fifty meters to his downed comrade's side. The sergeant then used his own body to protect the casualty from further injury while treating his wounds. After stopping the blood flow from the wound, Sergeant Rose carried the man back through the bullet-ridden zone to protective cover. As the belligerents accelerated their attack, Sergeant Rose continued to disregard his own safety as he ran from casualty to casualty, administering emergency first aid. Suddenly, a B-40 rocket impacted just meters from

Sergeant Rose, knocking him from his feet and inflicting wounds throughout his body. Ignoring his own pain, Sergeant Rose struggled to his feet and continued to administer medical treatment to the other injured soldiers. As night approached, the order was given to dig defensive slit trenches. Sergeant Rose, his own wounds yet untreated, worked tirelessly to excavate many trenches for the severely injured who were unable to dig their own, stopping only when all the casualties had been placed in safe positions. All through the night and into the next day, the foe pounded the allied force with a continuous barrage of B-40 rockets and mortars. Despite the deadly volleys falling around him, Sergeant Rose displayed a calm professionalism as he administered medical treatment to countless men; two were so severely wounded that they would have died without the sergeant's vigilant care. Finally, on 14 September, the company was successfully extracted from the embattled area by helicopter support ships. Sergeant Rose, though tired and wounded, refused evacuation until all other casualties were safely out of the area.

General Orders: Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 143 (January 1, 1971)

Action Date: September 11 - 14, 1970

Service: Army

Rank: Sergeant

Company: C & C (Central), Task Force 1

Regiment: 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne)

Division: 1st Special Forces



2LT McCartney with SGM Long and LTC Macnamara

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

California State University ROTC Award Ceremony

Good afternoon, Gentlemen! I hope your day is going great!

I've attached a picture of you representing Special Forces Association Chapter 78 and former CDT – now Second Lieutenant Andrew McCartney during our Award Ceremony on May 6, 2016.

Hope to see you again next school year!

Thank you so much for your consistent support to the CSUF Titan Battalion!!!

Have a wonderful Summer!

Eileen A. Yuhico

Army ROTC – Military Science

California State University Fullerton