



THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION



The SOA welcomed their newest approved Unit at this Year's SOAR. The Operating Location Alpha (OLAA) unit flew exclusive support for MACVSOG missions in Laos and Cambodia.

SOAR XXXVII

21 OCTOBER - 25 OCTOBER 2013
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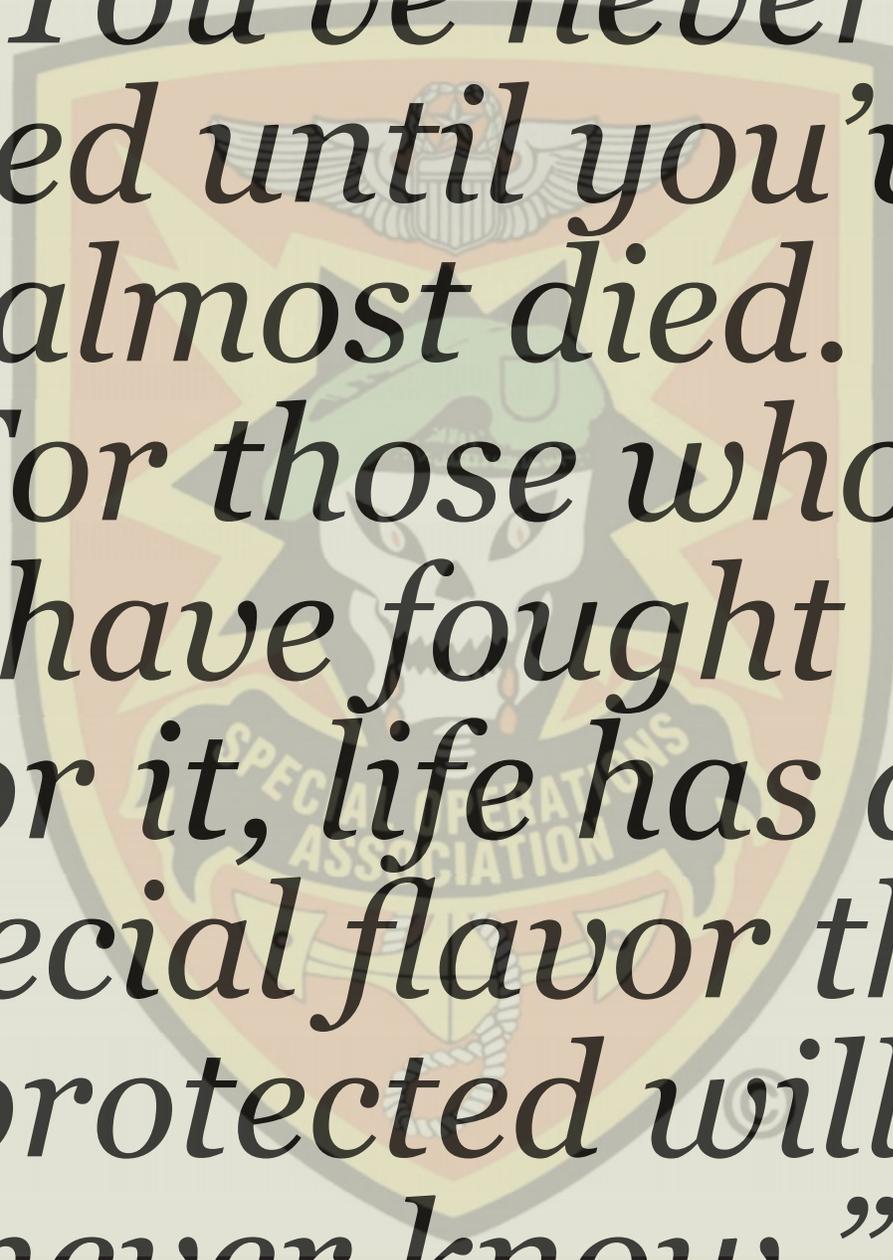


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A large, semi-transparent watermark of the Special Operations Association logo is centered behind the text. The logo features a central figure, possibly a soldier or operator, with wings and a helmet, set against a shield-like background with various symbols and the text 'SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION' around the perimeter.

*“You’ve never
lived until you’ve
almost died.
For those who
have fought
for it, life has a
special flavor the
protected will
never know.”*



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

The SOA, established in December 1977, is a fraternal veteran's organization of past and present American and Allied military personnel who have conducted special operations in a combat environment. The group includes veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Panama, Grenada, the Balkans, Somalia as well as those from our most recent conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. Membership is limited to Free World forces who supported, or personally participated in missions deep inside hostile territory in a combat capacity.

For the most part, the SOA is composed of U.S. Army Special Forces personnel but, also includes USAF Air Commandos/FAC's, Navy Seals, Marine Raider, and Force Recon personnel and veterans of other elite military organizations who were an integral part of Special Operations.

The specific and primary purposes of the SOA are:

To unite fraternally all veterans who have or are now conducting or supporting classified "Special Operations" deep in hostile enemy territory or have been assigned to military units which conducted such operations; and,

To perpetuate the Special Operations "esprit de corps"; and,

To commemorate fittingly the memory of those who have given their lives in defense of the Free World and to those who served in Special Operations units and are still unaccounted for as POW/MIA through the management of the SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Fund. Since 1983, over \$556,500 has been awarded, or committed thus far to 152 deserving young scholars.

The Special Operations Association is recognized by the Department of Defense and by the IRS as a non-profit veterans organization, 501 (c) (19), operating on tax deductible donations, (EIN # 74-2619854). Annual membership dues are \$30 U.S. Lifetime membership fee is \$505 U.S. 70-years or over, Lifetime fees are \$305. U.S. The organization has no meetings other than its annual reunion. The primary organizational correspondence is the Pre-Reunion Packet (PRP) and the Special Operations Association Reunion After-Action Report, (SOAR AAR).

The SOA will conduct its 38th annual reunion (SOAR XXXVIII) in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Orleans Hotel and Casino during the period 20-24 October 2014. We anticipate in excess of 650 members and guests.

Revised: 06 November 2013

January 12, 2014

Gentlemen,

I sincerely hope you enjoyed yourselves and some of the additional programs put together last year at SOAR XXXVII as well as attempts to shorten the General Membership Meeting and to improve your association.

The SOA Board of Directors and key special staff continue to work hard to improve the SOA operations, from the many web site improvements – you can now register for SOAR, pay dues, and purchase SOA items from Quartermaster Robert Strange – to building relationships with other spec. ops. units as well as connecting with the brave men who flew A1-E Skyraiders supporting SOG missions in Laos, Cambodia and N. Vietnam.

In addition, the SOA BOD took a major step in January when it unanimously appointed the first director, Brian Vines, who is not a Vietnam-era SF soldier. Although he served 28 years in Uncle Sam's Army, mostly with SF, he's from another era – a trend the BOD hopes to replicate in years ahead as it looks to the future by engaging younger men in leadership roles within the SOA.

Another topic the BOD is keeping an eye on is the POW/MIA accountability programs at JPAC and DPMO. The SOA BOD appointed Mike Taylor to chair the POW/MIA Committee to work closely with JPAC in Hawaii in an effort to help JPAC's field investigators in any way possible while encouraging upper management to continue the search for the remaining 52 SOG MIAs and the additional 250 U.S. service members who remaining missing in Laos alone.

Politics and some questionable actions aside, JPAC remains the only game in town where the U.S. continues to search for the remains of our MIAs and KIAs, thus I feel obligated to continue to assist in that mission any way possible. Few, if any nations in the world have committed so strongly to endeavoring to bring home its MIAs.

The SOA's Video History Project kicked into high gear last year as Dennis Cummings and Lisa Allen were able to record more than 20 SOA members during the reunion and a few before and after the reunion. Please contact Dennis to set up an interview.

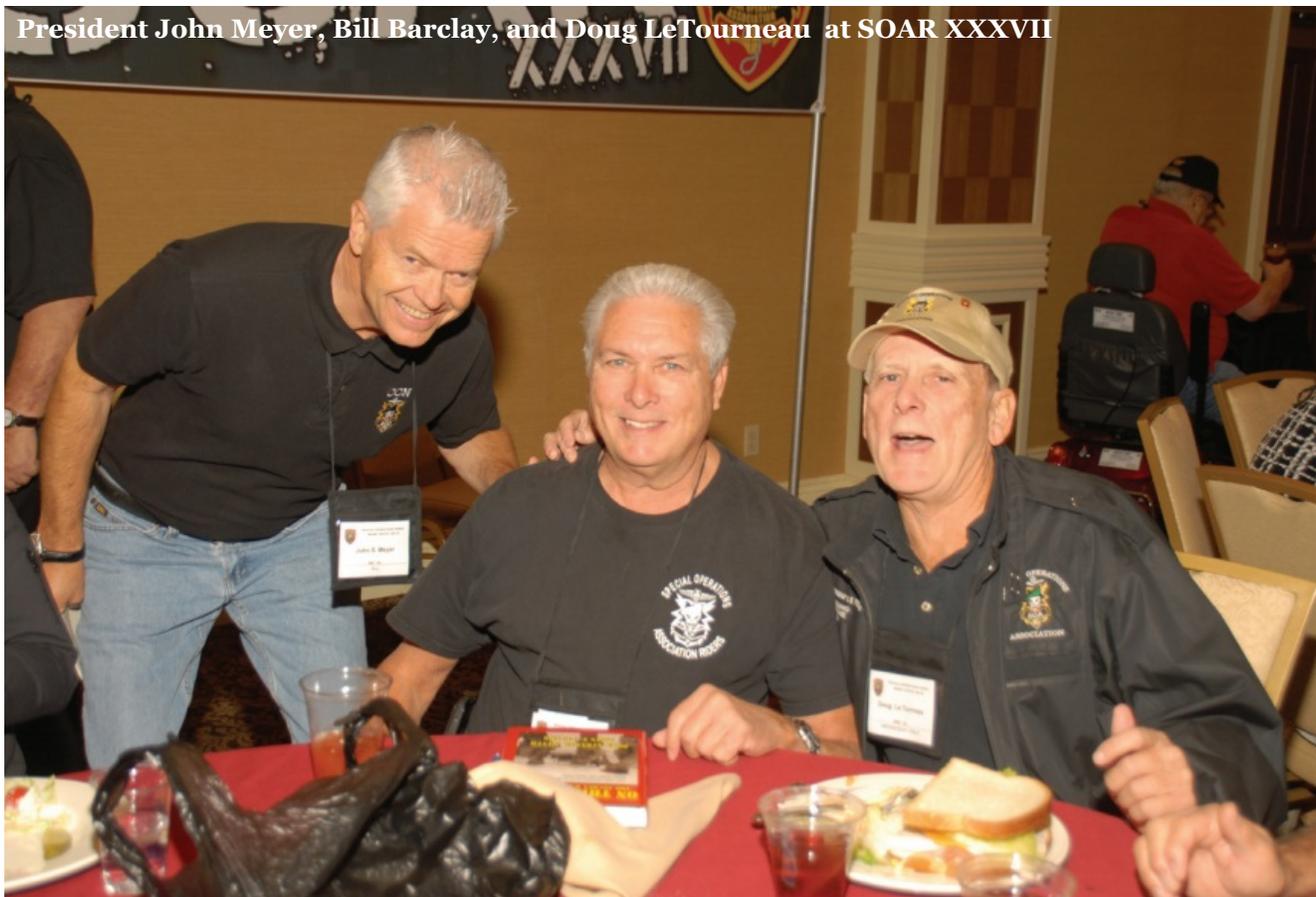
I want to thank SOA Director/Chaplin Bill Werther for chairing the SOA Warrior's Family Fund. It enabled several relatives of SOG soldiers able to attend SOAR XXXVII to meet the SOA men their relatives served with during the Vietnam War. Included among those who attended under that program were the brother and sister of SOG recon man Jerry "Maddog" Shriver. Colleen Shriver Saal told me, "Words cannot express how I have been touched by the solicitude that you, the CCS veterans, and the entire SOA organization have shown to our family. I love being around you SOG recon men." Colleen is unique also, as she is the widow of Harve Saal, a deceased SOG veteran.

Last, but not least, during and after the General Membership Meeting, several members asked the SOA BOD to put together a membership roster that would be available through a secure site on the SOA Website. Before any action is taken on that request, we are updating and improving the SOA database that would be used for that roster. There have been several problems encountered with the database that to date, several hundred man hours have been tasked to improve. I shall have a follow-up report on that request in the PRP as well as a report at the next General Membership Meeting.

As more of you retire, please keep in mind that the SOA is run by volunteers and their wives, who often play a huge role in keeping the SOA moving forward. Please take a minute to see where you can help the SOA team.

Respectfully,

John S. Meyer
President



Special Operations Association Board of Directors 2013-2014

President

John S. "Tilt" Meyer
349 Vista Marazul
Oceanside, CA 92057-7343
soapresident@
specialoperations.org
619.892.5983

Vice President

Tyler Furbish
P. O. Box 1091
Cocoa, FL 32923
soavp@specialoperations.org
321.704.1454

Secretary

David Lucier
530 E. La Jolla Drive
Tempe, AZ 85282
soasecretary@
specialoperations.org
480.703.4008

Treasurer

Pete "Bus" Buscetto
934 Ashton Oaks Circle
Lakeland, FL 32257-5092
soatreasurer@
specialoperations.org
863.669.7602

Director/Chaplain

Bill Werther
102 Lightning Springs Road
Protom, MO 65773
Sogrt4@yahoo.com
417.527.5104

Director

C.B. "Cork" Motsett
4457 Barrington Oaks Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32257-5092
cork130@comcast.com
904.737.3665

Director

Brian Vines
2671 Lookout Lane
Kissimmee, FL 34746-2883
brian.vines@aol.com
407.433.9709

Director

Douglas N. Godshall
275 Meadow Oaks Trail
Medina, OH 44256-7246
dngodshall@gmail.com

Director

Jimmy Tong Nguyen
P.O. Box 621288
Las Vegas, NV 89162
949.683.5003
jlcnguyen@aol.com



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Special Operations Association Special Staff and Committee Chairmen

Registrar

Ray Frovarp
soarregistration@
specialoperations.org
910.425.1425

Budget & Planning

Pete Buscetto
ccsrecon@gmail.com
863.669.7602

President Emeritus Fund Raising

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
sincere@skyviewmail.com
435.652.3553

Reunion

Patrick J. Hephner
ratguards@comcast.net
717.432.8336

Membership

Ray Calafell
membership@
specialoperations.org
813.245.2769

SOA Nominations

Brian Vines
brian.vines@aol.com
407.433.9709

Archivist/Video History

Dennis J. Cummings
djc106@aol.com
314.298.0936

MIA/POW

Mike Taylor
cagedivers@hawaii.rr.com
808.232.8075

SOA Bylaws

Sam Todaro
stodaro@triad.rr.com
336.674.3310

Operation Brightlight

John S. Meyer
soapresident@
specialoperations.org
619.892.5983

Scholarship

Chris McClure
cmclure@tech-architect.com
919.345.1118

SOA Quartermaster

Robert Strange
quartermaster-sales@
specialoperations.org
248.935.5431

SOP/Procedures

Ty Furbish
soavp@specialoperations.org
321.704.1454

IT System

M. G. "Mo" Worley
W5201@aol.com
919.933.0989

Entertainment

John Russell



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It has been our privilege at United Cutlery to work with the special men and women of the Special Operations Association. We are blessed to be able to work with some of the most professional and courteous people that ever served in the United States Armed Forces. We have been thrilled at the response from knife enthusiasts with our selection of SOA products thus far. We especially enjoy working on projects that commemorate brave individuals like Col Aaron Bank, CSM Chuck Petry, and CSM Don Devere; and believe a knife dedicated in their honor is just a very small portion of thanks that they are owed from our country. We hope that our relationship with SOA will continue to grow and the profits from each endeavor will help to honor not only the soldiers who fought and died for our country, but the family members who also made sacrifices for the whole of the United States. We'd again like to thank the entire SOA family and hope you'll continue to enjoy greater SOA licensed products to come.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION Registrar's Report

TABLE #1 - Total Attendance by Computer Code and Member Type

Cancellations: There were two cancellations prior to the reunion. Refunds were made and they are not included or adjusted as part of the total attendance records

Adjustments: There was one cancellation that was refunded; however, it was too late to remove his registration from the total attendance numbers. Therefore, his registration is adjusted from the total. The second adjustment, is for a member who did not attend; however, his wife attended in his place.

COMPUTER CODE AND MEMBER TYPE	TOTAL
1 General	299
2 Associates	17
3 Operational Associate	6
4 Honorary	4
5 Widow	3
6 Organizations (SFA; Force Recon; SOABOD)	3
7 Warrior Son	1
8 Vendors (Unique 4 u; Ms. Unger; OASIS)	3
Adjustments	-2
Sub-Total	334
Total Guest Registrations	260
TOTAL ATTENDANCE	594

TABLE #2 – 5 YEAR COMPARISON OF REGISTRATION – Attendance has been consistent during the past five (5) years. There is no data for 2011.

Year	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
SOA #	XXXVII	XXXVI	XXXV	XXXIV	XXXIII
Members	334	323	No Data	312	345
Guests	260	268	No Data	216	258
Total Attendance	594	591	No Data	528	603
# Members Registered for Partial Reunion	18	No Data	No Data	18	33
Banquet Head Count	532	554	No Data	475	No Data
# of Paid banquets	561	560	No Data	457	No Data

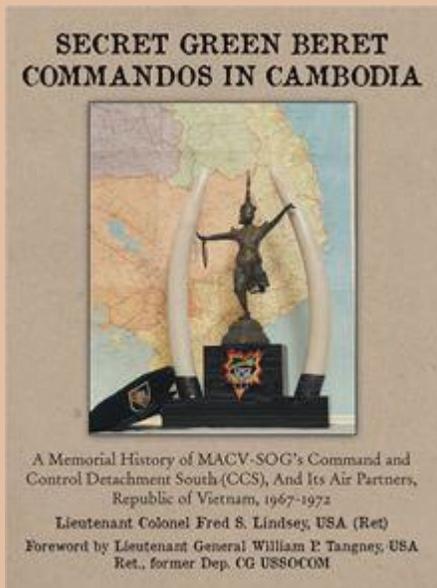
TABLE #3 - 2013 REGISTERED VENDORS/ORGANIZATIONS

Registered Organizations/Vendors	# tables
1. Pete Peterson	1
2. George Clark	4
3. Steve Sherman	1
4. Brian Paine	1
5. James Gaston	1
6. Jason Hardy	1
7. Unique 4 U	1
8. Kinsler	6
9. OASIS (Armezetti)	1
Total Tables Registered	17

SECRET GREEN BERET COMMANDOS IN CAMBODIA

A Memorial History of MACV-SOG Command and Control
Detachment South (CCS), And Its Air Partners, Republic of Vietnam,
1967-1972

LTC Fred S. Lindsey, USA (Ret)



About the Book

We could call this book “special operations Recon Mission Impossible.” A small group of highly trained, resourceful US Special Forces (SF) men is asked to go in teams behind the enemy lines to gather intelligence on the North Vietnamese Army units that had infiltrated through Laos and Cambodia down the Ho Chi Minh trails to their secret bases inside the Cambodian border west of South Vietnam. The covert reconnaissance teams, of only two or three SF men with four or five experienced indigenous mercenaries each, were tasked to go into enemy target areas by foot or helicopter insertion. They could be 15 kilometers beyond any other friendly forces, with no artillery support. In sterile uniforms - with no insignia or identification, if they were killed or captured, their government would deny their military connection. The enemy had placed a price on their heads and had spies in their Top Secret headquarters known as SOG.

SOG had three identical recon ground units along the border areas. This book tells the history of Command and Control Detachment South (CCS). The CCS volunteer warriors and its Air Partners- the Army and Air Force helicopter transport and gunship crews who lived and fought together and sometimes died together. This is the first published history of CCS as compiled by its last living commander some forty years after they were

disbanded. It tells of the struggles and intrigue involved in SOG's development as the modern- day legacy of our modern Special Operations Commands. Forbidden to tell of their experiences for over twenty years; their After Action Reports destroyed even before they were declassified surviving veterans team together to tell how Recon men wounded averaged 100 percent; and SOG became the most highly decorated unit in Vietnam and all were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation.

About the Author

Lieutenant Colonel Lindsey enlisted in the Army in 1948, attaining the rank of Corporal. He was accepted in to and graduated from the US Military Academy at West Point in 1954 as a 2nd LT of Infantry. After Infantry School, he qualified as a Master Parachutist and as a Ranger. He served in various leadership and staff positions in the 11th Abn Div, the 82nd Abn Div and the 101st Abn Div. In his first Vietnam combat tour he was MACV G-3 Air Liaison Officer for the 35th Tactical Fighter Wing and flew 50 backseat missions, primarily in F-100s. Then he went to 1st Brigade of 101st Abn Div as Asst Ops Officer and then Ops and Exec Officer of the 2/327Abn Inf Bn. On his second Vietnam tour, he was Cmdr of 2/8th Cav Bn of 1st Cav Div. Next he was Deputy Cmdr of OP-35 in MACV-SOG and then was Cmdr of Command and Control Detachment South (CCS) from January-July 1970. He is the last living Cmdr of CCS. His advance schooling included the USMA Preparatory School, a Masters degree at Indiana University, and the Command and General Staff College. He retired after 20 years from the Army in August 1972. His civilian career positions included Exec VP of an architectural and engineering firm; and president of an “Alternative Energy” firm building a Gasohol plant. He served for 12 years in the Indiana Department of Commerce as Program Manager for High Technology Development. His military awards include two Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars, six Air Medals and the Combat Infantry Badge. Civilian awards are as a Kentucky Colonel and a Sagamore of the Wabash. He is active in local service and veterans' organizations in Carmel, IN, where he has lived with his family since 1973.

Published by AuthorHouse November 2012; 742 pages; ISBN Paperback (978-1-4772-7308-1), EBook (978-1-4772-7307-4; Available autographed directly from Fred Lindsey [f elind@iquest.net](mailto:felind@iquest.net), or unsigned from Amazon.com. ©2012

CCS & Air Partners Memorial Breakfast Attendance 2013

CCS Attendees

Acre, James "Ernie"
 Aquiningoc, Tony
 Barclay, Bill, Snake Bite
 Barksdale, Charlie, SnakeBite
 Barker, Leroy & son, Snake-
 Bite
 Buscetto, Pete
 Chapin, Charles & Norma
 Dadek, Bill
 Day, Jim
 Devon, Phil & guest
 Driscoll, Art
 Franquet, Carl
 Holder, Jim & son, Wayne
 Hollingsworth, Bob
 Johansen, Robert
 Katzenstein, Nick & son
 Lid, Dennis
 Lindsey, Fred
 Massey, Jay +2
 Moore, Mike & Ann
 Nuqui, Roland
 Saunders, Alex
 Sperry, Steve
 Taylor, Mike
 Vencill, Carl

20th SOS

Allen, Robert D
 Cartter, Paul B.
 Hall, Bob "Hoser"
 Houston, Roger
 Roman, Joe
 Spencer, David T.
 Thompson, John
 Woodbury, Jim

195th AHC

Eskins, Spike
 Furbish, Ty
 Hammond, Jay C
 Huston, Roger
 Jensen, Richard
 Little, Larry +2
 McDaniel, Joel & Rose
 McMullin, Pat
 Meyer, Bill
 Norden, Bill & Joanne
 O'Quinn, Ed M.
 Sallee, Jim & Sue
 Sawyer, Paul
 Werner, Jim
 Wilson, Donn R.
 Wright, Gary

Unknown Unit?

Butta, Digoc
 Fitch, Paul & guest
 McBride, Dean
 McCanity, Jack
 Stewart, Bain

Note: CCS men Joe Brock
 & Bruce Koch & Jon Ross
 were at SOAR but not at the
 Breakfast. Joe was on SOA
 Security Duty and Bruce had
 a bad cold. Ross had a home
 emergency.



155th AHC

Principe, Vince
 Grow, John & Gretchen

219th Avn Co

Ullyot, LaValle E.

FACs

Franzyshen, Karol
 Hammond, Bob
 Maye, Paul

SOA Board* & Guests**

Meyer, John President*
 Sincere, Clyde, President
 Emeritus*
 Nuyen, Jimmy Tong*
 Saal, Colleen Shriver**
 Shriver, John**
 Cole, Jim Former Pres*



LTC Fred Lindsey, USA (Ret) and President John Meyer



20 Year Pins

During the SOAR XXXVII General Membership Meeting, 23 October 2013, Ty Furbish, Vice-President, SOA, requested those personnel having achieved 20-year status as members of the SOA come forward and receive their pins from John "Tilt" Meyer, President, SOA. All individuals who attended or joined the SOA commencing with SOAR I, through and including SOAR XVIII (1977-1994), were eligible. Those present at SOAR XXXVII were:

Benjamin, Donald C. SOA # 899-GL
Betterton, Dale C. SOA # 1061-GL
Bieber, Dennis SOA # 992-GL
Byrne, Dean SOA # 361-GL
Clark, Johnson S. SOA # 999-GL
Estrada, Pedro B. SOA # 1125-AA
Garcia, C. "Bill" SOA # 1052-GL
Griskelis, Kestutis, SOA # 271-GA
Harris, Raymond D. SOA # 577-GA
Hudson, Earle F. SOA # 944-AA
Livingston, Thomas SOA # 527-GL
Meder, Roland SOA # 180-GA
Nader, Walter E. SOA # 067-GL
Newman, Max E. SOA #1116-GA
Peters, Gary B. SOA # 1006-AL
Steffler, Charles R. SOA # 172-GL
Sternberg, George, Jr. SOA # 1164-GA
Stevens, Harlow H. SOA # 1176-GL
Tatten, Tom SOA # 1153-AL
Tobin, John N. SOA # 509-GA
Young, Alvin, H. SOA # 1130-GA

This reflects those members whose SOA number falls between 001 and 1178.

Next year during the conduct of SOAR XXXVIII, all personnel who attended or joined the SOA commencing with SOAR I, through and including SOAR XIX (1977-1995), will be eligible to receive their 20-Year SOA pin if they have not already done so.

25 Year Pins

During the conduct of the SOAR XXXVII General Membership Meeting, 23 October 2013, Ty Furbish, Vice-President, SOA, requested the following personnel having achieved 25-year status as members of the SOA come forward and receive their pins from John "Tilt" Meyer, President, SOA. All individuals who attended or joined the SOA commencing with SOAR I, through and including SOAR XIII (1977-1989), were eligible. Those present at SOAR XXXVII were:

Byrne, Dean SOA # 361-GL
Cherry, Roger L. SOA # 653-GL
Franquet, Carl SOA # 629-GA
Griskelis, Kestutis SOA # 271-GA
Harris, Raymond D. SOA # 577-GA
Heminger, Patrick J. SOA # 803-GL
Hill, Melvin SOA # 832-GL
Johnson, Thomas E. SOA # 851-GL
Jones-Shorten, James SOA # 841-GL
Livingston, Thomas SOA # 527-GL
McClaskey, John R. SOA # 621-GL
Meder, Roland SOA # 180-GA
Murphy, Don F. SOA # 790-GL
Nader, Walter E. SOA # 067-GL
Platt, Alfred G. SOA # 825-GA
Randall, Charles M. SOA # 789-GA
Snyder, Kenneth O. SOA # 816-GA
Steffler, Charles R. SOA # 172-GL
Tobin, John N. SOA # 509-GA
Van Winkle, Harlan SOA # 697-GL
Wicorek, Laurence T. SOA # 819-GL

This reflects those members whose SOA number falls between 001 and 852.

Next year during the conduct of SOAR XXXVIII, all personnel who attended or joined the SOA commencing with SOAR I, through and including SOAR XIV (1977-1990), will be eligible to receive their 25-Year SOA pin if they have not already done so.

30 Year Pins

During the conduct of the SOAR XXXVII General Membership Meeting, 23 October 2013, Ty Furbish, Vice-President, SOA requested the following SOA members having achieved 30-year status as members of the SOA to come forward and receive their pins from John "Tilt" Meyer, President, SOA. All individuals who attended or joined the SOA commencing with SOAR I, through and including SOAR VIII (1977-1984), were eligible. Those present at SOAR XXXVII were:

Byrne, Dean SOA # 361-GL
Dunlap, Lee C. SOA # 559-GA
Griskelis, Kestutis SOA # 271-GA
Harris, Raymond D. SOA # 577-GA
Hunt, George W. SOA # 452-GL
Livingston, Thomas SOA # 527-GL
Meder, Roland SOA # 180-GA
Nader, Walter E. SOA # 067-GL
Steffler, Charles R. SOA # 172-GL
Tobin, John N. SOA # 509-GA

This reflects those members whose SOA number falls between 001 and 599.

Next year during the conduct of SOAR XXXVIII, all personnel who attended or joined the SOA commencing with SOAR I, through and including SOAR IX (1977-1985), will be eligible to receive their 30-Year SOA pin if they have not already done so.

35 Year Pins

During the SOAR XXXVII Banquet activities, 24 October 2013, Ty Furbish, Vice-President, SOA, requested the following SOA members having achieved 35-year status as members of the SOA to come forward and receive their pins from John “Tilt” Meyer, President, SOA. All individuals who attended or joined the SOA commencing with SOAR I, through and including SOAR II (1977-1978), were eligible. Those present at SOAR XXXVII were:

Aguiningoc, Antonio A. SOA # 100-GA
Dioguardi, Dick SOA # 041-GA
Hetrick, James F. SOA # 036-GL
Kennedy, James E. SOA # 037-GL
Nader, Walter E. SOA # 067-GL
Mollica, Leonard SOA # 048-GA
Taylor, Michael E. SOA # 698-GL

This reflects those members whose SOA number falls between 001 and xxx, and specific “select” numbers.

Next year during the conduct of SOAR XXXVIII, all personnel who attended or joined the SOA commencing with SOAR I, through and including SOAR III (1977-1979), will be eligible to receive their 35-Year SOA pin if they have not already done so.



Ooh La La! The OLAA Makes a Safe Landing at SOAR XXXVII

Operating Location Alpha Alpha (OLAA) was a specialized detachment formed to continue basing A-1 Skyraiders in-country after the termination of the 6th SOS “Spads” Squadron on 15 Nov 69. OLAA’s origins were and are sketchy because the original plan to move all Skyraiders to NKP was well underway when an apparent reversal occurred on short notice.

In mid-November 1969, the beginnings of a new unit to be based in Da Nang was still operating out of Pleiku until 12 Dec 69. The 56th SOW out of NKP owned the airplanes and the OLAA pilots were now assigned to that parent unit. But now a strong, centrally located mini-squadron consisting of 12 airplanes and 12 pilots would be available to continue a semblance of what Pleiku had been doing for a long time.

I have a “theory” that OLAA was formed specifically because MACVSOG demanded Spads in-country. That is not to say that the unit was formed exclusively to support SOG. I personally remember being told that OLAA was formed because the Army “screamed” when they found out we were leaving Pleiku and there would not be Spads in-country. Clearly, NKP was too distant to timely cover tri-border SOG missions and SARs, in-country SARs or troop support and DMZ area incidents.

The basis for my “theory” came with a better understanding of what happened to the MACVSOG teams during this same time. Nineteen sixty-nine had been a terrible year for SOG team losses and foretold a potential horror show as 1970 was approaching. A complex set of breakdowns in US intelligence security led to extreme threats regarding all team activities, particularly infiltrations during this time period. The awareness of the extent of the Cambodian NVA buildup in late 1969 and ineffectiveness of the secret bombing efforts were about to change the role of MACVSOG. Nineteen seventy was a year of increasingly important MACVSOG missions when considering that US forces were leaving in large numbers and NVA efforts were on a rampage. Clearly, ongoing SOG missions would require massive support and cost many lives. Yet, I have read accounts that 1970 team losses were down from 1969 even though encounters were at similar rates. The difference was that SOG had much higher support authorities and priorities for all tactical assets. I submit OLAA was directly involved in that commitment, and those who would be needed to support OLAA were made well aware of same. By the end of 1970 many other factors had begun to change. SOG missions increased exponentially in-country, politics here and there regarding Cambodia were in turmoil, and the basic aircraft numbers game was affecting how broadly A-1s could be expected to operate. So, in mid-December 1970, OLAA was dissolved.

During the 13 month existence of OLAA, we flew many hundreds of direct support missions for SOG teams. No other USAF unit flew anywhere near the number of SOG support missions between 15 Nov 69 and 17 Dec 70 than did the pilots of OLAA. The exact number of these missions will never be known, but we are working with SOA to document and share our mission history for the benefit of all interested parties.

Don Engebretsen



Don Engebretsen



© Don Engebretsen

The Special Operations Association conducted its first annual Texas Hold-Em Tournament on Wednesday evening with 23 players. The Orleans Hotel and Casino Poker Room's "Ms. Suzie" did a fantastic job directing the tournament starting with five (5) tables and working down to the final table and last five players. The Casino provided a private section of the poker room along with Dealers and all of the accessories - even changing cards when requested.

players it took on a more serious tone, yet good-natured ribbing continued to go back and forth between the players and supporters. You could see the intensity



SOA members look on as play begins in the First Annual Texas Hold-em Tournament.

Throughout the evening, the fun was continuous as the players and bystanders both cheered and jeered each other on. Play was out of the ordinary as the novices appeared to play nearly as well as some of the "well-seasoned" players at the beginning due to some coaching from the dealers and Ms. Suzie. However, that soon changed as the coaching came to an end, and the every man and woman had to play the cards dealt... as they saw them. Soon it was time for our first "Walk of Shame" but only the SOA Archivist knows the name and the time of the walk. Following the tradition we've all learned so well, this is classified for the next 25 years from the date of the tournament.

As the tournament, came down to the final



Play intensifies.

building in each player's eyes as the tables started narrowing down to three... then two... and finally the final table of five for the "Winner Take All" finish and the the pride of being the Special Operations Association's First Annual Texas Hold-Em Tournament Champion! Oh yeah, and the money too.

The final pair made the tournament a real barn burner with the lead going back





Okay, if I go all in I've still got a twenty for cab fare home...

and forth multiple times until Ms. Suzie suggested a show-down hand. Both men agreed.

As the cards were shuffled the area became crowded as word quickly spread that the end was at hand. You could almost feel the tension as the dealer prepared to lay down the last two cards for each man. The room became noticeably quieter. It was quickly forgotten, by some of us at least, that the chips had no value and these two were only playing for a split of the prize money. Nonetheless, there it was; chips stacked up, cards on the table, one hand, winner take all.

And the winner of the First Annual Special Operations Association Texas Hold-Em Tournament for 2013 is, slow drum roll please, Tony Herrell (MACVSOG CCS).

As the winner of the tournament, Tony split the pot (after the SOA's expenses with the hotel) and took home \$595. Equally important this year's tournament raised \$595 for SOA Charities, which Tony designated for the Scholarship Fund.

The SOA's First Annual Texas Hold'em Tournament

Come join us in 2014 and remember; it's about the fun and it's for the SOA Charities

If you have suggestions on how to improve next year's tournament let us know - if you want to see higher buy-ins (and at what level) to raise the winnings; if you want a split pot between the top two, three or even more players; if you want additional buy-in options; or any other "legitimate" Texas Hold-Em Championship Tournament Rules (remember we are playing inside a casino). Send your suggestions and recommendations to the Entertainment Committee, to the attention of Cork Motsett at cork130@gmail.com.



Congratulations, Tony, our first Texas Hold-Em Champion!

James E. Butler Founders Award



SOA President John S. Meyer, right, presents the James E. Butler Founders Award to SOA member Patrick Hephner for his “extraordinary achievements” in his service to the Special Operations Association for his 19 years of service to the SOA.

Noteworthy is his performance as chairman of the SOA Reunion Committee where his service and dedication has been nothing less than outstanding. As reunion chairman, his duties range from coordinating banquet menus to working with the SOA Operation Brightlight Committee ensuring selected recipients have rooms during the reunion.

The award was presented to Hephner in the true SF tradition, a clandestine operation to honor him without telling him in advance. Hephner was surprised at being named to receive the award, and as Meyer pointed out that night, “It’s one of the few times I’ve ever seen Captain Hephner speechless.”

There have been four previous awards issued by the SOA Board of Directors: SOA founder James E. Butler and President Emeritus Clyde J. Sincere, Jr., both in September 2002, the first SOA Executive Director, H. “Jake” Jacobson, in September 2006 and 15th SOA President James F. Hetrick, in 2008.

U.S. Military Valor/Service Awards Presented at SOAR XXXVII Banquet

This year, as in the two (2) previous SOARs, Senator Bill Nelson (D-Fl), and members of his Florida office were instrumental in securing a number of U.S. Military Valor/Service awards for SOA members that had been previously lost, destroyed, or misplaced during the Vietnam conflict.

The U.S. Military Valor/Service awards were presented during the conduct of the SOAR XXXVII Banquet by Major General Eldon A. Bargewell, U.S. Army Retired with assistance by John S. Meyer, President, SOA. The recipients are as follows:

**Michael P. Armstrong, SOA# 3001-GA
Bronze Star Medal w/V device**

**George Sternberg, Jr., SOA# 1164-GA
The Air Medal**

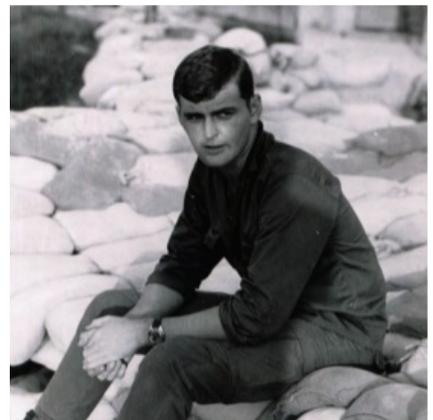
**Michael A. Lacey, SOA# 3062-GA
Army Commendation Medal**

**Robert E. Shippen, SOA# 540-GL
Army Commendation Medal**

The following SOA members have elected to receive their U.S. Military Service awards directly from Senator Bill Nelson's office in view of the fact that they were unable to attend SOAR XXXVII:

**Kyle R. Buchanan, SOA# 3016-GA
Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service**

**Thomas Cunningham, Jr., SOA# 079-GL
Army Commendation Medal**



President's Achievement Award

This year was the first year that the Board of Directors approved the President's Achievement Award. The award recognizes the contribution of members who have tirelessly worked on special projects - behind the scenes, in support and leadership roles, on behalf of the Special Operations Association. These awards are reviewed by the entire board of directors. This year the final list of four were approved unanimously.



Rhonda and Ray Frovarp for their tireless work at the registration desk. Both volunteered to make registration for the reunion a simple and quick process. They used the SOA website for registration for the first time in the SOA history without any major issues; pre check-in packets were perfect. They used their long history of volunteering at SOAR and the experience of those years to make this event a slick and seamless process. Ray and Rhonda have volunteered and served in many areas over the years and as always Rhonda was right there working alongside Ray. Their combined efforts make for a great event, one in which they get to spend very little time with friends because of the job they do for the rest of us. It's with pleasure that on behalf of the membership the board made Ray and Rhonda one of the first recipients of the President's Achievement Award.

Morris G. “Mo” Worley and his wife, Pamela, have always been volunteers for the SOA. Mo spends hours managing the database program to ensure it is working and that the records of the SOA membership are secured and well protected. He travels to train new users, he responds to all help requests and projects that need his expertise. Mo and his wife never say no, however, the board has learned to be careful with stupid requests as Mo will in his soft country style advise you just how crazy that request is and what would probably be the right question to ask and the best working solution. Mo is a priceless asset of the SOA and the membership benefits from his involvement every day. Mo and his wife always are available and helping at the registration desk every year. Both give countless hours of their time to the SOA and its members. It’s with pleasure that on behalf of the membership the board makes Mo and Pamela one of the first recipients of the Presidents Achievement Award.



Additionally the board awarded the Presidents Achievement Award to two additional people who could not be at this years SOAR. They were Ray Calafell, Chairman of the SOA Membership Committee and Chris Mc Clure, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee.

Ray Calafell has over many years assisted the SOA board and the membership volunteering to help out whenever and as needed. As a retired attorney, he has helped the SOA pro-bono over many years and has helped many officers and directors understand legal issues, reviewed documents, and helped create responses to many complex legal issues. But his major work is ongoing to this day with regards to the membership database and the membership records. Since becoming the membership chairman he has gone above and beyond in repairing the database information which for years has been neglected, had many

errors, and old outdated information. Ray has spent countless hours with Mo and working together as a team has made tremendous progress in fixing the records. Ray was quick to take the applications process and dues payment process to the web site. Today members can securely pay their dues on the secure site. Additionally new applicants can apply online and pay the enrollment fee at the same time. All this creates a fast, seamless process ensuring accurate data for Ray to work with. Additionally Ray has spent hours recruiting new members, vetting new units, and working around the clock on behalf of the SOA. Somehow Ray also finds time to make sure all the SOA plaques and awards get made, and represents the SOA at events at McDill and other Special Operation events. It's with pleasure that on behalf of the membership the board makes Ray Calafell one of the first recipients of the President's Achievement Award.

Chris McClure took over the Scholarship program many years ago. He had served the SOA membership for countless years and hours in other areas. He chairs the Committee that vets all applications, and manages the application process for the scholarship fund. This is a detailed, time-consuming responsibility which Chris performs perfectly. He submits detailed financial documentation for all scholarship awards and monitors the program throughout the year to make sure all recipients submit their documentation and grades required to continue in the program. Because the funds in the scholarship program are well managed by Chris we have more students on scholarship and higher monetary awards to give out. Chris also volunteers and helps out at all SOARs, and has served on various projects over the years.

Recently Chris was contacted by a group who wanted to issue a large one time scholarship. The group wanted our help in selecting one of our students. Chris, as always, informed the board and we agreed to his recommendation on the selection. Chris talked to the family selected after a review of the applicants and then made his recommendation to the group. They selected our candidate and Chris travelled to the award banquet, the student and her family were flown to the event, and she was awarded the scholarship. It's Chris's passion for helping others and a willingness to engage and make things work that makes him a stand-out volunteer. It's with pleasure that on behalf of the membership the board makes Chris McClure one of the first recipients of the President's Achievement Award.

SOAR XXXVII Donations

On behalf of the SOA Board of Officers, Directors and Special Staff we wish to publicly thank all who contributed to the success of SOAR XXXVII by donating to this year's various charitable programs via the SOA silent auction and door prizes.

Hopefully, as in past years, we did not miss recognizing a donor. If per chance you did contribute an item and we neglected to recognize you, please accept our profound apology. We promise to do better next year at SOAR XXXVIII.

The following individuals/organizations/firms donated silent auction items, door prizes and SOA archival items in support of the SOA General Operational Fund, the SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program Fund, the SOA Operation Brightlight Program Fund, the SOA Warrior's Family Program, and the SOA Personal Video History Project. Thank you one and all.

ANHEUSER-BUSCH, Inc.
GLOCK, USA, Inc., (Chester Howard)
UNITED CUTLERY, Inc. (C. Keller)
BROWN's Trophy House
R.D. Mallowney, SOA # 1249-GL
H. "Ridge" Marriot, SOA # 1635-AL
A. "Fred" Platt, SOA # 825-GL
Jason M. Hardy, SOA # 2854-HL
Jeffrey Stone (Larry Trimble/Bill Werther)
Patrick Hephner, SOA # 1249-GL
James Gaston, SOA # 2862-AA
Joseph M. Conlon, SOA # 1833-GA
Sully deFontaine, SOA # 177-GL
Albert Slugocki, SOA # 278-GA
Steve Sherman, SOA # 759-AL
Robert Shippen, SOA # 540-GL
R. "Tex" Houston, SOA # 2288-DD
J. E. "Gene" McCarthy, SOA # 256-GL
Sharon Wert
Pam Worley
"Tony" Bandiara, Jr., SOA # 2936-GL

Raffle / Silent Auction Winners

THE SOA PERSONAL VIDEO HISTORY PROJECT

(Raffle)

2007 American Buffalo \$50. Gold Coin

Donated by Joseph M. Conlon, SOA # 1833-GA

WINNER: Joseph M. Haro, SOA # 2604-GA - Winning Ticket #: 40338

THE SOA GEORGE C. MORTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

(Silent Auction)

Dept. of the Treasury: 2013 - 5 Star Generals Proof \$5. Gold Coin

Donated by Justin E. "Gene" McCarthy, SOA # 256-GL

HIGHEST BIDDER: Alfred G. "Fred" Platt, SOA # 825-GL

Pistol, Glock, USA

Donated by GLOCK USA, Inc., via Chester B. Howard, SOA # 1609-GL

HIGHEST BIDDER: Charles F. Reed, SOA # 3126-GA

Knife, Randall, Model 14 - Attack (Military Style)

Donated by R. "Tex" Houston, SOA # 2288-DD

HIGHEST BIDDER: Charles R. Steffler, SOA # 172-GL

THE SOA OPERATION "BRIGHTLIGHT" PROGRAM FUND

(Silent Auction)

Knife, SOG Replica

Donated by Jeffrey Stone, via The SOA Riders

HIGHEST BIDDER: Charles R. Steffler, SOA # 172-GL

THE SOA WARRIOR'S FAMILY FUND

(Silent Auction)

Knife, SOG Replica

Donated by Jeffrey Stone, via The SOA Riders

HIGHEST BIDDER: Lawrence L. Little, Jr., SOA # 1610-GL

THE SOA PERSONAL VIDEO HISTORY PROJECT

(Silent Auction)

Alaska Chinook Lodge – Bed and Breakfast for two (2) guests, for three (3) days, plus one (1) day of fishing on the Kenai

Donated by "Rich" D. Mullowney, Jr., SOA # 1319-GA

HIGHEST BIDDER: Patrick Hephner, SOA # 1249-GL

Election Tally Report

The Bill Sylvester Tally Committee Report was presented by president John Meyer in the absence of the committee chairman, Rick Estes, who certified the tally.

199 total ballots were received

190 for Pete Buscetto for treasurer
2 for Virgil McVickers for treasurer
1 for Ralph Miller for treasurer
1 for Mo Worley for treasurer
117 for Mel Hill for director
108 for Jimmy Tong Nguyen for director
75 for Sam Todaro for director
62 for Gary O'Neal for director
1 for Jim Cole for director
1 for Chester Howard for director
1 for Patrick Hephner for director
2 ballots were disqualifiedied by the committee for casting more votes than allowed.

Results

Pete Buscetto was elected treasurer.
Mel Hill was re-elected as director.
Jimmy Tong Nguyen was elected director.

All 3 were sworn into office by the president at the General Membership Meeting at SOAR XXXVII. Their terms will run for 3 years.

Other Committee Activity

During the course of SOAR XXXVII, the POW/MIA Committee Chairman and the Nominating Committee Chairman decided to retire. We thank John Hutchens and David "Bulldog" Smith, respectively, for their many years of service to the SOA.

Mike Taylor was chosen by the BOD and accepted the position of POW/MIA Committee Chairman.

The position of Nominating Committee Chairman remains open at this writing and has 3 candidates for the office. One of these will be chosen soon and announced ASAP.

Sam Todaro was chosen by the BOD and accepted the Chairmanship of the Bylaws Committee during SOAR.

TAPS

Deceased Since SOAR 36 (As of 9/26/2013)

Armando Canales, SOA# 1056, 27 Oct. 2012 (L)
John Flanagan, 21 Oct. 2012 (L)
Warren (Eddie) Fisler, SOA# 1933, 15 Nov. 2012
Kenneth Franklin Kubasik, SOA# 874, 15 Nov. 2012 (L)
Tilbeth (Gil) Apodaca, SOA# 88, 12 Oct. 12
James P. Monaghan, SOA# XXXX, 8 Dec. 12 (L)
William G. Bowles, SOA# 3041, 8 Nov. 12 (L)
Aloysius A. Doyle, SOA# 1753, 11 Dec. 12 (L)
Robert Dewey, SOA# 695, 12 Oct. 12 (L)
Robert C. Teisen, 8 Feb. 13
Robert L. Cavanaugh, 8 Feb. 13
Regis H. Murphy, 7 Feb. 13
Ken Moyer, 13 Feb. 13
Norm Doney, 23 Feb. 13
Robert L. Marple, Feb. 12
William Terrell Tibbit, SOA #78, 9 Mar. 13
Paul F. Campbell, SOA# 409, 1 Apr. 13
Stephen G. Filipette, SOA#398, 4 Apr. 13
William C. Curry III, SOA# 3147, 20 Apr. 13
Ronald D. Wingo, SOA# 273, 13 May 13
Ronald Henry "Tex" Houston, SOA# 2288, 27 May 13
Jerry Lee, SOA# 1615, 30 Aug. 13
John (Jack) Damoth, SOA# 1414
Paul Sheppard, SOA# 2287, 4 Oct. 13
Col. (Ret.) Skip Sadler, SOA#
Charles J. (Skip) Minnicks, SOA# 1124
Col.(Ret) Robert B Rheault, SOA# XXXX, 16 Oct. 13

Archives

This was a mile stone year for the SOA Archives. At SOAR XXXVII the archives received its first donation, a green beret, from Charles Borg. His beret is the FIRST donation of a uniform item worn in Vietnam by one of our members while assigned to SOG. It is also the ONLY uniform item donated to the archive. During the reunion I was able to speak with a number of members who pledged additional items for our archive. The SOA archive is striving to preserve the history of the SOA, SOG and other Special Operations Forces. In order to achieve that goal we need many more artifacts for the archives. The SOA is depending on YOU, its members, to donate those items. So please get up in the attic, down in the basement or out in the garage and start digging through the stuff that you know we need. This effort is to preserve your history and we cannot do it without your help. The SOA is seeking items of uniform and equipment, photographs and slides with identifying information, documents, film footage, patches and insignia. Books and manuscripts of books written by SOA members are also welcomed. Please send all submissions to the SOA archivist:

Dennis J. Cummings
3649 Taylor Ave
Bridgeton, MO 63044
314-298-0936
Email: djc106@aol.com



Charles Borg

Video History Project

This year we have interviewed more members than ever before in an attempt to record and preserve the history of SOA members. Since April, Lisa Allen, the SOA Videographer and I have conducted 21 interviews with our members ranging from a helicopter door gunner and a FAC pilot to members of recon teams, a Hatchet Force and a Mike Force. Nineteen of the interviews were conducted at SOAR XXXVII. To everyone who has participated so far I want to say thank you. Without your time and effort we would not have been able to record the history that is important to each of you. To those who have not yet participated in the Personal History Project, I hope you will consider doing so as soon as possible. Each person who participates helps fill in the gaps in the history books. Without your personal remembrances the history of Special Operations cannot be complete. Each year more of our members pass away and with them goes a piece of history that can never be recovered. I also want to mention that because this is an in-house effort by the SOA, we are able to expand an interview should you remember something you would like to add. Many participants have contacted me after the interviews were concluded and asked if they may add additional material. The answer is, yes, we can and will be glad to schedule another interview with you. We want to record everything that you believe is important regarding the time you served.

To everyone traveling through St. Louis, MO and who would like to do an interview, we will be glad to accommodate you. Please contact me as far in advance as possible so that we can set up a date and time. We have already conducted one here and have another scheduled for mid-December. Also, we will be heading to the Fayetteville, NC area early next year to conduct interviews. If you live in that area and would like to be interviewed please contact me so that we can make arrangements. The dates have yet to be determined, but we expect it to be sometime within the first quarter of 2014.

As always, if you have any questions about the SOA Video History Project please feel free to contact me.

Dennis J. Cummings
3649 Taylor Ave
Bridgeton, MO 63044
314-298-0936
djc106@aol.com

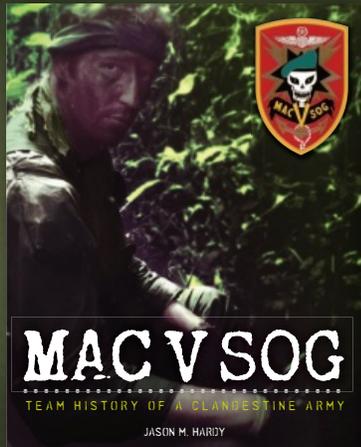
Bonnie Springs Ranch & Red Rock Canyon Tour

SOAR XXXVII members had a tour of two major tourist attractions in the Las Vegas area. SOA members and their families visited the Bonnie Springs Ranch and Red Rock Canyon tourist sites which are located within the Clark County, Nevada area. Many of our members extended their appreciation for such a fun-filled all-day event. The BSR tour consisted of touring an old-style western town, complete with a visit to the petting zoo for the children and families alike; an excellent Bar-B-Q luncheon, a western cowboy hanging show, and many other very interesting sightseeing and fun events.



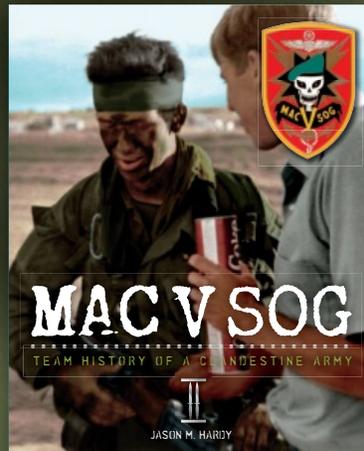
MACV SOG

TEAM HISTORY OF A CLANDESTINE ARMY



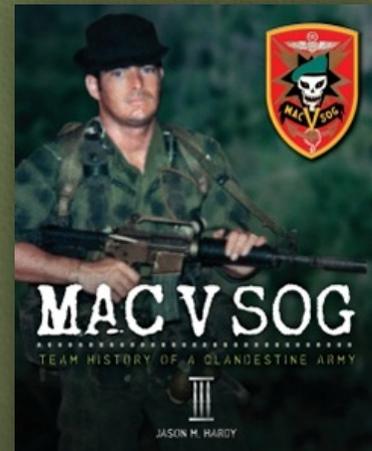
VOLUME 1 FEATURES

- RT Arizona (CCC)
- RT California (CCC)
- RT Iowa (CCC)
- RT North Carolina (CCN)



VOLUME 2 FEATURES

- RT Krait (CCN)
- RT New Mexico (CCC)
- RT Ohio (CCC)
- RT Washington (CCC)

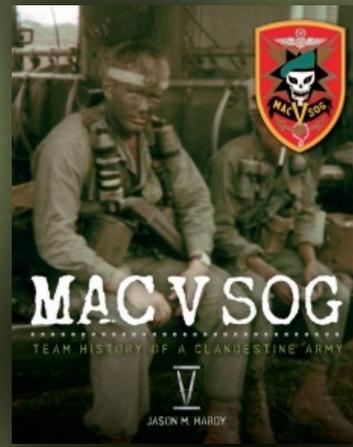


VOLUME 3 FEATURES

- RT Crusader (CCN)
- RT Sidewinder (CCN)
- RT Texas (CCC)

VOLUME 4 FEATURES >

- RT Auger (CCS)
- RT Illinois (CCC)
- RT Le Loi (CCN)
- RT New Hampshire (CCC)



< VOLUME 5 FEATURES

- Rt Alabama (CCN/CCC)
- Rt Habu (CCN)
- Rt Michigan (CCN)

From Jason Hardy, MACVSOG, Team History of a Clandestine Army delves into the murky world of OPS-35 and the Recon Teams that manned this project. Rare, full color photographs, team members in chronological order, notable missions, equipment, knives, weapons, uniforms, and of course insignia are all explored in exacting detail.

THIS IS A LIMITED EDITION SERIES

VISIT WWW.SPECIALFORCESHISTORY.COM FOR MORE INFO AND TO ORDER

SOAR XXXVII General Membership Meeting Minutes

23 October 2013
by VP Furbish due to absence of Secretary Russell

The General Membership Meeting (GMM) was called to order by the president.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the president emeritus and was followed by an opening prayer and moment of silence for our fallen, POWs, and MIAs by the chaplain.

The president introduced the officers, directors and staff present. Present were President Meyer, VP Furbish, Treasurer Buscetto, Director Motsett, Director Werther, and Director Hill. Notable absences were Secretary Russell (death in family), Director Cook (illness), and Director Lucier (illness). Notable staff absences were Membership Committee Chairman Calafell (illness), and Tally Committee Chairman Estes (scheduling conflict).

There being 173 voting members present at this GMM, a Quorum was established in accordance with SOA Bylaws, Article VII.C. For the record, 301 general/voting members attended the reunion.

The GMM agenda was approved by the general membership.

The GMM special rules, as published in the PRP, were approved by the general membership.

The minutes of the SOA GMM of 24 October 2012, as published in the PRP, were approved by the general membership.

The treasurer presented the financial report and 2014 budget with the 2014 budget being accepted and approved by the general membership.

The committee chairman presented the Scholarship Committee report.

The committee chairman presented the Brightlight Committee report.

The Personal Video History Committee report was presented by the president.

The SOA Warriors' Family Committee report was presented by the chairman.

The chaplain presented the Chaplain's report and noted that 27 members had passed during the past year.

The SOA Riders Committee report was presented by the committee chairman. It was noted that Larry Trimble will step down as Chairman and that Tom Carrell will replace him. The SOA Riders presented the SOA with a check for \$2900 for Brightlight.

The SOA Quartermaster presented his report.

The Membership Committee report was presented by the treasurer in the absence of the chairman of the committee.

The Nominating Committee report was presented by the chairman. In 2014, the SOA will elect a president, vice president, and director place one.

The Bill Sylvester Tally Committee Report was presented by the president in the absence of the committee chairman who certified the tally.

199 total ballots received

190 for Pete Buscetto for treasurer	2 for Virgil McVickers for treasurer
1 for Ralph Miller for treasurer	1 for Mo Worley for treasurer
117 for Mel Hill for director	108 for Jimmy Tong Nguyen for director
75 for Sam Todaro for director	62 for Gary O'Neal for director
1 for Jim Cole for director	1 for Chester Howard for director
1 for Patrick Hephner for director	

2 ballots were disqualified for casting more votes than allowed

Pete Buscetto was elected treasurer.
Mel Hill was re-elected as director.
Jimmy Tong Nguyen was elected director.

The newly elected or re-elected officer and directors were sworn in by the president.

The president, vice president, and president emeritus awarded 20, 25, and 30 year recognition pins to qualified members.

A SOAR XXXVII status report was given by the reunion chairman.

Proposed bylaws changes, as published in the PRP, were approved by the general membership. A notable addition is the creating of an SOA Judge Advocate General. The position will be advertised and filled as soon as possible.

The treasurer spoke of corporate sponsorship initiatives and the general membership indicated approval to proceed.

The SOAR XXXVIII report was presented by the reunion chairman.

20-24 October 2014
Orleans Hotel and Casino
Las Vegas, NV

The president called for items for the Good of the Order.

The meeting was adjourned by vote of the general membership.

SOA Nominating Committee and SOA Board Elections 2014

1 - The SOA Board of Directors wishes to inform the membership that UP Article VIII (Committees), paragraph C.1. (Nominating Committee), SOA By-Laws and Constitution, a "Nominating Committee" of four general members shall select and nominate candidates qualified to be Officers and/or Directors. In furtherance of that effort the SOA Board of Directors has selected Brian R. Vines, SOA # 3120-GL as Chair of the Nominating Committee with assistance from Clyde J. Sincere, Jr., SOA # 010-GL, Jay Massey, SOA # 442-GL, and Tom Waskovich, SOA #366.

2 - Additionally, UP Article V (Board of Directors), D.2. (Terms): In compliance with the currently authorized "staggered" SOA Election of Officers and Directors system, the SOA shall elect a **President, SOA, Vice-President, SOA, and One (1) Director, SOA position** (Place 1), for a three (3) year term effective during the conduct of the SOAR XXXVIII GMM, Wednesday, 22 October 2014.

3 - Article V (Board of Directors), B. (Qualifications): In order to qualify to "compete" for any Board position, a member must be either an Annual, or Life (General) member in "good standing", and have attended a least one (1) SOAR including the day before the General Membership Meeting, the General Membership Meeting (GMM), and the Banquet prior to running for office.

4 - Following the receipt of all candidate bios and photos, the committee will prepare an informational summary pertaining to the nominees. It will reflect each candidate's name, position for which he is running, a short (no more than 150 words) bio on the candidate and a passport size photo. **Prospective candidates are reminded that their bio and passport size photo must be in the hands of one of the members of the SOA Nominating Committee, NLT Thursday, 15 May 2014.**

5 - The SOAR XXXVIII Pre-Registration Packet (PRP) will contain the biography/photo data, the Official SOA Election Ballot (with spaces under each category position for any write-in candidates) and a pre-addressed envelope for voting members to mail their completed ballot to the Chairman of the SOA Tally Committee, NLT 30 September 2014 for tabulation, and presentation of the results of the election at the SOAR XXXVIII General Membership Meeting.

6 - In addition to those SOA members selected by the Nominating Committee to be approached to ascertain whether or not they desire to run for any open position, any SOA General Member desiring to compete for one of the open positions should seek out a member of the Nominating Committee, and inform them of your desire to run.

Inasmuch as candidate data will be reflected in the SOAR XXXVIII PRP, interested individuals should submit their bio and photograph data ASAP to:

Brian R. Vines, Chairman, SOA Nominating Committee, c/o 2671 Lookout Lane, Kissimmee, Florida 34746.

Queries may be addressed to any member of the Nominating Committee.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

GREETINGS FROM JERRY SHRIVER'S SISTER

To my brave and honored warriors of CCS, words could never express my heartfelt appreciation and thanks for the humble and gracious gift you selflessly gave to my brother John and me at this years SOA reunion. You are truly my brothers and have looked out for me in Jerry's absence and he would be so proud of each and every one of you.

You are all so very special to me. I was only four years old the last time I saw Jerry, but in my heart of hearts I know I knew him well. I will always miss him. He became missing shortly before my thirteenth birthday and I have been pretty much obsessed with finding the truth ever since.

I hope you continue to share your experiences with me as I undertake this monumental project (of writing the story of Jerry's life). Your input is very important to me. I hope this book is not just of the "legend" everyone so respectfully speaks of, but that it speaks of a unit of warriors just like Jerry fighting for God and Country, willing to give all whenever Uncle Sam called you to action. Working as the fine-tuned unit you always strived to be.

You are all so very special to me and I hope we can maintain contact this time around. Please let's stay in touch! Thank you so much. May God bless and keep you forever and always!

Sincere and Warmest Regards,

//Colleen Shriver Saal
2600 B Texas Street
Bellingham, WA 98229
Email: csaal.cs@gmail.com
Ph. (360) 220-5731

{Ed Note – While John Shriver did not write a greeting to us, he did share with me some other details of Jerry's family life. Jerry's biological father's name not mentioned. Later Jerry's mother married the second time to Mr. Shriver. He adopted all of his wife's earlier children, and together they also had three other children, including Bonnie and John. Jerry's step-father, Mr. Shriver, was in the munitions business and the family moved around a great deal – to places like Casablanca, England, US and several other places. Jerry's initial siblings included two other brothers (Roger & Patrick) and a sister, Colleen. Roger teaches or taught music in an elementary school and Patrick was an intel guy in Thailand at some point in time. Colleen got her degree in Psychology prior to her marriage to Harvey Saal who was a veteran of Omega and CCN. Their mother, Mrs. Shriver, died several years ago. Bonnie lives with Colleen and is her caregiver. John who is now age 62, is a Rock & Roll musician and about to form his own group. // Fred L.}



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

EARLY WARNING ORDER SOAR XXXVIII

WHAT: SOAR XXXVIII

WHEN: 20 - 24 October 2014

WHERE: THE ORLEANS HOTEL/CASINO

4500 West Tropicana Avenue

Las Vegas, Nevada, 89103

800.675.3267

www.orleanscasino.com/Groups

NOTE 1: If reservations are made using a credit or debit card, the first night's deposit will be charged immediately

DEADLINE: The deadline for the negotiated reduced SOAR accommodation rate is 15 September 2014

RATES: Sunday - Thursday, \$35 + tax + resort fee (per day)

Friday and Saturday, \$89 + tax + resort fee (per day)

NOTE 2: When making your reservations, inform the representative that you are with the Special Operations Association and provide them with the Group Code A4SOC10

That is A - 4 - S - O - C - 10

SEE YOU AT SOAR XXXVIII

Financials

This past year has been extremely difficult one as we move forward in trying to organize our financial procedures. You may recall last year we took on several new initiatives to ensure that the SOA financial bookkeeping for income and expenses were recorded in such a manner as to increase our transparency and checks and balances.

Key Financial Controls

1. We have completed the installation of the SOA QuickBooks online.
2. Additionally, we have consolidated all check writing for the SOA expenses, one person is writing checks using the SOA online QuickBooks. All checks are recorded online and then reviewed each and every month by a CPA, who does not write checks.. Thus we have one source for writing checks and a completely independent source for reviewing those checks, in addition to the President and Vice-President.
3. Over the past several years, we had an ongoing problems making deposits into the SOA accounts.
 - a. We have reduced the authorized personnel who can receive payments on behalf of the SOA. These authorized personnel have a detailed procedure for making deposits. These are reviewed on a monthly basis by a CPA and the SOA Treasurer.
 - b. We instituted new procedures, to ensure that all credit card transactions, are processed and closed out the day they are entered.
 - i. Internal audits have revealed several cases of credit card charges being incorrectly processed, and in some cases done incorrectly.
 - c. *In addition*, all credit card transactions are processed electronically as of 2013

In 2013, we successfully put in place checks and balances on all financial transactions conducted on behalf of the SOA. Every month, all transactions are reviewed by a CPA. You may recall that we discussed using our website to improve the SOA ability to handle financial transactions. We instituted last year the ability of the members to pay their dues online. Presently well over 50% of our membership has renewed their dues online. These transactions were conducted on a secure website. Additionally for the first time in the history the SOA we accepted payment for the annual reunion online. This very successful registration process eliminated an enormous amount of detail work previously done by hand. Again well over 50% of our members took advantage of this pre-registration option on our website.

Today members and nonmembers can make donations, pay dues, apply for membership, and upgrade their membership on our secure websites. I want to thank the members who have taken the initiative to use our secure payment websites. You have reduced the workload of the secretary, the membership chairman, the registration chairman, and the treasurer of the SOA. Additionally all documents used to process transactions or electronically transmitted on a need to know basis to the individual responsible for ensuring your applications and SOA documents are processed correctly. Members receive notification usually within 5 to 10 seconds after you submit your transaction. To date we have processed over \$70,000 worth of transactions without any major issues or any compromise of confidential information. I urge one and all to please use our online payment whenever possible.

Going into 2014 we still have a lot of work to do, and we are a point in the transition of our website that we will be adding quartermaster sales very soon. We will also push hard this year to reduce credit card transactions to our website only. Mailing your credit card information in the US Post Office or by email for someone to process your transaction put you at risk, your information at risk, and the SOA. Hopefully more and more of you will continue to utilize the tools in the payment methods instituted on our website.

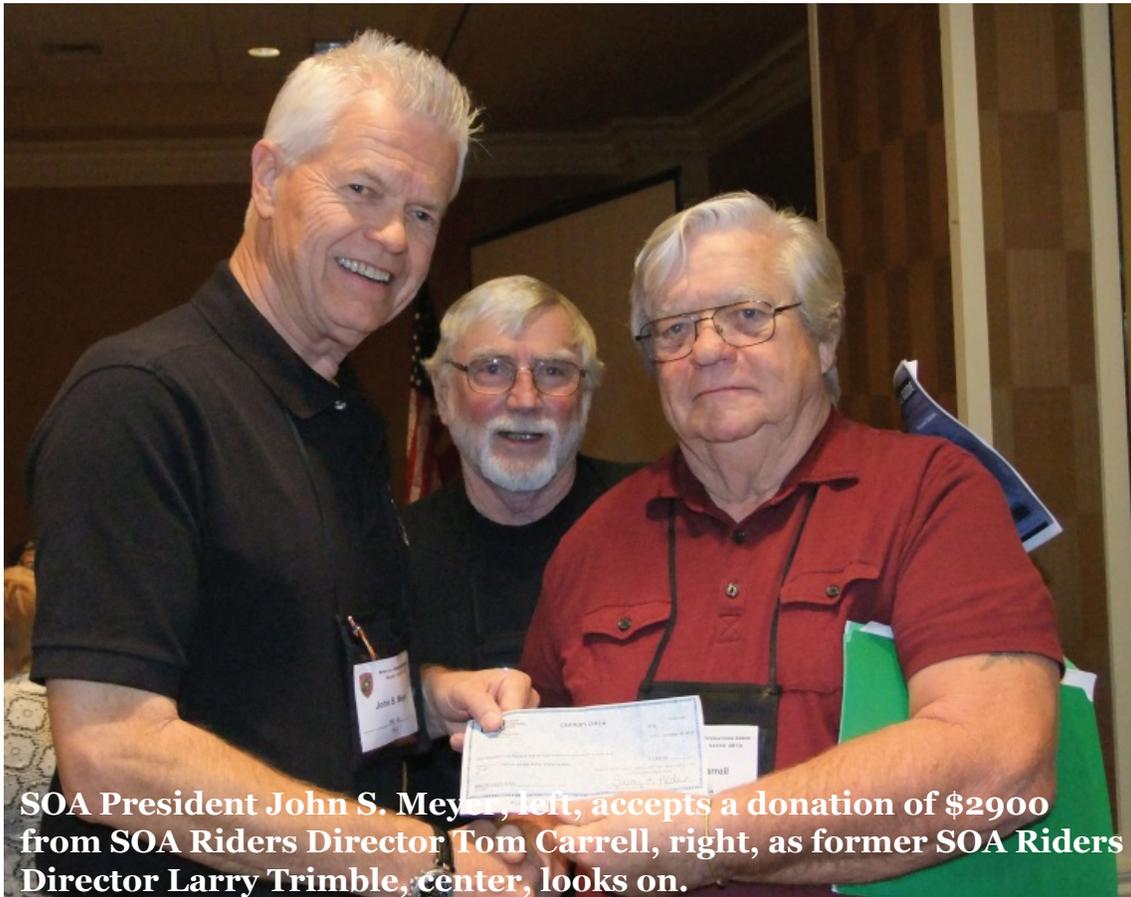
As always you can review the financials, budgets, Annex C and SOP's on the SOA Web Site. I would like membership to understand that the changes that we have been able to enact since I took over as your Treasurer are the result of the Board of Directors and the president of the SOA supporting change new procedures and new methods for conducting business. They have made these changes possible as a result of their due diligence and support. SOA Current Financials can be seen on web site:

Budgeted 2014 Income Projection

Special Operations Budget	
2014 Budget & Actual Analysis	
Ordinary Income	
<i>Members Dues</i>	
<i>Total Members Dues</i>	23,000
Return On Capital	
<i>Sub-Total</i>	45,500
<i>ROC-Raffle Tickets</i>	
<i>Sub-Total</i>	11,550
<i>Sub-Total</i>	95,000
<i>Contribution Income</i>	
<i>Sub-Total</i>	17,000
Interest and Dividends Income	
<i>ROC- Total Income</i>	250
<i>Corporate Sponsorship</i>	10,000
SOA Total Income	202,300

Budgeted Expenses 2014

SOA Expenses	
<i>General Administration Expenses</i>	
<i>General Admin. Expense Total</i>	37,500
<i>GA-Meetings BOD</i>	
<i>Mid-Year Meeting Expenses</i>	
<i>Sub-Total</i>	13,300
<i>BOD- Annual Meeting Expenses</i>	
<i>Sub-Total</i>	13,300
<i>GA-BOD Meetings Total</i>	
<i>Membership Expenses</i>	
<i>Total Members Expenses</i>	2,500
<i>Fund Raising Expenses</i>	
<i>Sub-Total</i>	500
<i>Expenses-Raffle Tickets</i>	
<i>Sub-Total</i>	600
<i>SOAR-Expenses</i>	
<i>Sub-Total</i>	71,900
<i>Total Fund Raising Expenses</i>	
<i>SOA Program Expenses</i>	
<i>Brightlight Expenses</i>	5,000
<i>Scholarship Awards</i>	25,000
<i>Video History Expenses</i>	5,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>	35,000
<i>Publication Expenses</i>	
<i>Sub-Total</i>	12,400
<i>PRP Cost</i>	
<i>Sub-Total</i>	
<i>SOA Programs Totals</i>	12,500
<i>Banking Expenses/Charges</i>	
<i>Bank Expense Totals</i>	500
<i>SOA Total Expenses</i>	200,000
	202,300
	200,000
	2,300



SOA President John S. Meyer, left, accepts a donation of \$2900 from SOA Riders Director Tom Carrell, right, as former SOA Riders Director Larry Trimble, center, looks on.





SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SOA Warrior's Family Fund

The SOA Warrior's Family Fund was established in 2012 to assist SOA family members who couldn't afford to attend SOAR. Family members who need assistance can apply for financial help by contacting Bill Werther, Tom Waskovich, Horace Boner or Art Driscoll. In 2013 we helped finance six SOA family members.

The committee investigates each family for assistance, votes on their eligibility and submits a full report to the SOA board of Directors.

August 15th 2014 will be the deadline to submit you application for assistance.

Contributions:

Any and all contributions to this fund should be made payable to the SOA Warrior's Family Fund.

Submitted by
Bill Werther, Chairman



Operation Brightlight

FACTS: The SOA, established in December 1977 is a fraternal veteran's organization of past and present American and Allied military personnel who have conducted special operations in a combat environment commencing with WWII through, and including, our most recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

INFORMATIONAL: In 2005 the SOA Board of Directors established The SOA Operation Brightlight Committee to assist members of the SOA experiencing personal financial hardships to attend an annual Special Operations Association Reunion. Without some type of monetary assistance, those SOA members affected would not be able to attend a reunion. The committee investigates each candidate for assistance, votes on their eligibility, and submits full reports to the SOA Board of Directors on any funds used to bring the SOA member to SOAR.

ELIGIBILITY: All SOA members are eligible for assistance once approved by the committee. Since 2005, 26 SOA members, and in unique cases, two (2) family members, have received some level of assistance from the Operation Brightlight fund. All SOA members who received Brightlight assistance remain anonymous to the general membership. Members who have candidates for Operation Brightlight assistance are requested to contact committee members John "Tilt" Meyer, Tom Waskovich, or Rick Grabianowski.

CONTRIBUTIONS: The SOA supports the Operation Brightlight Fund through various fund raisers, direct monetary contributions and raffles. The Special Operations Association is recognized by the Department of Defense and by the IRS as a non-profit veterans organization, 501 (c) (19), operating on tax-deductible donations, (EIN # 74-2619854). Any and all contributions to this fund should be made payable to the SOA:

Attn: Pete Buscetto
Treasurer, SOA
934 Ashton Oaks Circle
Lakeland, FL 33813

Revised: 17 February 2014

To: SOA BOD
Fr: SOA Brightlight Committee
Chairman: John S. Meyer
Committee members: Tom Waskovich, Rick Grabianowski, Pete Buscetto
Re: Final Annual Report on SOA Recipients of Brightlight Assistance

Date: November 6, 2013

For SOAR XXXVII the SOA Brightlight Committee approved two full rides to the reunion for SOA members, which included paying for the daughter of one member who was her father's caretaker because he has terminal cancer. That SOA member couldn't fly, so his daughter drove him from Ohio to The Orleans Hotel and Casino to attend the reunion and drove him back. He is BL Recipient #1 in this report.

In total, we had two members and one daughter as recipients of Operation Brightlight assistance for SOAR XXXVII thanks to the generosity of SOA members in general and SOA member Joe Conlon in particular and the SOA Riders for their donation of \$2,900 which was presented to the SOA during the General Membership Meeting on Wed. Oct. 23rd. The BL Committee thanks every SOA member and friends of the SOA who have donated to this project since its inception in 2005. And, I thank Clyde Sincere for again overseeing its fund-raising campaign.

In this unique case, BL Recipient #1 was out of funds. Because he had terminal cancer, the BL Committee paid for all of his expenses. I want to thank SOA Treasurer Pete Buscetto for working closely with the daughter in order for her father to have funds to pay for their trip across the USA and Patrick Hephner for getting a special-needs hotel room for them. Pete arranged to have an advance of \$4,500 for renting a specially equipped van, and paying for meals, gas, and hotel costs incurred while driving to and from Vegas, in addition to all SOAR costs.

Thus, for the total costs, I've broken them down for Recipients number 1 and 2.

Total Costs: Recipient # 1;	\$4,500.00
Air travel – One man – Recipient # 2;	\$ 635.00
Hotel rooms – One man -- Recipient # 2;	\$ 160.00
Stipends [\$300 per man] -- Recipient # 2;	\$ 300.00
SOA Registration fees – [\$150 per man] -- Recipient # 2;	\$ 150.00
Grand Total	\$ 5,745.00

Last, but not least, I'd like to thank BL Committee members Tom Waskovich, Rick Grabianowski and Pete Buscetto for another year of service to our committee.

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Meyer
Operation Brightlight Committee Chairman

George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program

FACTS: The SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant awarded by the SOA must be used at an accredited Junior College, Community College, Four-year college or university for studies which will lead to a Bachelor's Degree. Each Grant is for \$1,000 per semester, not to exceed \$2,000 per year, effective with the FALL 2011 Semester. (Maximum of four (4) years, and paid at a rate of \$1,000 per the Fall and Spring Semesters.)

BASIC GRANT CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY: A high school graduate or a high school student anticipating graduation during the year of application, unmarried and under the age of 21 years at the time of application and must be a son, daughter or grandchild, natural or adopted of an individual who served in a Special Operations unit and is a SOA member in "good standing."

APPLICATIONS: Application packets are available from 15 September of the previous year to 15 February of the year that the grant will be awarded. The deadline for the submission of all formal applications must be postmarked NLT COB 15 April of the year the Grant will be awarded.

AWARDS: Approximately 15 July of that year, selectees/recipients of a SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant will be appropriately notified by mail.

INFORMATIONAL: As of August 2013, 152 young men and women have been awarded a scholarship since the commencement of the program in 1983.

ALL REQUESTS FOR APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING PRIOR TO 15 FEBRUARY. Complete application available on web site: www.specialoperations.org

Recipient Status

- Four Class of 2014 students, Kirsten J. Ballard, Max Kieff, Tayler Marie Edwards and Marci Lee Moes, remain in the program. The student who was on suspension from the program last semester due to failure to maintain the required GPA last semester and overall GPA, was able to improve her grades and is off of suspension.
- Two Class of 2015 students, Sloan Elizabeth Shank and Bailey Alexandra Oas remain in the program.
- Three Class of 2016 students, Andrea Deuschle, Lynsey Anttila and Danielle Susan Edwards, remain in the program, and one new Class of 2016 student, Samantha Shipman, is a new recipient this year.

- Three Class of 2017 students, Sloane Echevarria, Elizabeth Oden, and Shannon Randall, in addition to Ms. Shipman, Class of 2016 noted above, are new recipients this year.

- Thirteen scholarship recipients therefore are currently active and remain eligible in the program after this semester. The following is an overview of recipients by class:

➤ Seniors	4
➤ Juniors	2
➤ Sophomores	4
➤ Freshmen	3

The eligible thirteen scholarship recipients have been sent checks for the 2013 Fall Semester.

2013 Financials

- The SOA's total outstanding scholarship obligation at this time is \$50,250. The following is the current outstanding liability by class:

➤ Seniors (Class of 2014)	\$3,250
➤ Juniors (Class of 2015)	6,000
➤ Sophomores (Class of 2016)	20,000
➤ Freshmen (Class of 2017)	<u>21,000</u>
Total	\$50,250

- Available funds in the designated scholarship accounts as of 1 October 2013 are as follows:

○ Operating fund account #4329	\$ 3,219.10
○ WF Scholarship savings acct #0533	<u>\$100,079.14</u>
○ Total Scholarship assets	\$103,298.24

- More current information may be found in the current Treasurer's Report. **Summary:** Current scholarship value for four years is \$8,000. Stipend checks will be \$1,000 per semester for this year's recipients, for a total scholarship value of \$8,000 per recipient. This represents the increased stipend level that began with the class scholarship application cycle in 2011. This level of expense does not apply to three earlier recipients, who are Seniors this year, whose stipends remain at \$750 per semester. It is recommended that the current total scholarship value be maintained for the new scholarship awards, beginning in Fall 2015, for a total scholarship value of \$8,000 per recipient. The amount of available funds for award is based upon the amount raised from all sources, less program expenses, between the previous two SOAR's (for the 2015 academic year's awards, that means from the end of SOAR 2012 through the end of SOAR 2013), with award recommendations being limited by that amount, plus

additional funds as authorized by the SOA Board, as was done this year. Some cushion has been maintained by students occasionally not remaining in the program, for one reason or another, by suspension for academic reasons, by not awarding full four year scholarships to advanced-standing students, and by not having an “even” amount for scholarships or by not having enough applicants for the amount raised in the previous year. This “cushion” enables us to have the flexibility to award additional scholarship money in any given year to deserving recipients. The program remains fiscally sound.

This year, in addition to the George C. Morton Scholarship awards, an outside donor came forward and funded a separate scholarship to one of our applicants in memory of his son, who was tragically killed in an accident while in his senior year of high school. The son had intended to enlist in the US Army for Special Forces training as soon as he finished high school, so his father elected to sponsor a scholarship to a first generation child of a Special Operations Association member, with the award going through the American Veterans Center. We had five first generation applicants for scholarships this year, and of those applicants, he selected Ms. Samantha Shipman to receive his scholarship. It will be presented to her at the annual AVC meeting in Washington, DC this November. The meeting will be carried live on the Pentagon Channel. SOA will be represented at that presentation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher McClure". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christopher" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "McClure".

Christopher McClure, Chairman

SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Committee
125 Hawthorne Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27605-1632

State of the Membership

The SOA recruiting year ended 25 October 2013 with a total of 54 new members entered into the official roster. The numbers translated to 85% members in the General category, with 11% in the Associate and Operational Associate categories. The balance was made up of Honorary members.

One of the accomplishments achieved in 2013 was the vetting and acceptance of a little-known, but highly respected and appreciated Air Force unit that provided close air support to the SOG teams across the fence as a unit dedicated to supporting them: OLAA. Operating the A1 Skyraider aircraft, these pilots were a key reason that teams under duress were able to survive to fight another day. Many thanks to Don Engebretsen and his group of young lieutenants who assisted in making sure that only pilots who performed these important duties were invited to join this elite organization. Please welcome these brave pilots into the Association.

Please find two important documents in this AAR: 1) the Official Change of Address form, and 2) the Official Next-of-Kin Initiative form. These forms are key to keeping your Association updated on where you are, how we can get in touch with you, and perhaps more importantly, how we contact and are contacted by your next-of-kin when the inevitable happens. Please help us by providing us the key information requested so that we can be current on your whereabouts!

Lastly, I want to thank all of our members, both old and new, for your co-operation and assistance in making my job easier. I try to provide you with service with a smile and hope that this translates to a pleasant experience when joining or when asking questions. A key thing to remember is that **ALL ANNUAL DUES FOR THE COMING YEAR BECOME PAYABLE EVERY DECEMBER!** If you pay tardy dues at SOAR and do not pay for next year's dues at the same time, you will lapse in December! Please put a note on your refrigerators - **PAY SOA DUES IN DECEMBER!**

Thank you all for your friendships, your support, and your patience as we try to make the SOA the best combat veterans' organization around.

Ray Calafell
SOA Membership Committee Chairman

Membership Application

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP or STATUS FOR WHICH APPLYING (See Membership Criteria)

__ **GENERAL** __ **ASSOCIATE** __ **OPERATIONAL ASSOCIATE**

NOTE: If you apply for General Membership but the listed qualification does not meet the criteria for General Membership, will you accept Associate or Operational Associate status? Yes ___ No ___

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	
STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP+4
PHONE	EMAIL	SSN or SERVICE NUMBER	

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

NOTE: General Membership, Associate status, and Operational Associate status all require qualification. Applications will be reviewed by the membership committee.

QUALIFICATION(S): (Attach separate sheet with Job Duties. Be specific.)

QUALIFYING UNIT	DATES	DUTY & MOS	LOCATION

NOTE: All applicants require either a sponsor who is an SOA General Member in good standing, and who has personal and first-hand knowledge of the applicant's qualification(s), or documentation of qualification(s). Sponsorship is the primary and preferred method for all applicants. However, a sponsor is required for all with stated qualification(s) post-1986 (In lieu of sponsorship, documentation confirming qualification(s) may be considered).

SPONSOR

SPONSOR'S FULL NAME	SOA NUMBER
SPONSOR'S SIGNATURE (optional, but recommended)	DATE

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: I am a General Member of the SOA in good standing. I have read and understand the SOA membership criteria. I hereby state that I have personal and first hand knowledge that the applicant named heron meets the requirements for membership in the SOA and thereby recommend he be accepted as a (circle one) GENERAL, ASSOCIATE, or OPERATIONAL ASSOCIATE

APPLICANT'S OATH

I affirm that I have read and understand the SOA Membership Criteria and that the information submitted on this membership application form is true, correct, and voluntarily given. I understand that SOA membership or status entitles me to the rights and privileges specified in the SOA By-Laws.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE	DATE

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Check or Money Order Enclosed
- Check or Money Order Number: _____
- Annual \$35 Life \$505 Life \$305 (over 70 only - proof required)

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Annual dues are \$30.00 USD. Life dues are \$500.00 USD for those under 70 years of age and \$300 for those 70 and older. A \$5.00 USD application fee is required. Accordingly, initial annual membership total funds due with application are \$35.00 USD, and initial life membership total funds due with application are either \$505.00 or \$305.00 USD, as applicable. Proof of age required for those 70 or over applying for initial Life membership. **MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION or SOA. DO NOT SEND CASH. THEREAFTER, ANNUAL DUES ARE \$30.00 USD, PAYABLE ON A CALENDAR YEAR BASIS.**

MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION, ANY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION, AND FULL INITIAL PAYMENT TO:

**Ray Calafell, Jr.
Chairman, Membership Committee
105 South Armenia Avenue
Tampa, FL 33609-3307**

MAKE CHECKS AND MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION or SOA

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read Membership Criteria before applying. All applicants must meet all requirements.
2. Complete all information requested.
3. Please list your full zip code (Zip+4).
4. Attach additional sheets as required. You must define your Job Description in enough detail for the Membership Committee to understand your qualifications.
5. A sponsor is strongly preferred but is not mandatory. It facilitates processing of applications. If no sponsor, sufficient supporting documentation of qualification must be enclosed with application.
6. Sponsorship is mandatory for any applicant for whom sufficient supporting documentation is not available (e.g., present day or recent operations).
7. Full initial payment is required with application.
8. The SOA assumes no responsibility for finding documentation or sponsorship for any applicant. Those responsibilities fall solely to the applicant.
9. Provide proof of age if 70 or over and applying for initial Life membership.
- 10. DO NOT SEND CASH. INITIAL APPLICATION FUNDS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**

SOA New Members

3086-AA

William J. George
211 Liholiho Street
Wailuku, HI 96793-2507
(808) 283-6235
tuyet.george@gmail.com

3087-HL

Dennis J. Cummings
3649 Taylor Avenue
Bridgeton, MO 63044-2905
(314) 298-0936
DJC106@aol.com

3088-GA

Howard R. Fedor
1425 Riggs Road
South Park, PA 15129-8918
(412) 655-8435
Fedor1@comcast.net

3089-GA

Robert W. Kirkwood
13778 North Orca Trail
Hayden, ID 83835-7638
(719) 510-2490
flyrwk@aol.com

3090-GA

David W. Hause
102 La Salle Drive
Waynesville, MO
65583-2723
(573) 774-5364
dw Hause@cablemo.net

3091-AA

Dennis R. Bivens
16 West Lakewood Drive
Fenton, MO 63026-5036
(636) 343-2840
dennisb@citydrawings.com

3092-GL

Dean McBride
4002 Belvoir Park Drive
Katy, TX 77450-5288
(281) 389-5203
mcbdean@aol.com

3093-GA

Robert M. Anderson
10405 East Pinewood Drive
Parker, CO 80138-7803
(303) 840-0465
hiplanesrnrchr@msn.com

3094-GA

Samuel M. Grimes
6826 West Cameron Drive
Peoria, AZ 85345-8759
(623) 910-6353
samgrimes9@cox.net

3095-GA

John P. Kovencz
3326 Arcara Way
Lake Worth, FL 33467-1902
(561) 623-0883
skypilot055@hotmail.com

3096-GA

Wendell E. Skinner
623 Bonser Avenue
Sciotoville, OH 45662-5201
(740) 776-2485
vn6768ph@yahoo.com

3097-GA

Robert P. Strout
P. O. Box 968
Medical Lake, WA
99022-0968
(509) 299-4754
RPandDJ@cs.com

3098-GL

Robert K. Hollingsworth
14203 Plum Springs Drive
Cypress, TX 77429-3855
(713) 715-9523
rkholly65@gmail.com

3099-GA

Robert B. Johansen
17069 Bonefish Lane West
Sugarloaf Key, FL
33042-3619
(305) 745-1607
sfuwo@bellsouth.net

3100-OA

Hien Duc Vo
c/o Khan "Cowboy" Doan

3101-OA

Chuong Cong Niem
c/o Khan "Cowboy" Doan

3102-GA

Paul B. Cartter
16100 N. Avenida Del Canada
Tucson, AZ 85739-8783
(520) 825-6517
Kd7bib@q.com

SOA New Members

3103-GL

Erik D. Lawrence
RR 3 Box 115
Philippi, WV 26416-9547
(540) 840-0300
ERIK246@GMAIL.COM

3109-GA

Theodore E. Lidie
P. O. Box 1310
Shingletown, CA 96088-1310
(530) 999-1822
tedlidie@yahoo.com

3114-GA

Arnulfo Esqueda
903 East Veterans Boulevard
Palmview, TX 78572-2479
(956) 581-3870
rom2112@aol.com

3104-GL

Travis M. Ernst
RR 3 Box 115
Philippi, WV 26416-9547
(616) 340-9922
TRAVIS@BHIGEAR.COM

3110-GA

Joseph R. Conway
4116 Winchester Road
Las Cruces, NM 88011-7572
(575) 496-2722
Jcon3006@comcast.net

3115-GA

James W. Sandoz
102 Hawthorne Avenue
Pikesville, MD 21208-4819
(410) 458-8528
Sandoz@umbc.edu

3105-OA

Anh Van Dang
2108 Galveston Avenue –
Unit D
San Jose, CA 95122-3603
(408) 888-5292

3111-GA

Robert W. Kinzer
919 Marlboro Drive
DeLand, FL 32724-2949
(386) 740-4825
armyret@cfl.rr.com

3116-GA

Robert E. Hammond
776494 Kali Iki Street
Kailua, Kona HI 96740-9704
(808) 345-7747
hibob704@yahoo.com.sq

3106-GA

Gregory G. Kelly
20 Frost Avenue
Dorchester, MA 02122-2516
(617) 438-6954
gkellyt10@mac.com

3112-GA

William R. Mansfield
5045 S.E. Robin Court
Milwaukie, OR 97267-3127
(503) 653-6027
williamrmansfield@hotmail.com

3117-GA

Oscar Macias
2916 Eissler Street
Bakersfield, CA 93306-1852
(661) 871-2876
omacias@bwpumps.com

3107-GA

Melvin B. Gibson
205 Pointer Drive
Summerville, SC 29485-5125
(843) 871-7504
maxtalon@gmail.com

3113-GL

Jess J. Thompson
104 Oakleaf Drive
Raeford, NC 28376-6574
(910) 992-0422
mrjesst@gmail.com

3118-GA

Philip C. Devon
4313 North Course Lane
Avon Park, FL 33825-8598
(863) 452-2124
pdevon@comcast.net

3108-GA

Eric W. Boals
52 Hourglass Drive
Ft. Carson, CO 80902-2403
(719) 219-9711
boalseric@hotmail.com

SOA New Members

3119-GL
Herman Spencer
8610 Hickory Hammock
Road
Milton, FL 32583-3104
(850) 982-4679
thehermanspencer@gmail.
com

3120-GL
Brian R. Vines
2671 Lookout Lane
Kissimmee, FL 34746-
(253) 988-4225
ncvines1@aol.com

3121-GA
Donn R. Wilson
31027 Purdue Park Lane
Spring, TX 77386-
(281) 419-8789
don6418@sbcglobal.net

3122-GA
John W. Grow
5721 North Hills Drive
North Richland Hills, TX
76117-2825
(817) 834-3975
jwgrow@hotmail.com

3123-GA
Patrick Ireland
P. O. Box 131180
The Woodlands, TX 77393-
1180
(281) 352-5089
patrick@patrickireland.com

3124-GA
Leroy R. Barker
228 E. Sacramento Street
Coalinga, CA 93210-2632
(559) 934-0303
(559) 630-5936 (cell)
lbarker4557@att.net

3125-HL
Paul M. Franklin
1209 10024 Jasper Ave
Edmonton Alberta
Canada T5J 1R9
(780) 819-3318
ptepaul@yahoo.co.uk

3126-GA
Charles F. Reed
4848 Little Turkey Creek
Road
Colorado Springs, CO
80926-9688
(719) 445-2030
charles.reed.1946@gmail.
com

3127-GA
Dennis Lid
47-785 Sumac Street
La Quinta, CA 92253-6297
(760) 771-2557
LidDennis@aol.com

3128-GA
Jerome M. Ledzinski
93 Martina Drive
Weirton, WV 26062-6314
(304) 723-1212
ledzinskijm@gmail.com

3129-GA
Richard W. Foster
12720 Hunter Road SW
Rochester, WA 98579-9654
360-273-6760
richandstarlight@msn.com

3130-GA
Alexander J. Villahermosa
12056 Willowood Drive
Woodbridge, VA 22192-1516
(808) 366-6948
alexander.villahermosa@
gmail.com

3131-GA
Ronald L. Fry
1909 Tanya Court
Cleburne, TX 76031-8826
(817) 933-0461
sfronfry@msn.com

3132-GA
Phillip M. "Mike" Wood
505 Whispering Pines Circle
Starkville, MS 39759-2090
(662) 323-6714
mike_wood_chs68@yahoo.
com

3133-GA
Donald L. Engebretsen
2355 North Red Hooker
Eads, TN 38028-9308
(901) 853-7080
Ice450@bellsouth.net

SOA New Members

3134-GA
James T. Triplett
7081 New Hope Road
Grants Pass, OR 97527-7930
(650) 483-0461
jttriplett@gmail.com

3135-AA
Vincent D. Engel
42 East Walnut Street
Belchertown, MA
01007-9564
(413) 835-5917
vincent.engel@ang.af.mil

3136-GA
David P. Kirschbaum
424 E. 3rd Avenue
Red Springs, NC 28377-1435
(910) 227-2634
squiretoad@hotmail.com

3137-GA
Richard "Duffy" Jensen
4230 Edinburgh Drive
Anchorage, AK 99502-1414
(907) 243-6667
deck@ak.net

3138-GA
John W. Schachleiter
21601 Kapok Circle
Boca Raton, FL 33433-3718
(561) 750-0540
jwsavn@aol.com

3139-GA
Serafin Telles, Jr.
303 West Howell Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555-3523
(760) 371-1676
SFA.D1887L@gmail.com

3140-GL
James A. Arnold
7725 S.W. 171st Terrace
Palmetto Bay, FL
33157-4860
(910) 263-0116
jimboarnolds@gmail.com

3141-AA
Dana P. Luce
2611 N.E. 119th Street
Vancouver, WA 98686-4104
(360) 892-2261
danaluce@comcast.net

3142-GA
Thomas F. Wiley
35029 McCulloughs Leap
Zephyrhills, FL 33541-2329
(813) 395-5225
twiley17@tampabay.rr.com



Member Numbers Assigned

01 November 2012 - 25 October 2013

<u>MEMBER NUMBER</u>	<u>TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>MEMBER NUMBER</u>	<u>TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP</u>
3086	ASSOCIATE ANNUAL	3118	GENERAL ANNUAL
3087	HONORARY LIFE	3119	GENERAL LIFE
3088	GENERAL ANNUAL	3120	GENERAL ANNUAL
3089	GENERAL ANNUAL	3121	HONORARY LIFE
3090	GENERAL ANNUAL	3122	GENERAL ANNUAL
3091	ASSOCIATE ANNUAL	3123	GENERAL ANNUAL
3092	GENERAL LIFE	3124	GENERAL ANNUAL
3093	GENERAL ANNUAL	3125	HONORARY LIFE
3094	GENERAL ANNUAL	3126	GENERAL ANNUAL
3095	GENERAL ANNUAL	3127	GENERAL ANNUAL
3096	GENERAL ANNUAL	3128	GENERAL ANNUAL
3097	GENERAL ANNUAL	3129	GENERAL ANNUAL
3098	GENERAL LIFE	3130	GENERAL ANNUAL
3099	GENERAL ANNUAL	3131	GENERAL ANNUAL
3100	OPERATIONAL ASSOCIATE	3132	GENERAL ANNUAL
3101	OPERATIONAL ASSOCIATE	3133	GENERAL ANNUAL
3102	GENERAL ANNUAL	3134	GENERAL ANNUAL
3103	GENERAL LIFE	3135	ASSOCIATE ANNUAL
3104	GENERAL LIFE	3136	GENERAL ANNUAL
3105	OPERATIONAL ASSOCIATE	3137	GENERAL ANNUAL
3106	GENERAL ANNUAL	3138	GENERAL ANNUAL
3107	GENERAL ANNUAL	3139	GENERAL ANNUAL
3108	GENERAL ANNUAL		
3109	GENERAL ANNUAL		
3110	GENERAL ANNUAL		
3111	GENERAL ANNUAL		
3112	GENERAL ANNUAL		
3113	GENERAL LIFE		
3114	GENERAL ANNUAL		
3115	GENERAL ANNUAL		
3116	GENERAL ANNUAL		
3117	GENERAL ANNUAL		

6 **GENERAL LIFE** = 11% of Membership
40 GENERAL ANNUAL = 74%
0 ASSOCIATE LIFE = 0%
3 **ASSOCIATE ANNUAL** = 5.5%
2 **HONORARY LIFE** = 4%
3 **OPERATIONAL ASSOCIATE ANNUAL** = 5.5%
54 TOTAL FOR THE PERIOD = 100% of Membership

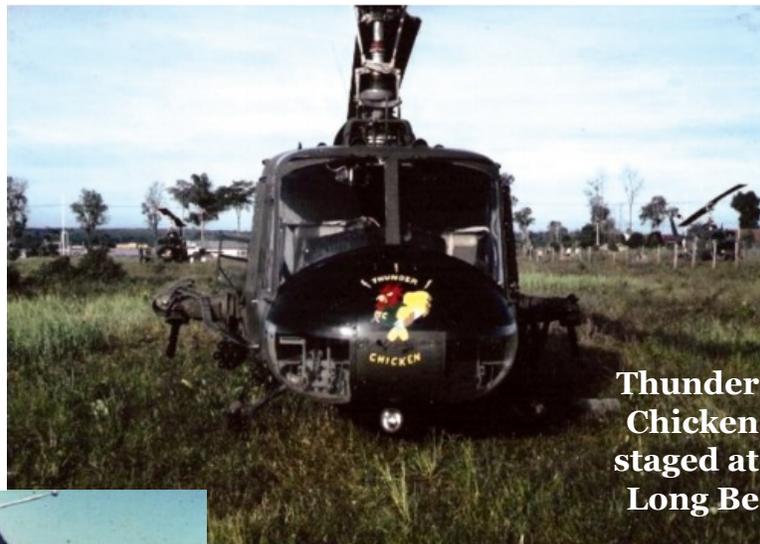
Ray Calafell, Jr.
Membership Committee Chairman



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION 195th AHC

The 195th AHC served in the Republic of Vietnam from 2 November 1967 through the 14 December 1970. From its first mission on 1 December 1967 to 30 June 1970, the primary missions of the 195th were the special operations of MACV-SOG. During that time, the 195th was assigned to Command and Control South (CCS), Special Project Sigma (B-56), and Special Project Omega (B-50). Also, during the month of September 1968, the 195th flew for Special Project Delta (B-52). Due to its constant missions for SOG, the 195th had the distinction of flying UH-1 Hueys that were officially authorized to be painted in a camouflage paint scheme.

One of the most famous, or infamous, missions in which the 195th participated was the ill-fated April 1969 raid on COSVN.



**Thunder
Chicken
staged at
Long Be**



Tough day at CCS



Staged for extraction at Quan Lo



Insert from Dau Tieng



CCS Team: Hot Extraction



SOA Policy Statement Reminder

The following applies to members and guests desiring to maintain a Vendor Table(s) and/or place Advertisements in either the SOAR After-Action-Report, (SOAR AAR) or SOAR Pre-Reunion Packet, (SOAR PRP):

- a. **VENDOR/EXHIBITOR:** The SOA has a policy relating to items sold to attendees at any SOAR. Vendors and/or Exhibitors must ensure that all items offered, are in “good taste”, “not of questionable moral value” and “will not reflect negatively on the SOA”. Vendors and Exhibitors agree to withdraw from display and/or sale of any items deemed unacceptable and/or not in good keeping with SOA policy. Unless previously approved, items bearing the SOA Logo will not be displayed, nor offered for sale. No Vendor or Exhibitor shall assign, sublet, or share allotted space with another Vendor or Exhibitor unless prior approval has been obtained. Vendors and/or Exhibitors are solely responsible for their wares. Neither, the Orleans Hotel/Casino or the Special Operations Association will assume responsibility for any lost or stolen items.
- b. **ADVERTISEMENTS:** The SOA has a policy relating to any Advertisement placed in either the SOAR AAR or SOAR PRP. Any prospective Advertiser desiring to place an Advertisement in either the AAR or PRP must ensure that the Advertisement is in “good taste”, “not of questionable moral value”, and “will not reflect negatively on the SOA, or any of its members”.
- c. **SOA RESPONSIBLE AGENT:** The Chairman, SOA Fund Raising Committee is the responsible “Agent”, acting on behalf of the SOA Board of Officers and Directors in all matters relating to acceptance, or rejection of prospective Vendor/ Exhibitor requests, or Placement of Advertisements in either SOA annual publications.
- d. **SOA BOARD:** Finally, in the event a prospective Vendor/Exhibitor or Advertiser does not agree with the decision of the Chairman, SOA Fund Raising Committee, the SOA Board is the final arbitrator. Anything that it deems is inappropriate will not be allowed for display or publication.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Planned Monthly Giving Program

SOA Charities have always depended on the generosity of our members and their families. From the very beginning, this is how we have always operated and, for the most part, this is how we will most likely continue to operate into the future. To make this easier and more efficient for everyone, the Board of Directors has voted to begin a new program that allows our members, their families and friends, as well as the general public to make donations on a planned monthly basis in a way that is hassle free and easy to manage.

Members can use the attached Form or sign up on-line to begin making payment on a monthly basis that are comfortable to their unique budgets and circumstances.

The Planned Monthly Giving Program is designed to keep the Member firmly in control at all times:

- ✓ Members **choose the charity** they want to support. Simply check the box next to the fund you want to have your donation applied.

- ✓ Members choose **how much** to donate each month by entering the dollar amount on the Monthly Contribution Line. There are no high or low limits (below \$5.00/month) and members and enter any number in *\$10.00 increments* (\$10.00, \$20.00, etc.).

- ✓ Members choose **how** they want their donation to be paid by selecting one of the available options.

- ✓ Members choose **when** they want their donations to be paid by selecting the day when it is *most convenient for them* to have debit card, automatic withdrawals or credit card charges made to their accounts.

- ✓ Members **may change** any of these options at any time at their convenience. They can elect to increase or decrease the amount of their donation, how it's to be paid, when it's to be paid, from what account it's to be drawn from or can simply withdraw from the program at any time.

The Planned Monthly Giving Program was designed to maximize control for our members while minimizing hassle and involvement. Register just one time; forget about it until you want to make a change.

Each of the individual SOA Charities and the General Fund have been set up on the new web site with this program to allow you to take advantage of making monthly donations. It is simple and easy to do.

Before year-end you can go to the SOA Web Site: <http://www.specialoperations.org/> and you'll find a new tab entitled "**Planned Monthly Giving Program.**" For now though, even though it is not activated, you can get a feel of how it will work when you go to any of the charities listed under the *Donate On-Line* Header on the bottom right side of the home page. This is currently set up for one-time donations.

Each of the charities and funds currently available for participation are listed and as new ones are brought on line they will be added to this list. For now though, just scroll down until you find the one you want to support first, click on it and you will see a brief description of the charity and a button titled "*Donate Now.*"

Clicking this button credits this and all future donations to your selected charity. Again you can select any amount *starting at just \$10.00, \$20.00* or as much as you are comfortable giving. After entering the dollar amount you will be asked to complete the phishing protection input which is an electronic means of protecting you and your account. Just enter whatever crazy combination of letters and numbers, being sure to use capitals as indicated, on the screen.

This will open a secure portal where you can choose to make your contribution an ongoing contribution by checking the box in the upper right corner or leave it blank and your donation will be a one-time donation. Once you have completed that, just fill in the remainder of the information for your credit or debit card and that is all there is to it. This box is what will make it possible for ***continuous giving***. When this box is activated, your check off will mean the amount you have designated will be withdrawn from your account on a monthly basis.

We *encourage every member* to identify at least one SOA Charity or fund you will support through the Planned Monthly Giving Program and *to start supporting them on a monthly basis* with whatever *amount is most comfortable* for your specific situation.

For more information or to have your specific questions contact Director Cork Motsett at cork130@gmail.com

Endowments, Bequests, and Wills

A number of SOA members have expressed an interest in including the association as a beneficiary on their wills, or other estate planning. The SOA has been requested to provide some information on what would be necessary to accomplish this task.

First - It is imperative that the membership understand that the SOA cannot provide any legal advice, or, can any information imparted to the membership be relied upon as “legal advice or legal language sufficient for all persons, jurisdictions and circumstances.” Prospective benefactors must realize that laws on descent and devise, wills, trusts and estates vary from state to state. Typically, the laws of the state in which the benefactor was domiciled govern the administration of his estate, though even this can be affected by property in other states.

Second - Any member considering the SOA as a benefactor in his will must consult an attorney or licensed estate planner to ensure compliance with the laws of his state. For example, one aspect of trust and estate laws that does vary significantly is the number of witnesses necessary for a codicil or an amendment to a will (or for the creation of an entire will itself) to be validly created and recognized by the courts and law, and whether the document must have each of the witnesses’ signatures notarized. Despite those variations in law, having at least two witness signatures notarized should ensure legal validity in most cases. Nevertheless, everyone is encouraged to consult an attorney to ensure that all laws and requirements have been met in all estate planning.

Third - The Special Operations Association will accept no responsibility or liability whatsoever for harm, difficulty, or invalidity of any will or other estate planning document which is adversely affected by a member (or his family’s) sole reliance on this language without consulting a qualified attorney, licensed in the state in which the member is domiciled.

Fourth - The following is provided as possible language that could be included in a will where the testator wished to leave something to the Special Operations Association:

I. General language for a Bequest

- A. “I give all my real and personal property to the Special Operations Association, a veteran’s fraternal organization, in care of John C. Russell, Jr., Secretary, SOA, located at 24782 Rochelle Lane, Lake Forest, California 92630-3241, for its unrestricted use.”
Or,
- B. “I give all my real and personal property to the Special Operations Association, a veteran’s fraternal organization, in care of John C. Russell, Jr., Secretary, SOA, located

at 24782 Rochelle Lane, Lake Forest, California 92630-3241 for the specific purpose of supporting (one of the following specific projects):

1. The SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program Fund.”
2. The SOA Operation Brightlight Program Fund.”
3. The SOA Save the Montagnard People (STMP) Program Fund.”
4. The SOA Personal Video History Project Fund.”
5. The SOA Warrior’s Family Fund.”

II. Specific Bequest language:

- A. “I give _____ (\$\$\$ amount, description of item, e.g., car, boat, etc., legal description of real property - home, farm, etc., or a % of residue or remainder of estate, a specific asset/stock/security) to the Special Operations Association, a veteran’s fraternal organization, in care of John C. Russell, Jr., Secretary, SOA, located at 24782 Rochelle Lane, Lake Forest California 92630-3241, for its unrestricted use.” Or,
- B. “I give _____ (\$\$\$ amount, description of item, e.g., car, boat, etc., legal description of real property – home, farm, etc., or a % of residue or remainder of estate, a specific asset/stock/security) to the Special Operations Association, a veteran’s fraternal organization, in care of John C. Russell, Jr., Secretary, SOA, located at 24782 Rochelle Lane, Lake Forest, California 92630-3241 for the specific purpose (one of the following specific projects):
1. The SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program Fund.”
 2. The SOA Operation Brightlight Program Fund.”
 3. The SOA Save the Montagnard People (STMP) Program Fund.”
 4. The SOA Personal Video History Project Fund.”
 5. The SOA Warrior’s Family Fund.”
- C. “If at any time in the judgment of the governing body of the Organization, it is deemed impossible or impracticable to carry out the stated purpose of the bequest, the governing body of the Organization shall determine a purpose as near as possible to the purpose stated in the bequest.”

III. There are a multitude of other possibilities, some of which are:

- A. Giving all or a percentage of what remains of an estate after all specific bequests having been satisfied and debts and expenses have been paid (the “rest, residue and remainder of the estate”).
- B. Give all or a portion of your estate in the event that a named beneficiary is not alive when the testator dies.
- C. Establish a testamentary charitable trust in one’s will, with a “pour-over” clause to designate which assets are to be placed in a trust with income paid to one or more beneficiaries for their lifetime, with the trust going to the veteran’s organization upon

the death of the last income beneficiary.

- D. Establish a trust in perpetuity in one's will, funded by some asset(s), (e.g., Life Insurance) with the beneficiary being the veteran's organization and the netincome to be paid to the veteran's organization and to be disbursed by the governing body of the veteran's organization either for a specific purpose or in their sole discretion.

Fifth - For your planning purposes, the Special Operations Association is recognized by the Department of Defense (DOD), and by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a non-profit veterans organization 501 (c) (19), operating on tax deductible donations, (EIN # 74-2619854). Should you have any queries whatsoever, at anytime, always consult with your attorney.

REUNION PHOTOS

Picture Phoenix will be on site at SOAR 2014. We will be available for any group or special photos at your request. The photos will be on display in the foyer just across from the registration desk for viewing and ordering. To make arrangements, contact:

Richard Carmer 602-363-4057
The photos from 2013 are available at:
www.picturephoenix.com



We will be in attendance for the entire reunion. Banquet photos will be displayed immediately following the banquet. All orders will be mailed out within 2-3 days after the reunion.

WHEN TERROR COMES TO MAIN STREET
“A Citizen’s Guide To Terror Awareness, Preparedness and Prevention”
BY: Lieutenant Colonel Joseph A. Ruffini, U.S. Army (Retired)

In the wake of the recent terror attack in Boston during the running of the Boston Marathon, the Special Operations Association wishes to reinforce its commitment to alerting all Americans to the dangers of TERROR that we are facing more and more on our nation’s soil. Unfortunately, TERROR as we know and understand it today is a threat that is not going to go away in our lifetime.

In order to better assist in the dissemination of this public information campaign, the SOA is prepared to offer anyone desiring to acquire a copy of this veritable encyclopedia of information the opportunity to “Buy one, receive a second one - FREE”. You pay only \$20.00, plus shipping and handling (\$5.00).

The SOA urges each member who does not already own this book to order it. THANK YOU.

Number of Books Being Ordered: _____ X \$20.00/ea = \$ _____

Shipping & Handling Fee: \$ _____ 5.00

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP CODE: _____ - _____

PAYMENT: Please make check or money order to: SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION or “SOA.”

SUBMIT COMPLETED ORDER FORM TO:

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.

Chairman, SOA Fund Raising Committee

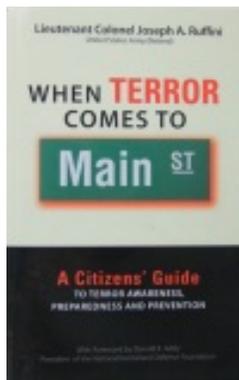
598N 1620W

St. George, Utah 84770-6691

Call: (435) 652-3553 for any queries, or multiple book orders.

----- Do Not Write Below This Line: -----

Date Received: _____ Date Shipped: _____



Form available on SOA website: www.specialoperations.org

THE SOA's MACVSOG MEDAL OF HONOR PRINT

**To honor and memorialize MACVSOG's Medal of Honor recipients and the men of MACVSOG
Limited Edition of 250 prints
Creative Work of Robert L. Noe, CCN 69-70 and Artist Frank Allen**



Certificate of Authenticity certifying that each signature on the print is original.

To order: See SOA Quartermaster Sales page at the end of this publication

Each print is 20 x 24 inches and contains the names of all of MACVSOG's Medal of Honor (MOH) recipients and the original signatures of the five surviving MACVSOG MOH recipients:

Col Robert C. Howard, US Army Special Forces, CCC, Hatchet Force Rescue (Most decorated serviceman in U.S. History, submitted for the MOH three times in 13 months and appearing on the cover of the Green Beret Magazine October 1969). NOTE: Colonel Howard passed away on 23 December 2009.

Col James P. Fleming, US Air Force 20th Special Operation Squadron's Green Hornet for rescuing RT Chisel, CCS, from imminent annihilation.

Lt Michael E. Thornton, US Navy SEAL, STDAT, for saving the life of Lt Thomas Norris an MOH recipient (The only time in US History when a recipient is awarded a MOH for saving the life of another MOH recipient).

Lt Thomas R. Norris, US Navy SEAL, STDAT, for the famed 4 day "Bat 21" rescues of two downed pilots. Six months later, he sustained a near-fatal head wound in action and was rescued by his fellow Navy SEAL, Michael Thornton.

SGM Jon R. Cavaiani, US Army Special Forces, CCN, for his two day defense of Radio Relay Site Hickory. He was captured during the battle and was a Prisoner of War (POW) in North Vietnam for 1 year and 8 months.

PRINT IMAGES

Upper Left: Lt George Sisler, FOB 2, Hatchet Force, was Killed in Action (KIA) in Feb 1967 during a bomb damage assessment (BDA). He was the first MACVSOG Medal of Honor recipient and the first intelligence officer ever to receive the MOH.

Lower Left: Major Larry A. Thorne was lost, Missing in Action (MIA), on MACVSOG's first mission, 18 October 1965. A native of Finland, he was a recipient of the Finnish Mannerheim Cross, the equivalent of the US Medal of Honor, while serving in the Finnish Army against Russia during WWII. His remains were recovered in Laos 37 years after being declared MIA.

Right Center: On strings, during a STABO extraction in 1968, are SFC Walter Hawley, SFC Agostino Chiarello, and SFC Clifford Roberts.

Bottom Center: At Kham Duc, RVN, a Special Forces "A" camp on the Vietnam-Laotian border and a MACVSOG training and launch site, Recon Team Iowa stands in front of a Vietnamese H-34, "King Bee" helicopter prior to the launch of MACVSOG's first mission on October 18, 1965. Top left, SFC Jim "Halo" Smith; 4th from left, top, One-Zero (1-0), Team Leader SGM Charles L.

"Slats" Petry, and bottom left SFC Steven W. Comerford.

Upper Right: The Radio Relay Site "Leg Horn" located in Laos.

Lower Right: A Navy SEAL Recon Team.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

THE SOA's MACVSOG MEDAL OF HONOR PRINT ORDER FORM

NAME: _____ SOA Member Number: _____

Number of Prints: _____ X \$150.00 per print \$ _____
SHIPPING: \$ 15.00
TOTAL: \$ _____

Payment Options:
Check or Money Order # _____
(Please Print Check or Money Order Number)
Please make payable to: "Special Operations Association" or "SOA"

Credit/Debit Card: VISA _____ M/C _____ AmEx _____ Disc _____
ACCOUNT: _____ Expiration: _____
NAME AS PRINTED ON CARD: _____

Signature: _____ *(Required for all Credit Card Transactions)*

Billing Address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ ZIP: _____
Telephone: Day: _____ (Evening): _____
(Cell): _____

SUBMIT COMPLETED ORDER FORM TO:
Robert L. Strange
Attention: Special Operations Association, (SOA QM Sales)
1492 Lake James Dr.
Prudenville, MI 48651
bobstrange@qmsales.org

-----Do Not Write Below This Line-----

NOTE: (Administrative Use Only)
Date Order Received: _____
Date Payment Processed: _____
Date Shipped: _____
Print # Requested and or Available: _____



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Request you provide any changes that may have occurred in your personal data

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

SOA Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code + Four: _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

Dispatch to:

SOA Membership Committee
Ray Calafell
105 South Armenia Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33609-3307
enzocalafell@prodigy.net



Form available on SOA website: www.specialoperations.org

Why?

If this isn't the first time you've received the PRP or AAR you have to have noticed the BOD has chosen to print the Next of Kin (NOK) Notification Form, on the reverse, in every single edition for as far back as just about any of us can recall.

So even if your primary MOS isn't Intelligence you must have asked yourself at one time or another, "Why?" Why do they keep printing this same form year after year and issue after issue?

So now we are turning the tables and asking you: *Why do you think the NOK Form has been included in all of these issues and yet again in this issue?*

Come on, don't just gloss over it and expect the answer to follow in the next sentence or two, it's not going to be that easy. Think about it. What's so darn important about such a nasty looking little form? What could possibly be so important to have just this little bit of information filled out and returned? Why is the Board spending your money to have not just one page but now two pages dedicated to this darn form?

It's okay, turn the page over and look at the form. What information is being asked for? Why could this be all that important that the Association's Boards have asked for it year-after-year regardless of who is serving as the President, Secretary or Chaplain?

If you haven't figured it out by now I'll give you three clues: "Mirror", "Hearse", "Brotherhood."

Have you got it yet? For those who didn't get the blinding flash of knowledge read the small print below for the answer:

Regardless of your age today we are all getting older. Not one of us is going to get out of this world alive. When you become sick or die, your brothers within the SOA will want to know and the Chaplain needs to know who to contact and how to contact them. So fill it out for yourself, for your family and for your brothers. Don't make a big deal of it, just fill it in and send it in!



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

NEXT OF KIN

TO: All SOA Members:

Request you provide the following necessary data to the Membership Committee Chairman in order that he can work in concert with the Chaplain, SOA to determine the "NEXT-OF-KIN" (NOK) of a deceased member. Provisions have been made in the SOA Database to list a NOK for all members. This is a voluntary initiative. If you wish to participate in this initiative request you provide the following information to the Secretary, SOA by mail or e-mail:

SOA MEMBER:

*Last Name: _____

*First Name: _____

*SOA Number: _____

NEXT-OF-KIN:

*Relationship: _____

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+Four: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

NOTE: If any of the above information is the same as yours (as in the case of most spouses) request you leave it blank. You are also requested to keep the Membership Committee Chair apprised of any changes that may occur.

*Required Information.

DISPATCH TO:

SOA Membership Committee

Ray Calafell

105 South Armenia Avenue

Tampa, Florida 33609-3307

enzocalafell@prodigy.net

Form available on SOA website: www.specialoperations.org



EIN: 26-3181830



VSOFTM Extreme Environmental Exposures Questionnaire

The purpose of this questionnaire is to lay the foundation for a Compensation and Pension program within the VA for Veterans of Special Operation Forces (VSOFTM). The information you provide will assist yourself and thousands of other SOF Veterans obtain the same entitlements, privileges, compensations, and benefits for veterans of Special Operation Forces presently afforded to veterans of conventional operations.

DEMOGRAPHICS:

How old are you? _____. When did you serve? _____. What branch of the military? _____
What theater/s of operation? _____

MEDICAL ISSUES:

Did any injuries (physical or psychological) occur from training for or the conduct of special operations? _____. If so, what were they? _____

Are you service connected for those specific injuries? _____. If not, why not? What prevents you from filing a claim successfully with the VA? _____

What are your most common, present health conditions associated with SOF activities? _____

What are your most common ailments years later, compared to when serving on active duty? _____

Do you personally have any present, ongoing symptoms that might be attributed to SOF activities? _____. If so, what are those symptoms? _____

VA OPERATIONS:

What have been some of the problems and obstacles to SOF Vets getting help from the VA? _____

What have been some of the VA successes in the past that have helped SOF Vets? _____

What can the VA do to reach out and help more disabled, wounded and injured SOF Vets? _____

What can the VA do for you personally? _____

SOF SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES:

In your opinion, what percentage of SOF Vets suffer injuries for Extreme Environmental Exposures (i.e. extremes in barometric pressures, high altitude, diving, third world exposures to diseases, temperature extremes, etc)? _____

Were you on prolonged malaria prophylaxis?_____. If so, for how long? _____

What types of medication were you on for malaria prophylaxis? _____

Were you ever monitored for lead exposure?_____How long did you serve in a capacity where you were you monitored for lead exposure? _____

Were you exposed to frequent overpressure events (i.e. rapid entry door breaching)? _____

Were you on dive status?_____How many years?_____Do you have any diving related injuries? _____

Were you on MFF status?_____How many years?_____Do you have any MFF related injuries? _____

If so, what are they? _____

Have you been exposed to any NBC agents or any OTHER TOXIC AGENTS?_____. If so, what are they? _____

POTENTIAL VA SPECIAL OPERATON FORCES (SOF) PROGRAM:

How would an "ideal" VA program to help SOF Vets be structured? What would it do for SOF Vets? _

In structuring such a program, what are some of the pitfalls to avoid? _____

What are your biggest apprehensions or concerns regarding a VA program for SOF Vets? _____

Should a VA program for SOF Vets be headquartered at a VA medical center or on a military base? _____

Where should regional VA SOF Vet program offices be located? _____

Any other observations, recommendations, or concerns regarding a SOF Vets program? _____

If you have any specific questions, please email Erwin "Earl" Morse at erwin.morse@va.gov or VSOF@va.gov. You can also call 937 409-8387.

Once completed, please mail the questionnaire to: Dayton VA Medical Center
Attn: PA Morse
Primary Care, 11C
4100 W. 3rd Street
Dayton, OH 45428



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Quartermaster Sales

Quartermaster: Bob Strange (989-202-2732) EMAIL: bobstrange@QMSales.org

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Tshirt, Black W/SOA Red Shield left chest S __ M __ L __ XL __ 2X __	\$14.00	___	_____
Tshirt, Black W/SOA Red Shield left chest W/pocket S __ M __ L __ XL __ 2X __	\$16.00	___	_____
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Patch square SOA logo embroidered on black background	\$5.00	_____	_____
Patch SOA Red Shield logo embroidered 4" tall	\$5.00	_____	_____
Patch SOA Red Shield logo embroidered 9" tall	\$25.00	_____	_____
Life Member Pin SOA round Gold _____ Pewter _____	\$5.00	_____	_____
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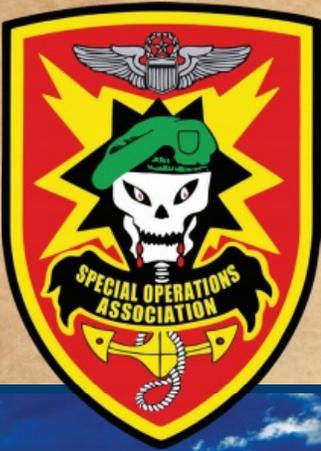
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