



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION AFTER ACTION REPORT



Keynote Speaker CSM Shane Shorter First Special Forces Group (Airborne)

SOAR XL

OCTOBER 17-21, 2016

THE ORLEANS HOTEL & CASINO, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

40 Year Pin Ceremony



The following SOA Members were presented their 40 Year Pins by President Rick Estes and SOA Member MG/R Eldon Bargewell at the SOAR XL Banquet:

Robert T. Ashton
Jim Butler
Merlyn D. Eckles
John Fryer
David Gordon

Jim Kennedy
Larry Kimmel
James R. Martin
Daniel R. Myers
Frank B. Moore

Clifford Newman
Garrett Robb
Clyde J. Sincere
Michael E. Taylor





SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

SOA FACT SHEET

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, Special Operations Aviators, 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:

- a. 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,
- b. To perpetuate the Special Operations "esprit de corps"; and,
- c. 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 \$596,500 has been awarded, or committed thus far to 157 deserving young scholars.

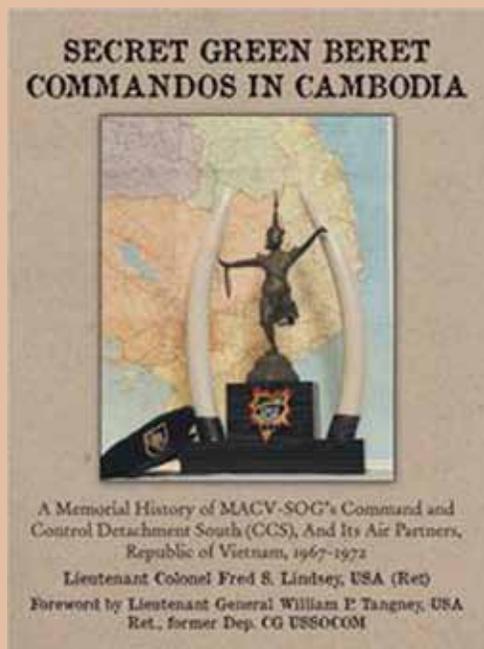
The Special Operations Association is recognized by the Department of Defense and by the IRS as a non-profit veterans organization, 501 (c) (19), operating on tax deductible donations, (EIN # 74-2619854). Annual membership dues are \$30 U.S. Lifetime membership fee is \$505 U.S. 70-years or over, Lifetime 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 41st annual reunion (SOAR XLI) in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Orleans Hotel and Casino during the period 16-20 October 2017. We anticipate in excess of 650 members and guests.

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.

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2017 Annual dues are now payable and refer to the annual dues page 67 for additional information



Our 40th anniversary was a great hit. Once again, we came together to meet old friends and make new ones as we have been doing now for forty years. We had a great crowd and for the twelfth consecutive year, the Orleans Hotel provided superb hospitality, featuring new restaurants and a superb banquet for all of our SOA members and guests to enjoy.

Our banquet program opened with a dramatic and patriotic presentation of the history of the Star Spangled Banner, performed by our own SOA member, Keith McKim, who received a standing ovation with many teary eyed audience members. Our Banquet guest speaker, CSM Shane Shorter, active duty Command Sergeant Major, 1st Special Forces Group headquartered at Joint Base McCord, Washington, shared his insights and experience in Special Operations and informed our enthusiastic crowd.

Entertainment Chair, John Russell, had a sold out crowd for the Grand Canyon excursion, where trip members were able to walk out on the famous Grand Canyon Skywalk and gaze straight down to the canyon floor, 2000 feet below. An old fashioned barbeque held at the Bonnie Springs Ranch in Las Vegas was enjoyed by trip members. Our registration process was simplified this year with an online registration webpage featuring room reservations, SOAR registration and entertainment options all in one convenient spot. This feature will be available next year as well.

Fourteen SOA members were present to receive their 40 year pins. Be sure and look at the pictures and names of our recipients. We have one member who has not missed a SOAR. Can you guess who that person is?

The POW/MIA meeting, which was given an expanded time slot, included presentations from Mrs. Fern Winbush, Acting DPAA Director, and Ann Mills-Griffiths, CEO and Chairman of the Board of the National League of POW/MIA families. Judi Boyer Bouchard, sister of recently returned SOG MIA MSG, Alan Boyer, also gave a talk. Be sure to read the excellent report from Committee Chair, Mike Taylor.

Our spirit tasting classes sponsored by Beam Suntory were fun and educational for all of us who attended. These free classes were made possible by members, Tony Bandiera with Bill Werther, assisting. Each year, Beam Suntory sends highly trained professionals to educate our members on their different spirit brands.

The Special Operations Association Foundation (SOAF) distributed \$1,000 worth of \$50.00 gasoline cards to the First Special Forces Group in Washington State and \$1,000 of these cards to the 5th SFG at Fort Campbell. The purpose of these cards are for SPEC OPS troops to supplement gasoline funds used to travel to hospitals and clinics as they recover from their wounds. SOAF has also voted to financially support the OASIS group at future SOARS helping our members who need assistance processing their V.A. Claims.

The SOA Board voted this year to expand scholarship grants to include Spouses and Widows of SOA members and was presented at the General Membership meeting. This change received an enthusiastic response from members. The SOA Board felt this change was needed to help our members who might need further education to supplement member family income.

Under the chairmanship of Tom Carrell, the SOA riders made a ride across the United States to attend SOAR XL . Many of us were present at the valet entrance of the hotel to greet them as they rode into the Orleans Hotel. Be sure to look at the pictures and Tom's report on their journey and the special visit to the "Special Operators" in Lawton Oklahoma. These SOA ambassadors made us all proud of their accomplishment and to be members of the SOA.

Respectfully submitted, Rick Estes-President



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Tales From The Road



2016 was a busy year for the SOA Riders with two rides. The Spring ride was to Ellijay, Georgia, and the Fall ride to Las Vegas for SOAR XL. Both were great rides and a real opportunity to share quality time with our “Brothers in Arms” and “Brothers of the Road”.

The Spring ride was held during the week prior to Armed Forces Day and the weather couldn't have been better. Our host, Ron Gravett, scheduled several outings into the beautiful mountains of north Georgia with the highlight trip to the motorcycle challenge of 318 curves in 11 miles known as “The Tail of the Dragon”. We rode it down and back and we can now proudly say we survived “The Dragon”.

Saturday morning we rode to the Ellijay Veterans' Memorial for our annual remembrance ceremony for the Missing in Action from SOG and support elements. This year was special as we were privileged to have a soloist sing “God Bless the USA”, a bagpiper, and a local couple do the Missing Man table. They were followed by our traditional laying of the wreath and reading of the names. Taps were played and a toast was made.

The Fall ride started with 4 hardy souls and a chase vehicle in the pre dawn hours from Lawrenceburg, Indiana, with a stop in Ft Smith, Arkansas to visit the National Cemetery and pay respects to Col. William O. Darby of Darby's Rangers, a visit to the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum, the Lawton / Fort Sill Veterans Center where we spent the day with a group of great guys on their Alzheimer's / dementia ward on the “Special Operations” Yellow Wing. Next was Amarillo, Texas and a stop at the Cadillac Ranch and world famous Big Texan Steak Ranch. Day six we headed into Albuquerque, New Mexico with a stop at the Petroglyph National Monument. Day seven included a trip through The Painted Desert and Petrified Forest after a stop in St John's Arizona, where we met a local police officer at the fuel stop. He wanted to talk, get pictures, and exchange patches and memorabilia. A great guy and an Iraqi vet. That evening we found ourselves “Standing on the Corner in Winslow, Arizona. Day eight was spent riding portions of old Route 66 to Kingman, Arizona that included a trip to the old mining town of Oatman. On our final day we briefed the ride and headed into Las Vegas with twelve riders. One had to drop out due to maintenance concerns so we arrived with eleven. Four had ridden about 2500 miles through 10 states in 9 leisurely days. The reception by friendly faces as we pulled into the Orleans was a great way to end the ride. That ride was over and it was good to be finished but before the bikes had cooled the most common question, after “Where's the beer?”, was “Are we going to do this again next year?” The answer, at this point, is yes.

For detailed information visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Special-Operations-Association-Riders-1112731835470288/>

Vets Connecting With Vets

During their ride across America the SOA Riders had an opportunity to not only visit some of our less fortunate veteran brothers and sisters but to connect with them on a very personal level.

The SOA Board knew that the Riders were planning a cross country ride that would take them close to Lawton/Ft Sill, OK and asked if they could make a side trip to present a plaque to the staff and patients at the VA Center on the way to SOAR. Upon arrival, they were greeted by members of the staff, local press, patients and relatives. They proceeded to the Yellow Wing for a tour and a meet and greet with the patients in the Alzheimer's/dementia wing.

Soon it was time for the new found friends to take their weekly walk around the facility. Several were able to move about on their own but because the Riders were there many of the wheelchair bound got to venture off their ward.

At the end of the walk the Riders enjoyed coffee and a doughnut with their new stick buddies. They jumped right in and offered whatever assistance was needed, from getting a cup of coffee, to helping their new friends manage the doughnut.

Lunch for the Riders was provided by the Center which gave them an opportunity to spend time with other patients, relatives and staff. During lunch, one of the senior staff members stopped to chat and thank the Riders for being there. She made the statement that the SOA Riders were the first group to come that didn't have an alternative motive or self serving agenda and how nice it was to see the level of true compassion and care being expressed.

After lunch they gathered again in the Yellow Wing, to escort all the Vietnam Vets to a "Welcome Home" ceremony for all of the Center's Vietnam patients. This too became an emotional journey that many of the Riders and patients were not prepared for. Some patients were grateful for the recognition, some didn't feel they were worthy and didn't belong, and some just couldn't handle it at all. Each Rider monitored their charge and responded accordingly. They had been total strangers only hours before and now had become true brothers. They had their back.

For detailed information please visit our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/Special-Operations-Association-Riders-1112731835470288/>



20 Year Pin Ceremony

The following SOA Members were presented their 20 Year Pins by President Rick Estes and SOA Member MG/R Eldon Bargewell at the SOAR XL General Membership Meeting:

Ed Adams
Howard W. Allen
Robert Bost
Joseph Bourgeois
William Coughlan
Nguyen Phuoc Dang
Michael Eiland
Luke Emanuel
Don Feeney
John Frescura
William Gates
Ronald Gravett

Stephen Hayduk
Louis Holmes
Alfred Katzenstein
Craig Lansing
Minh Le
Eugene Leonard
Thomas Marzullo
Roland Nuqui
John Owens
Joseph Parnar
Alex Saunders
Joe Sottile

Stanley Steenbock
Robert Strange
Stephen Sullivan
Gary Swartzbaugh
Laughlin Todd
Bruno Urbanick
Carleton Vencill
Laurie Whitlark
Kent White
Laurence Wicorek



25 Year Pin Ceremony

The following SOA Members were presented their 25 Year Pins by President Rick Estes and SOA Member MG/R Eldon Bargewell at the SOAR XL General Membership Meeting:



Ed Adams
William Coughlan
Robert E. Diamond III
Michael Eiland
Skip Ettinger
Eugene Hall
Stephen Hayduk
Chieu N. Lam
Howard Sugar
Bruno Urbaniak
Fred Waltz
Robert Weller
Melvin Wick
Laurence Wicorek
Curtis Williams



30 Year Pin Ceremony

The following SOA Members were presented their 30 Year Pins by President Rick Estes and SOA Member MG/R Eldon Bargewell at the SOAR XL General Membership Meeting:

Roger Cherry
William Coughlan
James Day
Bobby Evans
Richard Freeman
Carl Fronabarger
Ronald Gravett
Donald Green
Mark Kinsler
Eugene Hall
Dale Hanson
David Maurer
Harlan VanWinkle
Arthur Wilbur



35 Year Pin Ceremony

The following SOA Members were presented their 35 Year Pins by President Rick Estes and SOA Member MG/R Eldon Bargewell at the SOAR XL General Membership Meeting:

Fred Camacho
William Coughlan
James Fry
George Hunt
Peter Laurence
Jay Massey
David Maurer
John Padgett
Robert Parks
David Ryder
Albert Slugocki



SOAR 40 POW/MIA AAR



At Special Operations Association Reunion (SOAR) 40, the SOA and the Special Forces Association (SFA) agreed that the SOA POW/MIA Committee would become a joint committee, formally and officially representing both associations. Nothing will really change except that SFA Executive Director Cliff Newman is now an actual member of the committee rather than just a point-of-contact.

The SOAR 40 POW/MIA Update Session featured four presentations by representatives of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

(DPAA). The Acting Director of DPAA, Mrs. Fern Sumpter Winbush, led off with an overview of the agency's operational planning and budget outlook for FY 2017. Senior Southeast Asia Analyst Matt Kristoff, Senior Vietnam (VN) War Policy Advisor Jack Kull and Outreach and Communications Specialist Steve Thompson gave briefings about ongoing operations in Southeast Asia and recent meetings with Cambodian, Lao, and Vietnamese counterparts.

Among other important information, we learned that Missing in Action (MIA) is a formal military service status definition and, technically, there are no longer "MIAs" from the Vietnam War. All those who did not return home have been presumptively declared dead by the USG. "MIA" is a common term still used to refer to these personnel; but, the USG uses what they consider the "more appropriate and accurate term" of "missing" or "unaccounted for." The presumptive finding of death for these men was not unique to VN, having been done after other wars to settle death benefits, insurance, etc. The fact these men have been declared dead does not diminish the USG's obligation to account for them.

Following the DPAA presentations, Ann Mills Griffiths, CEO and Chairman of the Board of the National League of POW/MIA Families, gave us her organization's perspective on the status of official efforts to account for those still missing from the VN War. Judi Boyer Bouchard, sister of recovered SOG MIA SGT Alan Boyer, gave a moving account from the perspective of MIA families. SGT Boyer's remains were identified and interred at Arlington National Cemetery June 22 last year.

Mike Taylor, Chairman of the POW/MIA Committee, provided a review of SOA and SFA activities related to POW/MIA matters during the last year.

- Spearheaded Memorandum Of Understanding between SOA/SFA/SF Charitable Trust and DPAA under Strategic Partnership Initiative
- Represented SFA for POW/MIA matters
- Joint SOA/SFA letter to SecDef regarding application period for new Director, DPAA
- Provided input to selection criteria for new Director, DPAA
- Joint SOA/SFA letter to USDP endorsing Maj Gen (USAF, retired) Kelly McKeague's application for Director, DPAA
- Joint SOA/SFA letter to POTUS to "make expanded cooperation on MIA cases a central part of Administration message to Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia at ASEAN Summit and other meetings."

- Joint SOA/SFA letter to Congressional leaders and committees supporting DPAA funding
- Assisted DPAA Vietnam War analysts with specific SOG-loss cases
- Attended DPAA Family Updates in Los Angeles and Seattle. Planned attending Reno in November
- Attended National League of POW/MIA Families 47th Annual Meeting
- Attended several DPAA ceremonies and working lunches
- Invited DPAA Director, Ann Mills-Griffiths and Judi Boyer to speak at SOAR
- Enhanced relations with DPAA staff, National League of POW/MIA Families, veterans organizations
- Participant in recurring DPAA teleconferences for family groups and veterans organizations
- Assisted with Memorial Ceremony, Interment w/ Full Military Honors and Reception for Al Boyer

Finally, The POW/MIA Committee voiced the following SOA/SFA concerns to the DPAA leadership:

- Selection of the new Director, DPAA: SOA and SFA endorsed the application of retired USAF Maj Gen Kelly McKeague, the last commander of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command and first Deputy Director of DPAA. As far as we know, Mr. McKeague is the only applicant with POW/MIA-related experience, has the confidence and trust of the involved VN War families and Veterans Service Organizations, and would seemingly be an ideal fit for the job. We know him well, admire and respect him and hope for his selection.
- Adequacy of DPAA funding for 2017 and beyond: SOA/SFA do not consider current Congressionally- and DOD-allocated funding levels adequate for DPAA's operational plans for FY2017 VN War operations.
- Paucity of Vietnam War analysts: There are too many vacancies, and the USG hiring process is too cumbersome. The resultant case load on assigned DPAA VN War analysts is unmanageable and overwhelming
- "Numbers Game", WWII vs VN War: Congress has directed DPAA to develop the capacity to identify 200 missing and unaccounted for personnel per year. Some in the USG have seen this as a mandate to actually produce that many identifications every year. A recent trend within DPAA has been to disinter US WWII and Korean War remains not individually identified, but buried in US cemeteries at home and abroad, using modern DNA techniques to identify them. This is much easier, faster and cheaper than undertaking field operations to account for those truly missing in Southeast Asia. DPAA says they are using disinterment ID numbers to satisfy Congress, but they are devoting the vast majority of their operational budget to VN War cases. Our committee will continue to monitor this situation.

Throughout SOAR, Matt, Jack and Steve conducted interviews with our members who had information that might assist DPAA efforts to account for missing personnel. This SOA effort to assist gains momentum each year. This year, members brought in maps, notes, etc. and kept these guys busy all week. Thanks and keep up the good work, DPAA and SOA members!

SOAR XL... OLAA SYMPOSIUM AAR

SOAR XL marked the 4th consecutive year that OLAA Spad pilots attended an SOA reunion and led a long overdue discussion based around our shared Vietnam experiences. While the basic relationship between MACVSOG team missions and A-1 air support was understood by both parties, a group face to face personal relationship had somehow never developed over the years. As a result, our shared history was full of gaps and a number of misunderstandings existed. Since both organizations had been sworn to “20 plus years of secrecy”, it is not hard to explain a basic lack of shared insight. To my knowledge, none of our OLAA pilots (including myself) had ever read a book written about MACVSOG missions prior to 2013.



Each of our Symposiums have taken on a life of their own. This year was no exception. Knowing that a special “gathering” was occurring at SOAR XL, which had a foundation based on our first Symposium, it seemed logical to include the occasion in our presentation. A schedule change for our 2013 presentation resulted in some SOA members arriving early. We decided to begin with informal discussions and soon Bright Light Team Leader George Hunt stood to describe a mission that had haunted him for over 40 years. He told of leading a harrowing 3rd attempt to recover remains of an A-1 pilot near Leghorn in Laos. George wanted to know two things: who was the downed pilot and had his team recovered “enough” to make a positive identification for his family? His emotions were compelling and I requested that George share his contact information with my wife Linda for further research. At that time, we were only able to bracket the dates to a couple of months and sadly I was able to narrow the list to three lost Spad pilots in that short timeframe with information that was readily available in my world. It was a beginning. Over time, with the help of his nephew Steve Moore, the timeline was tightened and the deceased A-1 pilot was identified as Major Wayne Wolfkeil. Wayne perished on 9Aug68, while flying as a 6th SOS Spad pilot supporting a SOG team in distress. With more help from Robert Dumont and Joe Parnar the information base expanded in many ways. This year at SOAR XL, George Hunt first met with six of Maj. Wolfkeil’s family members including a son and two daughters. The following morning, George described the mission and its impact on his life to those attending our Symposium. The audience included the Wolfkeil family members and the men who had assisted George in his research. To most of us, Bright Light is conceptually beyond special...on this day it took on its own authentic life. I personally sensed that all present were honored and humbled.

The larger message of this Symposium was that if this could happen for George Hunt, what are the boundaries for more answers regarding our shared histories? While it has not yet happened directly, why could such shared experiences not lead to information that could assist the efforts of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA)? Their

meeting followed ours and we are sharing our OLAA unit information with them.

The remainder of our allotted time continued the theme. We were proud to be joined by 6th SOS Spad pilot Don Dineen who attended SOAR for the first time. Don flew over 300 combat missions in the 1968-1969 timeframe and brought a treasure trove in the form of a thick binder full of mission information and related documentation. Specifically, I had “pushed” Don to attend because he had flown support for Lynne Black on the 5Oct68, mission that is legend in SOG history. I knew that Don represented a huge missing gap in the SOG/Spad history that preceded and guided the unique origins of our small specialized OLAA final in-country A-1 unit. It was amazing and wonderful to observe Don meet with Lynne and be absorbed into the SOAR experience. As the word spread, Don was kept very busy sharing his experiences and that binder full of history with many SOG team members. I believe that Don connected with 8-10 or more direct support missions with team members who were present this year. During our meeting, Don expressed interest in contacting more of his 6th SOS mates and bringing them to future events. We were also joined again by John Waresch who led the A-1 support efforts during the Son Tay raid in 1970.

Finally, I asked Tilt Meyer to address the Symposium audience and offer his perspective of participating in an OLAA arranged meeting called Tailwind Day at the TN Museum of Aviation this past April. A combination of efforts led to this amazing event. It began with the Melton’s desire for another A-1 related event at their facility. Since the previous event honored Jim Wold who was the first commander of our unit, it seemed logical to stress accomplishments related to the tenure of OLAA Commander Mel Swanson. Successful operations involving OLAA Spads supporting Operation Tailwind quickly came to the forefront. Coincidentally and in concert, Tilt Meyer began extensively researching Operation

Tailwind for a series of articles in SOFREP. A concentrated organizational effort resulted in a remarkable event that showcased the combined efforts of SOG, Army support units, two Marine helicopter units, Spads, 56th SOW A-1’s, Covey FAC’s, and those who fought for the honor of all participants in the “after war” with CNN. The event culminated with a “historic” Panel Discussion involving 14 men who had actually fought in Operation Tailwind. Tilt Meyer did an excellent job of moderating this public discussion and keeping complicated events on track.



For anyone interested in viewing a slightly abbreviated presentation of the Tailwind Day Panel Discussion, just type “2016 Operation Tailwind Reunion” into your browser.

As always, “Thank You” to all SOA members for allowing us to join your organization and share our experiences and information at your well attended and organized reunions.

Don Engebretsen on behalf of all OLAA Spad Pilots...

SOAR XL Bonnie Springs Ranch Trip



While our member participation was not as great, our Bonnie Springs trip was also very entertaining, educational, eventful and with great food. Because of our members' disabilities, we were allowed an early entrance to the facility so as to not have to compete with other civilian visitors. If you are not aware, the BSR tourist attraction is that of an early settler's western town which provided our early settlers with resupplies enroute to California via Death Valley. It was originally built in 1843 and became a tourist attraction in 1952. It was often referred to as the "Oasis of the desert" because many settlers would stop for a drink of the clear and very cool spring water.

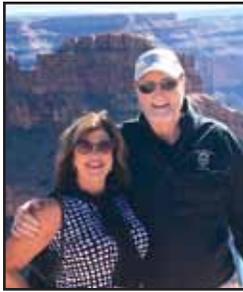
Our members were able to view the facility which provides a very realistic Western Town feeling and atmosphere. The facility has also been used as a "prop" for many western movies. For the youngsters (as well as the youngsters at heart) our members enjoyed visiting the petting zoo and horse stables. One member actually took the available horseback guided tour through the Red Rock Canyon, returning just in time for our very delicious Bar-B-Que luncheon. I would venture to say that the luncheon was the highlight of the event trip as depicted in the various photographs appearing herein-above. Due to time constraints, we were only allowed a total of four (4) hours for this event because of preparations for the SOAR Banquet, our last major event of the reunion.

It is without question that our offsite events were very much appreciated by our participating members as many (if not all) vehemently expressed their respective appreciations for the entertainment events provided.

The goal of our Entertainment Committee for our next reunion is to provide discounted fees to some of the main star attractions within "The Orleans" hotel, as well as other major Las Vegas Hotel attractions. We appreciate our member participation in our last events, and we look forward to maximum member participation for our future entertainment events at SOAR XL.

John Russell, Entertainment Committee Chair

SOAR XL Grand Canyon Trip



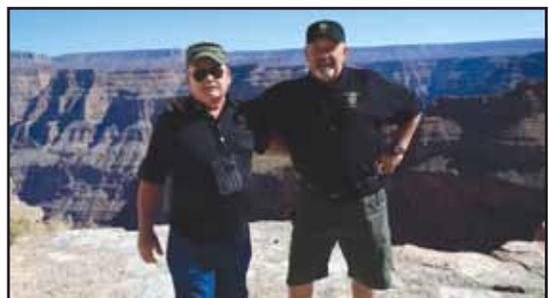
The SOAR trip to the Grand Canyon was undoubtedly a resounding success. From a very timely hotel departure, the trip to and from the Grand Canyon was very interesting to say the least. Our driver was very entertaining and educational as he provided interesting information pertaining to a newly proposed professional sport team relocating to that area, to information pertaining to the Grand Canyon – West Rim, and his remarkable degree of professional courtesy is unmatched to any other SOA member trip event that I am personally aware of.

Upon our arrival at the Grand Canyon – West Rim, I was able to gain instant cooperation from the Hualapai Indian tribe representatives whom allowed me the privilege of making a mass ticket purchase for all of our members, their families and/or significant others. This precluded the standing in long ticket lines and facilitated the immediate loading of the transport buses to the Skywalk view facility.

At the Skywalk facility, the onsite manager notified us that we could enter the facility “totally free of any charge.” Not only was the entrance fee free, but also the Skywalk individual/family photographs taken by Skywalk personnel were free (personal cameras are not allowed on the actual Skywalk). This was obviously a tremendous economic advantage to our members as such fee alone had been previously negotiated at a discount of \$40.00 per person. Because of our members’ disability status, we were also allowed to go “immediately” to the front line of the entrance to the Skywalk as members only needed to have their SOA ID cards hanging from their respective lanyards. The Skywalk was breathtakingly spectacular as depicted in the various photographs appearing herein. Our members were overwhelmingly, and pleasantly surprised by the total degree of recognition given to them by the Hualapai Indian representatives.

After a fun (but exhausting) day, our return trip was also very relaxing as our driver provided us with a very comical and entertaining video to further aid in relaxation.

John Russell, Entertainment Committee Chair



Synopsis of CCS-SOG 2016 Memorial Breakfast



Checking In Seated Duffy Jensen & Dennis Lid,
Standing Jim "Woody" & Sherrill Woodbury



Memorial Reading: Fred Lindsey, Jim Day,
"Woody" Woodbury, Bob Bost, & Larry Little



Main Table with Mr. and Mrs. Bruschetto &
Jim "Woody" Woodbury

Remarks by Fred Lindsey "Decades ago, most Americans couldn't find Vietnam on a map. It's been almost 50 years and that "exotic little backwater" has become the defining experience for a generation. Today it is Afghanistan and Iraq. Our servicemen and women are asked to do multiple tours in those god-forsaken places, and many of our civilian leaders have not bothered to go there."

We all lead busy lives but our "Southern Brotherhood Memorial Breakfast" gives us the chance to publicly acknowledge our deep sorrow not only for those 100 comrades of CCS and Its Air Partners that were KIA in Vietnam but also for those surviving veterans that we have lost this past year. This includes our legendary SGM Monty Montalvo of Sigma B56 in January; then Harlan "Sandy" Sandell and Robert W. "Hoser" Hall in February; and Jerome "Jerry" Ledzinski in May; and most recently Bill Dadek in September.

The worse loss we can suffer is to be forgotten. To remind us of all those lost in Nam, I ask Jim Day, Mike Moore, Woody Woodbury and Larry Little to join me at the podium. Jim & Mike will read off the names and dates of the CCS men, Woody – the 20th SOS, Larry the 195th AHC and I'll read the name of those who were in the 155th AHC, the 189th AHC, the 219th Avn Co. and the 240th AHC.



The Men of CCS-SOG

“So here’s to the souls who never came home, to friendships and families that never would be. Here’s to the ones who stepped off the “Freedom Bird” stateside but would never be the same; for those who brought something home they couldn’t return. Here’s something for the mantle, a reminder to not forget. Or something for the unit’s reunion, or the buddy down the street. Here’s to all who served our nation so valiantly whenever called upon.” Let us all lift our glasses. Here’s to the memories, “still coming in hot”. Our thoughts and prayer go out to the families of these men Let us all stand (if able) and salute these men during the playing of TAPS. Salute! (Lift the glass in toast.)

While we regret that our ranks here today are only about one half of what we had at our reunion last year. I was at an event recently where the 20th SOS had a Medal of Honor event last month for their men and helicopters at the USAF National Museum in Dayton, Ohio. I recall seeing several CCS men there: RJ Graham, Bob Bechtold, Nick Godano, Jim Bolen and Randy Harrison at Dayton. We are also missing some of the 155th AHC men who just celebrated their reunion recently in Washington DC.

On a more positive note: I am pleased to report that we made our annual donation of \$1,000 to the SOA. Our funds come solely from the 501-C-3 not-for-profit firm, CCS-SOG INC. that handles the sale of OUR BOOK (HOLD IT UP!) The sales are getting pretty thin now since the publication was four years ago. So I encourage those who don’t have a copy to see me in the Hospitality Room to purchase a book that I can mail to you next week. As always, I am pleased to provide a personalized autograph. We only sold 57 books last year and only ten copies this year, causing our royalties to fall from \$706 last year to half that so far this year.

Oh yes! Speaking of books – do any of you recall the big old photo book we had at the orderly room in Ban Me Thuot? Well, CSM Carl Franquet found it with some guy in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and it was shipped up here several days ago to Clyde Sincere. Our thanks to Clyde for helping us retrieve this treasure. We will have it in the Hospitality Room after this breakfast.

Lastly, I thank my daughter, Dr. Roberta, for her service as president of the CCS-SOG Inc. Currently, she is working to keep our web site--CCS-SOG.org—up to date. So, check it out and send me your emails with some suggestions on what we can do to improve it.



Packed house for the Memorial Breakfast. Great attendance for Memorial Breakfast

Dickie Crawford Memorial Breakfast



Au Revoir, Dickie Crawford

One of the most enjoyable events at SOAR 2016 was the Tuesday breakfast in honor of our late, passionate mate, Dickie Crawford. Organized by his close friend and CCN mate, John “Smitty” Smith, we were pleased to meet not only CCN recon men, but Dickie’s sister. (name?)

To know Dickie was to know his passion for obtaining recognition for MACVSOG mates for awards earned but not ordered. To that end, Dickie relentlessly hounded and badgered Congressional and military offices. While Senator Bill Nelson and his staff became allies of the SOA despite Dickie’s politically incorrect approach, the same cannot be said of a General or two, who “refused” Dickie’s demands for immediate attention and results.



Dickie’s devotion to obtaining just rewards for his mates did not come to him late in life. In the spring of 1969 at FOB 1 he asked me why I had not put in for a PH. He was a chase medic on August 30, 1968 on a mission to assist RT Georgia, under attack in Laos. I was wounded, but did not put in for a PH. Robert Shippen expertly sewed me up.

Dickie first disparaged my sexual ability. Next, he advised that no one as ugly and stupid as I could ever attract a wife. But, in the unlikely event that I would marry AND have children, they would appreciate a memorial of my pathetic service. I did not know he was practicing for Senators and Generals.



The photo of a BG pinning a PH on my fatigues is the best picture of me from Vietnam. My wife and children are grateful to Dickie and I was pleased to tell him that before he passed.

Dickie was one of us, warts and all. His lifelong service was for “we”, not for “me”.

But we do not say goodbye, but bid him “au revoir”. I know that when we walk, trembling, up the steps to the Pearly Gates, we will see Dickie at the entrance, barking at one of St. Peter’s startled, puzzled aides.

“Let him in!”, Dickie will demand. “Just because he pissed off every MP he met and refused to salute any non-combat arms officer shouldn’t bar this recon man from his well deserved heavenly peace.”

Dickie will never be forgotten.

Doug Godshall, Director, SOA

BEAM Suntory Tasting 11/07/2016



SOA member, Tony Bandiera and BEAM Suntory have once again given us a Whiskey Tour on 10/12/2016. This year our theme was Whiskey's around the World.

About 85 people attended the Tasting, where we tasted Knob Creek, Alphroid, Japanese Toki Whiskey and Alverta Rye. Each table had a fruit and cheese plate along with the four whiskeys.

Rene Huerta and Anthony Bahnick from BEAM Suntory, put on our demonstration of the various liquors

We look to do another Tasting next year at SOAR.

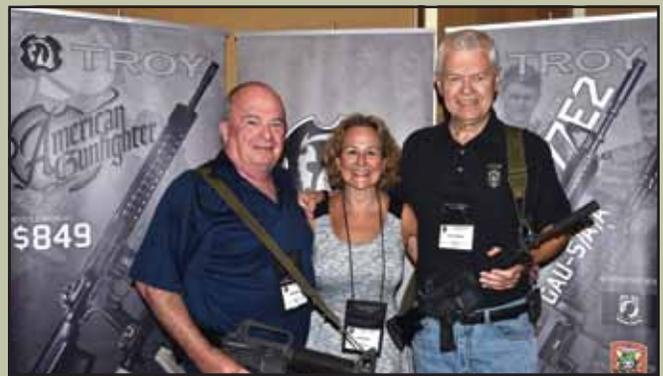
Bill Werther



Highlights SOAR 2016



Nguyen Cong Hiep - Interpreter, RT Idaho, Kim Holmes - daughter of Lonny Holmes.



Brad Welker, Juli Brayton, of Troy Industries, John S. Meyer,



Cliff Newman and MG/R Eldon Bargewell



Hotel Orleans Awesome Bartender



John "Doc" Padgett & wife Vicki.



John (Stryker) Meyer and wife Anna.

Highlights SOAR 2016



SPAD Pilot Don Dineen, (The second guy fly in support of Son Tay Raiders) Lynne M. Black Jr.



SOA Tally Committee Chairman Mike Keele, left, shaking hands with Lynne M. Black Jr.



Cliff Newman, John S. Meyer, Doug "The Frenchman" LeTourneau, Eldon Bargewell



Don Wolken, Dave Gordon, Doug "The Frenchman" Le Tourneau



Diane LeTourneau Carter, Doug "The Frenchman" LeTourneau, Lacey LeTourneau - Doug's daughter-in-law, L. J. LeTourneau - Doug's son.



Eldon, Terrence "Fish" Smith, David Maurer

Highlights SOAR 2016



Dave Marks, Christy Marks, Ron Owens, Anna M. Meyer, Spider Parks and Lucia Parks.



Nguyen Cong Hiep, Ron Owens, Doug "The Frenchman" LeTourneau, Clete "Babysan" Sinyard, Lynne M. Black Jr., Bill Werther.



Kneeling from left: John S. Meyer, Bill Barclay, Tony Herrell, George "The Troll" Sternberg, Rick Estes, Steve Bayliss. Standing front, from left: David Maurer, John Smith, Robert J. "Spider" Parks, Eldon Bargewell, Nguyen Cong Hiep, Clete "Babysan" Sinyard and Bill Werther. Standing back, from left: David Gordon, Cliff Newman, Don Wolken, Charles Borg, Bob Gullett, Doug "The Frenchman" LeTourneau, Lynne M. Black Jr., Terrence "Fish" Smith and Ron Owens.



Members of ST/RT Idaho, Robert J. "Spider" Parks, Don Wolken, Nguyen Cong Hiep, John S. Meyer, Lynne M. Black Jr., Doug "The Frenchman" Le Tourneau



SFA Chap. 78 at SOAR - John Joyce, Brad Welker, Ed Barrett, Mike Keele, Terry Cagnolatti.

Highlights SOAR 2016



Nellis AFB Honor Guard performs POW/MIA Table Ceremony



Posting of the colors by the Nellis AFB Honor Guard



Passing of the Coin Ceremony between senior and junior SOA members



Nellis AFB Honor Guard performs POW/MIA Table Ceremony



Kingbee pilots and crew members for a photo op during banquet



Rick Estes and CSM Shane Shorter



Brian and Natalie Vines, Linda and Rand Binford, Trish and Earnie Carbone



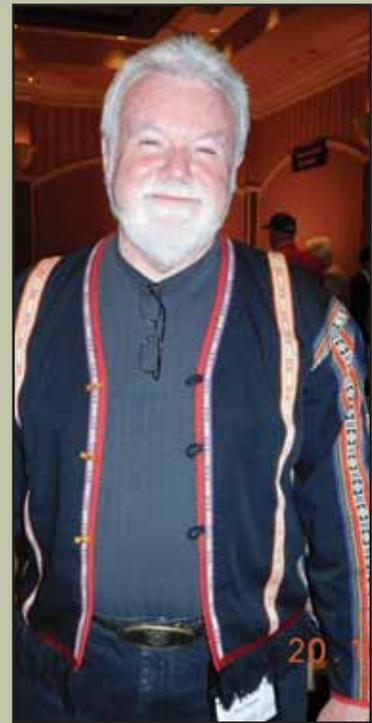
John (Stryker) Meyer and Judi Boyer Bouchard, sister of Alan Boyer.



Highlights SOAR 2016



Highlights SOAR 2016



CSM Shane Shorter Guest of Honor

This year's Special Operations Association Reunion, was an enormous success and the capstone event of the reunion was the banquet and our Key Note Speaker CSM Shane Shorter, the Command Sergeant Major of 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne).



CSM Shorter opened his evening's remarks by expressing his personal appreciation, and the

entire 1st SFG(A)'s appreciation, for the generous support the Special Operations Association and Special Operations Association Foundation (SOAF) provided to his Soldiers and their families through the SOA/SOAF Gas Card Program which provides pre-paid debit cards that allow Special Operators to defer the fuel costs associated with travel to seek treatment for injuries and wounds.

CSM Shorter shared his personal appreciation for the examples, guidance, and mentorship by earlier SOF leaders and members of SOA, and that it was incumbent upon him to live up to those examples of professionalism and instill them to the next generation of SF Operator. CSM Shorter spoke of the responsibility and obligation to our fallen brothers to carry on the fight against our enemies with the same unswerving devotion that drove them to make the ultimate sacrifice.

CSM Shorter addressed the state of the Special Forces Regiment, and made clear that the Special Forces Regiment remains the best manned, trained, equipped, led, and combat capable force in the world. CSM Shorter addressed the operational tempo of today's 1st SFG(A): Afghanistan, Iraq, a SF Battalion supporting the Special Operations Joint Task Force fighting "ISIS"; support to operations in the Philippines, and 80 exercises with partner nations across Asia to name but a very few missions.



CSM Shorter closed his evening's remarks by stating that the Special Operations Association embodies the standards of excellence by which he measures himself, and to which he holds his military comrades. CSM Shorter expressed his thank you for the Special Operations Association's support and for inviting him to speak at SOAR XL. CSM Shorter ended his evening by stating "God bless you, your families, this organization, and the United States of America".

Honorary Memberships and Presidents Awards



Marsha "Marti" Scott receives SOA Honorary Membership



John and Betty Vislosky receive a SOA Honorary Membership

Ann Mills-Griffiths is Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the National League of POW/MIA Families. She is also an MIA sister. Her brother, then-Navy Lieutenant (JG) James B. Mills, was lost on a low-level night bombing mission along Route 1 over North Vietnam on 21 September 1966. Ann and her family have been involved with the National League of POW/MIA Families since its very earliest days. Ann served as California and Regional Coordinator, then was elected to the Board of Directors and served four years before moving to Washington, D.C. She served as League Executive Director for 33 years, from 1978 until 2011, before retiring and accepting responsibilities as Chairman of the Board and CEO.

At SOAR 40, Ann was honored with an Honorary Lifetime Membership in the Special Operations Association by President Rick Estes and an Honorary Lifetime Membership in the Special Forces Association by SFA Executive Director Cliff Newman.

Then, Ann was awarded The SOA President's Award of Excellence for her acceptance of and assistance to the SOA POW/MIA Committee. Since Vietnam-era POW/MIA families first forced the US Government to address their issues, the government has often changed the names of the mission and the agencies involved. Countless well-meaning people have come and gone. Ann has been the one unswerving, dedicated champion who relentlessly marched forward for more than four decades, persevering to hammer home one single message: the return of all POW and maximum possible accounting for those MIA. She risked her own organization's and her own credibility to assist us when the SOA POW/MIA Committee began to increase our own efforts in this arena. We are eternally grateful for her efforts, her support and her friendship.



Ann Mills-Griffiths receives SOA Honorary Membership



SFA Executive Director Cliff Newman presents Ann Mills-Griffiths with a SFA Honorary Membership



Ann Mills-Griffiths receives the SOA President's Award

MAC V SOG

TEAM HISTORY OF A CLANDESTINE ARMY

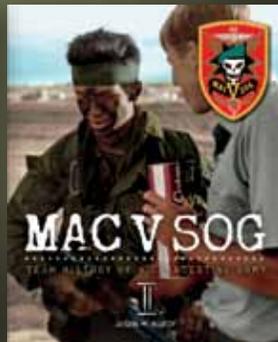
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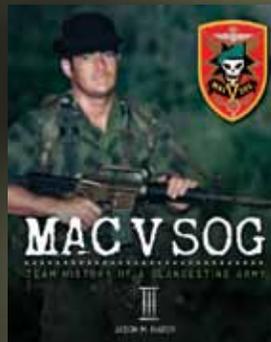
VOLUME 1 FEATURES

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)



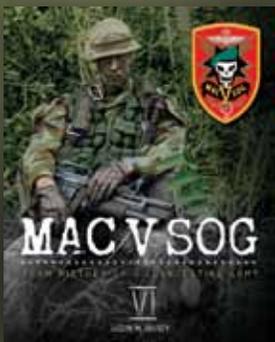
VOLUME 4 FEATURES

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)



VOLUME 6 FEATURES

RT Adder (CCN)
RT Louisiana (CCN)
RT Nebraska (CCC)
RT Wyoming (CCC)



VOLUME 7 FEATURES

RT Nevada (CCC)
RT Oklahoma (CCN)
RT Pick (CCS)
RT Intruder (CCN)



VOLUME 8 FEATURES

RT Delaware (CCC)
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RT Intruder (CCN)



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- Gerbers \$350 to \$500
- Buffalo Bill Presentation Knives \$500
- Randalls \$500 and up

EQUIPMENT

- STABO Rigs \$350 to \$500
- Hanson Rigs \$250
- Jungle Boots \$75 to \$150
- Jungle Boots with Foot Print Sole \$1,000

CAPTURED ITEMS

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- Uniforms \$350 to \$500
- Headgear \$100 to \$250

INSIGNIA

- Recon Team Patches \$500 and up
- Other Patches \$150 to \$500
- Beer Can DIs \$150 to \$250

Special Operations Association General Membership Meeting Minutes

19 October 2016

The Orleans Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, Nevada

Call to Order 1334 PDT

President Estes

Pledge of Allegiance

Virgil McVicker

Opening Prayer

Chaplain Grabianowski

Roll Call

Secretary Vines

SOA Board of Officers/Directors (President Estes, VP Taylor, Secretary Vines, Treasurer Buscetto, Director Godshall, Director Binford, and Director Day were present).

SOA Special Staff Members Present.

Introduction of Guests

President Estes

Credentials Report/Announcement of GM Present, and if a quorum has been satisfied:

The Sergeants-at Arms counted 149 members present which constituted a quorum.

General Member's Approval of GMM Agenda. Motion to approve was made by Mike Keele, seconded by Virgil McVicker, and unanimously approved.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Regular Business:

Approval of SOAR XXXIX General Membership (Meeting Minutes as contained in the SOAR XL PRP). Motion to approve was made by Lonny Holms, seconded by Bulldog Smith, and unanimously approved.

Financial Report and Budget was presented by Treasurer Buscetto. The financials are posted on the SOA website. Motion to approve the budget was made by Rick Gabrianowski, seconded by George Metz, and unanimously approved.

SOA Scholarship Committee Report. Chairman McClure briefed the membership that there are 10 SOA Scholarship recipients and the scholarship fund exceeds the 80/20 requirements. He also briefed BOD decisions to increase semester stipends to \$1,500 beginning in 2017 and to add spouses to eligible recipients. Charles Berg recommended the BOD consider increasing current recipients' stipends to \$1,500.

SOA Brightlight Committee Report. Chairman Meyer briefed the membership that he had six applicants, however four had to withdraw for health and one was not eligible. One SOA member received a full ride to the reunion.

SOA Warriors Family Committee Report. Chairman Werther briefed that he had three applicants. One for a full ride and two for registration fees only.

SOA Chaplain's Report. Chaplain Grabianowski reverently read the list of SOA members that passed or remains returned since the last SOAR followed by a moment of silence.

SOA Riders Committee Report. Chairman Carrell highlighted the SOAR Ride Across America ride and the excellent visit of the SOA Riders to the Ft Sill/Lawton VA to the Yellow Wing, which is named the Special Operators. A plaque was presented to the ward on behalf of the SOA. Lastly, Tom presented a check for \$687 to the Brightlight

Fund from the SOA Riders.

Bill Sylvester SOA Tally Committee Report. Chairman Keele briefed there were three open positions and three candidates. He received 53 votes during the election. He requested that all envelopes containing ballots have a return address to aid in validating.

By Laws Committee. Secretary Vines briefed the proposed By Laws change on behalf of Chairman Cunningham. The proposed By Laws changes were reflected in the SOAR XL PRP per the **SOA By Laws**. A motion to approve was made by Rick Grabianowski, seconded by Pete Laurence, and approved by the majority. Virgil McVicker voted against the change and requested the amendment be amended to be considered a loan from the Life Membership account rather than a grant.

Nomination Committee Report. Chairman Vines briefed that three positions will be up for election next year: President, Vice President, and Director Place #1.

Special Operations Association Foundation Report. Director Godshall briefed the membership on Fundraising, the SOAF, and the SOAF Gas Card Program.

MG Singlaub Award Report. Secretary Vines highlighted the awarding of the first MG Singlaub Award to CW2 Valdez, 7th Special Forces Group at the USASOC Red and Black Ball.

Swearing in newly elected SOA Officers/Directors President Estes

Treasurer: Pete Buscetto

Director: Chris McClure

Director: Rand Binford

Director: Mike Taylor

Recognition, 20 Year SOA Members: President Estes/MG Bargewell

Recognition, 25 Year SOA Members: President Estes/MG Bargewell

Recognition, 30 Year SOA Members: President Estes/MG Bargewell

Recognition, 35 Year SOA Members: President Estes/MG Bargewell

New Business:

For the Good of the Order President Estes

Montagnard Update (Tom Turney)

A member proposed that we add USAF Pararescuemen assigned to the Jolly Green Giants to the approved member list for SOA membership.

Eldon Bargewell announced an initiative to find new members through internet data mining. He asked SOA Members to provide names of friends who are not members. Leonard Tilley responded that he had the names of those that served in FOB 2. Cliff Newman pledged the assistance of the SFA once they recover from the recent floods.

Cliff Newman gave an update on the SFA National HQ in Fayetteville, NC. Rock Creek had risen 45' and most of the 20 acres was under 4 1/2'. The floods destroyed records and memorabilia. The anticipated cost for cleanup is \$30,000 and the HQ will be down for six months

Motion to Adjourn was made by Mel Hill, seconded by Virgil McVicker, and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 1550.

Respectfully Submitted by

Brian R. Vines

Secretary, Special Operations Association



A Friend Lost ***Ramon C. Calafell, Jr.***

On 1 April 2016, the Special Operations Association lost a true patriot. Ramon C. Calafell, Jr. (SOA 2878 – HL) was, by all accounts, a great Soldier, husband, father, and friend. Sadly, Ray has passed on.

Ray was one of the main reasons I joined the SOA. We had talked a few times, and he encouraged me to join the Association. Soon after joining though, Ray had a terrible stroke and I was diagnosed with terminal Parkinson's Disease.

We struck up a solid friendship in which we would talk by phone at least a couple of times a month, sometimes weekly. No subject was off limits. We would tell stories, discuss our conditions, families, outlook, heck - you name it, we probably talked about it. Ray was a great listener and always had great advice and a positive outlook; he made me smile. Our talks sometimes lasted for hours, and I always looked forward to them. Ray Calafell was a friend like no other. We became very close but yet never actually met. I only knew Ray through his voice – which I miss dearly. Here's to you my friend – God Speed.

I would like to reach out to all of our members and encourage each one to tell the story of their time in service. As you know, we are losing too many, too fast, and with each loss, their incredible story. Let's capture what we did for future generations. Please contact Mr. Dennis J. Cummings, Archivist, Special Operations Association, if you are interested.

Respectfully,
Marshal "Duke" Hall SFA
Decade Club #229 SOA 2847 - GL



Special Operations Association Advertising Rate Sheet



Back Outside Cover \$1700
Front and Back Inside Cover \$1500
Interior Full Page \$1400
Interior 1/2 Page \$400
Interior 1/4 Page \$275

Front Outside Cover is Not Available

ALL ADS ARE FULL COLOR

Camera Ready Artwork is furnished by advertiser.
Ads must be approved by publication manager in advance.
Ads must be consistent with current SOA guidelines.
Ads are based upon space availability.

For more information contact:

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.
598N 1620W
St. George, Utah 84770-6691
sincere@skyviewmail.com

SOA Tally Committee Report Of 2016 Vote Count

To: Rick Estes, President, SOA 10-10-2016
Board of Directors
From: Mike Keele, Tally Committee Chairman

Subject: **RESULTS OF THE BALLOT COUNT FOR THE 2015 ELECTION.**

This year, we had three director seats which needed to be filled. Only three aspirants chose to run, and therefore, the outcome was fairly predicable. The total number of ballots received this year amounted to less than a third of the tally for last year, when the number of positions open was greater-and widely contested.

There were no difficulties of any significance, but one anomaly which occurs each year might be remedied with an instruction added to the ballot form. A small percentage of the voters chose not to put a return address on their envelopes. Without knowing who sent in the ballot, we can't vet the voter's eligibility to vote until we open the envelope, which occurs at the time of the ballot count. This was not a significant problem because of the small turn out.

With an instruction in the ballot directing the voter to put his name and SOA membership number where the return address is affixed, the vetting process is less time consuming, and can be done prior to the counting of ballots.

A complaint voiced on notes included with a small number of ballots asked that return envelopes be provided.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Keele, Tally Committee chairman



Swearing in of New Officers and Directors



SOAR swearing in of new officers and directors.
Left to Right: Vice President Mike Taylor, Director Chris McClure, Director Rand Binford and Treasurer Pete Buscetto

SOA Nominating Committee and SOA Board Elections - (2017)

1. The SOA will elect a President, Vice President and one Director for three (3) year terms effective during the SOAR XLI General Membership Meeting.
2. SOA Members competing for an open position must also agree to serve as a Director on the Special Operations Association Foundation.
3. In order to “compete” for any Board position, a member must be either an Annual, or Life (General) member in “good standing”, and have attended at least one (1) of the last three (3) SOAR’s, including the day before the General Membership Meeting, the General Membership Meeting (GMM), and the Banquet prior to competing for office.
4. Interested candidates should submit a digital picture and a short bio (no more than 150 words) to any member of the Membership Committee NLT 30 April 2017. The Committee consists of Chairman Brian R. Vines, SOA # 3120-GL at brian.vines@aol.com; Clyde J. Sincere, Jr, SOA # 010-GL at sincere@skyviewmail.com; and Jay Massey, SOA # 442-GL at jaymassey@jaymasseyco.com.
5. The SOAR XLI Pre-Registration Packet (PRP) will contain the bio/photo data and the Official SOA Election Ballot (with spaces under each category position for any write-in candidates) to mail to the Chairman of the SOA Tally Committee, NLT 30 September 2017 for tabulation and presentation at the SOAR XLI General Membership Meeting.
6. Queries may be addressed to any member of the Nominating Committee.

SOA Financials

Profit and Loss, Jan 1- Dec 26, 2016

	TOTAL			
	AS OF DEC 31, 2016	AS OF DEC 31, 2015 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
SOA Non-Restricted Accounts				
OPERATIONS *4345	8,977.19	19,640.11	-10,662.92	-54.29 %
Quarter Master *9882	1,739.87	22,295.73	-20,555.86	-92.20 %
SOAR Registration-*9567	328.13	2,094.75	-1,766.62	-84.34 %
Web CC Donations *9575	1,425.85	871.43	554.42	63.62 %
WF Operating Savings *0541	90,429.81	90,375.42	54.39	0.06 %
Total SOA Non-Restricted Accounts	102,900.85	135,277.44	-32,376.59	-23.93 %
SOA Restricted Accounts				
Brightlight Restricted Acct. *4337	10,657.89	10,260.89	397.00	3.87 %
George C. Moron Scholarship Savings Restricted Acct. *0533	94,733.91	85,524.30	9,209.61	10.77 %
LifeMbrship Fund *2307	19,651.10	8,784.44	10,866.66	123.70 %
Non-Active *4329	102.00	5.00	97.00	1,940.00 %
SOA Warriors Family Fund-Restricted Acct. *4504	7,952.64	7,952.64	0.00	0.00 %
Video/Archives Restricted Acct.2032	19,482.78	6,532.78	12,950.00	198.23 %
Total SOA Restricted Accounts	152,580.32	119,060.05	33,520.27	28.15 %
Total Bank Accounts	\$255,481.17	\$254,337.49	\$1,143.68	0.45 %
Other Current Assets	\$575.36	\$0.00	\$575.36	0.00 %
Total Current Assets	\$256,056.53	\$254,337.49	\$1,719.04	0.68 %
TOTAL ASSETS	\$256,056.53	\$254,337.49	\$1,719.04	0.68 %
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Other Current Liabilities	\$35,035.00	\$46,000.00	\$ -10,965.00	-23.84 %
Total Current Liabilities	\$35,035.00	\$46,000.00	\$ -10,965.00	-23.84 %
Total Liabilities	\$35,035.00	\$46,000.00	\$ -10,965.00	-23.84 %
Equity				
Unallocated Funds (Ret. Earn)	208,337.49	186,869.57	21,467.92	11.49 %
Net Income	12,684.04	21,467.92	-8,783.88	-40.92 %
Total Equity	\$221,021.53	\$208,337.49	\$12,684.04	6.09 %
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$256,056.53	\$254,337.49	\$1,719.04	0.68 %

Note

Internal USE ONLY-PJB

This report has been condensed for AAR (Detail Balance sheet available on SOA Web Site)-PJB

SOA Financials

Profit and Loss, Jan 1- Dec 26, 2016

	TOTAL			
	JAN - DEC 2016	JAN - DEC 2015 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
INCOME				
Contributions Income	1,000		1,000	
Archives/Video History Project	200	6,468	(6,268)	(97.00 %)
Brightlight Donations	1,250	400	850	213.00 %
Donations	3,296	37,055	(33,758)	(91.00 %)
Jedburgh Award		1,550	(1,550)	(100.00 %)
POW/MIA Restricted	5,000		5,000	
Scholarship Donations	19,213	375	18,838	5,023.00 %
Scholarships	50	67	(17)	(25.00 %)
SOA Foundation	960	200	760	380.00 %
SOA Warrior Family Fund	320	200	120	60.00 %
Vietnam Special Event		200	(200)	(100.00 %)
Total Contributions Income	31,289	46,515	(15,226)	(33.00 %)
Fund Raising	31,566	39,465	(7,899)	(20.00 %)
Interest & Dividends	115	112	3	3.00 %
Membership Dues	24,510	27,408	(2,898)	(11.00 %)
Miscellaneous Income	110	29	82	282.00 %
PRP Income		1,300	(1,300)	(100.00 %)
Quarter Master Sales	29,753	30,889	(1,136)	(4.00 %)
Reunion Income	106,149	100,440	5,709	6.00 %
Royalty Income	5,231	6,835	(1,604)	(23.00 %)
Total Income	\$228,723	\$252,992	\$ (24,269)	(10.00 %)
GROSS PROFIT	\$228,723	\$252,992	\$ (24,269)	(10.00 %)
EXPENSES	\$216,039	\$231,524	\$ (15,485)	(7.00 %)
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$12,684	\$21,468	\$ (8,784)	(41.00 %)
OTHER INCOME				
In-kind Contributions	299		299	
Total Other Income	\$299	\$0	\$299	0%
OTHER EXPENSES				
In-kind Expenses	299		299	
Total Other Expenses	\$299	\$0	\$299	0%
NET OTHER INCOME	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
NET INCOME	\$12,684	\$21,468	\$ (8,784)	(41.00 %)

Note

Internal use ONLY unaudited

This report was condensed for AAR (Detailed P/L available on SOA Website)_PJB

Fundraising Report and Silent Auction Winners

SUBJECT: SOAR XL Fund Raising:

During the conduct of SOAR XL, the SOA raised \$4,031 from its charitable activities:

SOA Annual Raffle Winners:

XM177E2 Commemorative Carbine: John F. Mullins, SOA # 240 GL. (Ticket # 28794), Donated by TROY ARMS Industries. All revenue garnered was directed to support the SOA General Fund. **A total of \$12,065. was raised on the sale of raffle tickets.**

The General George S. Patton, Jr., Tribute Single Action Revolver: Dennis Coe of Appleton, Wisconsin, (Ticket # 19060), a friend of SOA Member Tom Skaug, SOA # 2137-GA. Donated by America Remembers', in concert with the SOA and Joe Conlon, SOA # 1833-GA. All revenue garnered was directed to support the SOA Personal Video History Project Fund. **A total of \$17,220. was raised on the sale of raffle tickets**

SOA "Silent Auction" "Hi-Bidder" Major Winners:

GLOCK, Inc., USA: Larry M. Page, SOA # 2916-GA., Donated by GLOCK, Inc., USA. SOA member Chester Howard, SOA # 1609-GL facilitated the securing of this "Silent Auction" Prize on behalf of the SOA. Thank you, Chester.

SOAR XL Commemorative Knife: Mike Keele, SOA # 2955-GA. Donated by John Etten, of Heritage Collectables.

Bow, Compound, Hunting: Leonard Tilley, SOA # 1495-GA. Donated by Richard W. "Dick" Dioguardi, SOA # 041-GL.

Knife, Kamikoto: Scott DeArman, SOA # 2978-GA. Donated by "Rick" Grabianowski, SOA # 1313-GL.

Knife, Tactical : Scott DeArman, SOA # 2978-GA. Donated by Jeffrey Stone, a friend of Bill Werther, SOA# 497-GL, and Larry Trimble, SOA # 163-GL.

Knife, DMO, Green: Lonny Holmes, SOA # 1415-GA. Donated by Jeffrey Stone, a friend of Bill Werther, SOA # 497-GL, and Larry Trimble, SOA # 163-GL.

Fundraising Report and Silent Auction Winners

SOAR XL Contributors: The following Corporations, Individuals, and Organizations donated “Silent Auction” items, Door Prizes, SOA Archival items, and/or Cash in support of the SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program, the SOA Operation “Brightlight” Program, the SOA Warrior’s Family Program, The SOA Personal Video History Project, and the Special Operations Association Foundation, (SOAF). Thank you, one and all. There were a few prizes that were not bid on, or, the bidder did not provide the “minimum bid” required. These prizes will again be made available during the conduct of the SOAR XLI “Silent Auction” process in October 2017.

The Orleans Hotel & Casino
 The SOA Riders (Tom Carrell)
 Heritage Collectables (John Etten)
 BEAM SUNTORY (A. J. “Tony” Bandiera)
 TROY ARMS Industry
 Keith McKim
 “Rich” D. Mallowney
 Jeffrey Stone (Larry Trimble/Bill Werther)
 Bruce Christensen
 AMERICA REMEMBERS (Paul Warden)
 H. “Jake” Jacobson
 Fred Lindsey
 Richard W. “Dick” Dioguardi
 Chapter XXI, SFA (Ken Kilmer)

The Special Operations Association
 Anheuser-Busch, Inc.
 GLOCK, Inc., USA (Chester Howard)
 Altogether American, LLC (Ken Peck)
 PEPSI COLA, Inc.
 Mark Kinsler
 Paul M. Duffy
 James A. Gaston
 “Rick” Grabianowski
 Joe Parnar
 Henderson “Ridge” Marriot
 Jason M. Hardy
 Battlefield Vegas (Dennis Cummings)
 John Good

SOAR XL Vendors:

Mark Kinsler
 John Etten (Heritage Collectables)
 Jason Hardy
 Keith McKim
 Virgil McVicker
 Steve Sherman
 57th AHC “Gladiators”
 OASIS
 TROY ARMS Industries (Juli Brayton)
 BEAM Suntory (A.J. “Tony” Bandiera)
 SOA Archives (Dennis Cummings)
 TEXAS HOLD ‘EM (“Cork” Motsett)

Bruce Christensen
 Joe Parnar
 Brian Paine (Earl Broussard)
 James Gaston
 NRA (Jeff Overcash)
 Fred Lindsey (CCS)
 SPADS (Don Engebretsen)
 STMP (George Clark)
 SOA Riders (Tom Carrell)
 “White Star” (Ray Ambrozak)
 SOA QM SALES (Bob Strange)

TAPS

<u>Member's Name</u>	<u>Member Number</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Christopher Kemp	102-GL	03-23-2014
Richard Rose	2796-GL	3-3-2015
Russell Dale Allen	3019-GA	10-26-2015
Robert Skeans	2453-GL	11-10-2015
Eugene Manner	1892-GL	11-13-2015
Bill Dadek	1830-GL	12-16-15
Robert Hall	3074-GA	01-16-16
Mike Bingo	3186-GA	01-17-16
Charles Gray	2494-GL	01-28-16
Tho Phung Nguyen	2999-OA	01-26-16
Stephanie Czech Rader	3241-HL	01-21-16
Edward Lesesne	614-GL	02-12-16
Lyle Rex Hill	1675-GL	02-12-16
Bill Pomeroy	2512-GL	02-15-16
Frederick Crane	1199-GA	02-20-16
John Agnew	161-GA	02-20-16
Harlan Sandell	1680-GA	02-25-16
Alan Boyer	Remains Returned	03-28-16
Ray Calafell	2878-HL	04-01-16
Jerome Ledzinski	3128-GA	04-09-2016
Fred Platt	825-GL	04-17-2016
Robert Whitis	2966-GA	5-12-2016
Charles Barksdale	122-GL	7-02-2016
Richard Crawford	2596-GA	7-03-2016
Allen Bodkin	996-GL	7-15-2016
Cecil Carle	1685-GA	7-17-2016
Thomas Henry	993-GA	7-28-2016
Kenneth Gardner	2381-GL	8-09-2016
Tyler Furbish	1607-GL	8-20-2016
James Taylor	1757-GL	9-12-2016
Robert (Bob) Burton	57-GL	09-22-2016
Lieu Quang Nghia	66-GA	11-24-2016
Thomas Marshall Carlin	606-GL	12-01-2016
John "Scotty" Crerar	681-GA	12-01-2016

2016 Registrar's Report

SOAR XL marked the 40th anniversary of the Special Operations Association. 765 members and guests celebrated this milestone in our history.

Member Attendance:

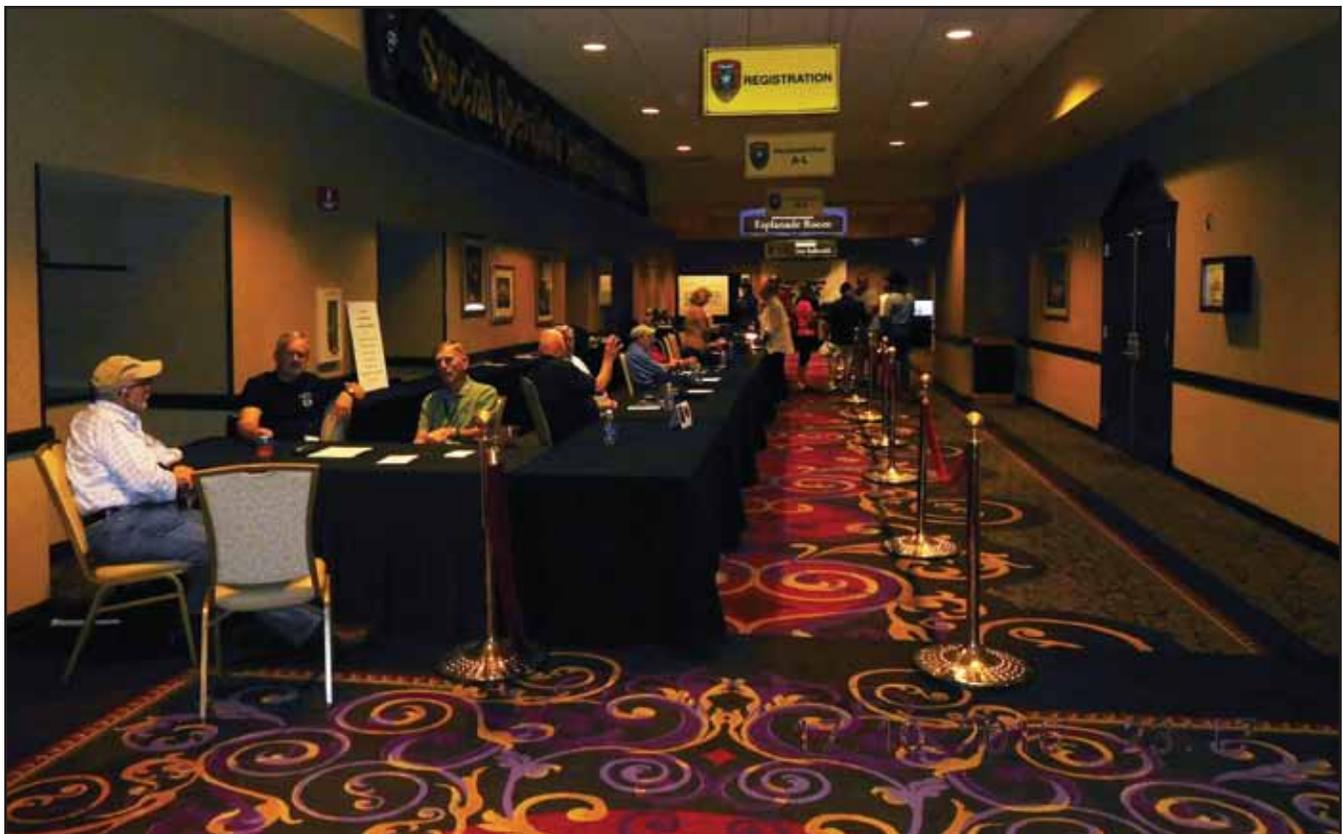
305	General
21	Associate
5	Operational Associate
4	Honorary
7	Warrior Widows

It has been an honor to serve the membership as the SOA Reunion Registrar over the past 5 years. I want to thank each of the 50+ volunteers who have shared their time and talent over the years to ensure a successful reunion. Without dedicated volunteers our annual reunions would not be possible. For those who have not taken the opportunity to volunteer in the past, please consider it in the future. You will find it a very rewarding experience.

I encourage everyone to attend SOAR in 2017, and encourage your buddies to attend also.

Have a great year.

Ray Frovarp SOA Registrar



Membership Committee Report

The SOA was saddened by the sudden death of Ray Calafell, the SOA Membership Chairman from 2010 – 2016. Ray’s commitment to uphold the SOA membership standards was unparalleled. He worked tirelessly to keep the member database updated and current, and to assist new applicants processing their membership packets. Ray had a wonderful sense of humor and was very eloquent in his communications with everyone. Ray will be missed.

As the new Membership Chair, I submit that I will continue to maintain the same standard that Ray set during my tenure. I would like to thank Ray Frovarp, Peter Buscetto and the SOA leadership for their support and patience while I was getting grounded. I am looking forward to the New Year and a great working relationship with the leadership and members.

If you have any changes to your contact information or wish to add an emergency contact or next-of-kin information, please fill out the change form and return it to me. No contact information will be shared with anyone without your prior consent. You can also just send me an email with any changes.

Annual member dues for 2017 were payable in January. If you have not paid your annual dues before 31 January, you are late. Late dues are \$35. The easiest and most secure way to pay your annual dues is on our website, under Membership. Or you can complete the information on the 2017 Dues Invoice form (next page) and return it to me with the appropriate check made payable to SOA. If you are not certain of your dues status, just contact the Membership Chair.

The 2016 SOA recruiting year, January through December 2016, ended with the addition of 36 new members:

25	General
5	Associate
2	Operational Associate
3	Honorary
1	Warrior’s Widow

Membership applications are now available and can be completed on the SOA website. A paper application is included in this publication. Copy it and encourage those you know to join.

Felix Peterson, Membership Chairman

Archive and Video History Project Update for the AAR 2016

This year is the 40th anniversary and SOAR XL was a great event. I was fortunate to have three volunteers working with me at the Archive table this year. Terry Cadenbach returned to help for a second year and was joined by Kenyon Smith and Greg Judge. The three of them handled a lot of traffic at the table and were able to schedule interviews in my absence. I want to thank all of them for the great job they did and hope they will return next year.



During SOAR the SOA Archive received a number of items. Jay Hammond brought in a vinyl DoD Escape and Evasion map issued to him in Vietnam. On display was a plaque donated by Marshall “Duke” Hall for his service at the One Zero School in Long Thanh. His leather plaque from his time at 10th Group in Germany drew a lot of attention, as well. The Archives also received copies of photos of RT Kansas, donated by Terrence W. “Fish” Smith. John C. Owen donated several photos and a copy of his Recondo School Graduation Certificate. The SOA Archive greatly appreciates all donations. We still need donations of photos, uniforms, equipment and anything else our members can come up with. While we have more than we did four years ago, it still only represents a small part of what SOG and their support units did during the war in Vietnam. We need those items to help keep your history alive. Please send all items for the SOA Archive directly to me at the address listed below.

This year the SOA Video History Project conducted 15 interviews as well as covering the Dick Crawford Breakfast and the SOA Banquet. We also interviewed Hiep C. Nguyen, the former interpreter for ST/RT Idaho. For the first time we were able to record what it was like to be an indigenous member of a Recon Team running cross boarder missions into denied areas. I want to thank everyone who participated in the SOA Video History Project this year. We are fast approaching the 100 interview mark with over 95 interviews conducted to date. To everyone who has not been interviewed, please consider doing one at the next SOAR. It is so important to capture your history and that of SOG in an interview. Once a person passes, their history is lost to us forever. This work would not be possible without funding. Please make a tax deductible donation to the SOA Video History Project. Anything you can give will help. Reaching out to members who are in poor health and not able to travel is part of what we are tasked to do. Trips to record their history are costly and donations help cover those high costs. All donations to the Video History Project must be clearly marked for the Video History Project. Please send your contribution to either myself or the SOA Treasurer. Our information is listed below. I look forward to seeing everyone next year at SOAR.

Dennis J. Cummings,
Archivist and Chairman of the Video History Project
Special Operations Association
3649 Taylor Ave, Bridgeton, MO 63044
Djc106@aol.com
314-298-0936 Home
314-303-9156 Cell

Pete “BUS” Buscetto,
Treasurer
Special Operations Association
934 Ashton Oaks Circle
Lakeland, Florida 33813



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION
Early Warning Order
SOAR XLI

WHAT: SOAR XLI

WHEN: 16 - 20 October 2017

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 Card, or Debit Card, first nights deposit will be charged immediately.

DEADLINE: The “Deadline” for negotiated reduced SOAR Accommodation Rate is: 15 September 2017.

RATES:

- a. Sunday through Thursday: \$40. + Tax + Resort Fee, (Per Day).
- b. Friday and Saturday: \$89. + Tax + Resort Fee, (Per Day).

Note # 2: When making your Reservations, Inform Reservations that you are with the Special Operations Association and provide them the Group Code:

A7SOC10

That is: “Alpha-Seven-Oscar-Charlie-One-Zero

See You At SOAR XLI

SOAF Update Gas Card Program

SOA Foundation (SOAF) Gas Card Program

During the SOA Reunion in Las Vegas, Guest Speaker CSM Shane Shorter praised the SOAF for its Gas Card Program and its efforts to aid SOF Warriors and their families. The SOAF Gas Card Program provides \$1,000 in Gas Debit Cards to Special Operations units to assist wounded and injured SOF with “out of pocket” transportation expenses to receive medical treatment at civilian hospitals. In 2016, the SOAF assisted the 1st and 5th Special Forces Groups.

Also during the SOA Reunion, the SOAF donated \$1,000 to the OASIS Group (501c3) for their assistance to SOA Members in filling out VA claims.

Our goal is to help the Soldiers and families of all Special Operations units but we need your help in raising additional funds. Please consider donating to the SOAF at <https://soafoundation.net/donate/>.



Brightlight Committee

Final Report for SOAR XL 2016

To: SOA Board of Directors

Fr: SOA Operation Brightlight Committee Chairman: John S. Meyer

Committee members: Tim Schaff, Rick Grabianowski, Pete Buscetto

Re: Annual Report on SOA Recipients of Brightlight Assistance for SOAR XL, 2016

Date: November 3, 2016

For SOAR XL the SOA Brightlight Committee approved one full ride to the reunion for one SOA member who was in good standing.

Since SOAR XXXIX, the committee had six potential BL candidate names submitted for consideration of assistance to attend SOAR XL. However, four withdrew the applications that had been submitted in their names due to personal health issues. One BL candidate failed to meet the criterion established in the SOA By-Laws necessary to receive assistance and was regrettably rejected by me personally, before submitting that applicant's name to the full committee for consideration.

The one member attended SOAR XL thanks to the generosity of SOA members in general, the SOA Riders and SOA Member Joe Conlon, in particular, who have made numerous, generous donations since the SOA BOD established the Brightlight Committee in 2005

We thank Clyde Sincere for overseeing the BL fund-raising campaign and SOA Treasurer Pete Buscetto for working closely with the 2016 recipient to work out all the travel and reimbursement details, including paying the final hotel bill in a timely fashion while maintaining anonymity.

Per the SOA BOD's approved policy, BL recipients names are not publicly acknowledged. Upon request, the BL chairman will share this recipient's name with the SOA president.

Here is the cost breakdown of BL expenses compiled by Pete for the BL Recipient for SOAR XL:

Air fare	\$332.00
Stipend [\$300 per man];	\$300.00
SOA Registration fee – [\$160 per man];	\$160.00
Hotel Costs for SOAR	\$154.00
Grand Total	\$946.00

As of this date, the SOA Brightlight fund has \$9,000+ remaining after this total was paid.

I'd like to thank BL Committee members Rick Grabianowski, Tim Schaaf and Pete Buscetto for another year of service to our committee.

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Meyer, Operation Brightlight Committee Chairman



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Warrior's Family Fund Report

For SOAR 37, we had six people apply for assistance from our SOA Warrior's Family Fund, we approved four as follows:

We honored each request with various support. Not all applicants needed a full assistance package.

1. Richard Fitts MIA November '68: Son, Richard Fitts, Jr. received a full ride
2. Allen Lloyd MIA February '71: Sister, Mary Lloyd received registration only
3. Fianceé, Sherry Rubin received registration only
4. Judi Brouchard received registration only, she was a speaker and guest.

All recipients had a great time and talked with numerous friends of the deceased.

*Respectfully submitted,
Bill Werther, Chairman*





SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Scholarship Grant Program

(Regular Applicant Category)

FACTS: Special Operations Association Scholarship Grants are awarded by the SOA and must be used at an accredited, Junior College, Community College, Four-year College or University for studies that will lead to a Bachelor's Degree. Each Grant is for \$1,500 per semester not to exceed \$3,000 per year (Maximum of four (4) years and paid at the rate of \$1,500 per Fall and Spring Semesters). For institutions which are on the Quarter system, an adjustment is made such that the award does not exceed \$3,000 per year. From time to time donors will designate additional funds for other scholarship awards to our pool of applicants, and these may also be administered or referred to the donor by the SOA.

BASIC GRANT CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY: An applicant must be a high school graduate or a high school student anticipating graduation during the year of application, under the age of 21 years at the time of application and is a child or grandchild, natural or legally adopted, of an individual who served in a Special Operations unit and is a member in good standing of the SOA. Such SOA member must remain a member in good standing for the duration of the scholarship awarded. A child or a grandchild of an individual who was KIA or MIA while serving in a Special Operations unit is also eligible to apply. A student who is already attending an institution of higher learning may apply, provided that they were under 21 years of age at the time that they began their studies at the institution, and have been enrolled full-time and in good standing since beginning their studies, and have not yet received a Bachelor's Degree. Eligibility is reduced by one year for each year (24 credit hours) already attended (earned) at an institution of higher learning.

APPLICATIONS: Application packages are available from 15 September of the previous year to 15 March of the year that the scholarships will be awarded. The postmark deadline for the submission of all formal applications is 15 April of the year the scholarships will be awarded.

AWARDS: On approximately 15 June of that year, selectees/recipients of a Special Operations Association Scholarship Grant will be appropriately notified by mail.

INFORMATIONAL: As of June 2016, 159 young men and women have been awarded scholarships since the program began in 1983.

Special Operations Association Scholarship Committee

**c/o Christopher E. McClure, Chairman
715 North Bloodworth Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-1229
cmclure@tech-architect.com**

Revised: 2 January 2017

"You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a flavor the protected will never know."

George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program

SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Scholarship Grant Program

(Spouse and Widow Applicant Category)

FACTS: Special Operations Association Spouse and Window Scholarship Grants are awarded by the SOA and must be used at an accredited, Junior College, Community College, Technical School, Four-year College or University for studies that will lead to an Associate or Bachelor's Degree, or in the case of a technical school program, a course of study completion certificate. Each Grant is for \$1,500 per semester not to exceed \$3,000 per year (Maximum of four (4) years and paid at the rate of \$1,500 per Fall and Spring Semesters). For institutions which are on the Quarter system, an adjustment is made such that the award does not exceed \$3,000 per year.

BASIC GRANT CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY: An applicant must be a high school graduate, and is the wife of an individual who is serving in a Special Operations unit and is a member in good standing of the SOA. Such SOA member must remain a member in good standing for the duration of the scholarship awarded. A widow of an individual who was KIA or MIA while serving in a Special Operations unit is also eligible to apply. A wife or widow who is already attending an institution of higher learning may apply, and have been enrolled full-time and in good standing since beginning their studies, and have not yet received a Bachelor's Degree. Eligibility is reduced by one year for each year (24 credit hours) already attended (earned) at an institution of higher learning.

APPLICATIONS: Application packages are available from 15 September of the previous year to 15 March of the year that the scholarships will be awarded. The postmark deadline for the submission of all formal applications is 15 April of the year the scholarships will be awarded.

AWARDS: On approximately 15 June of that year, selectees/recipients of a Special Operations Association Scholarship Grant will be appropriately notified by mail.

INFORMATIONAL: The Spouse and Widow category is new, and was authorized by the Special Operations Association Board of Directors for the academic year starting in the Fall of 2017.

**Special Operations Association
Scholarship Committee**

**c/o Christopher E. McClure, Chairman
715 North Bloodworth Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-1229
cmclure@tech-architect.com**

Revised: 2 January 2017

OASIS Post Event Report

We wish to convey our appreciation for the opportunity to attend SOAR XL. OASIS Group deployed assets that allowed us to fully staff the table you provided with two of our claims experts from October 18th to the 20th. During that time period, OASIS representatives were able to:

Provide advice or assistance to 26 SOA members.

Are remaining in contact with 3 SOA members to complete initial or re-opened claims.

Advised several members already working with other Veteran Service Organizations additional issues that needed to be added to their claims prior to submission.

Total cost incurred by OASIS Group was \$2554.81 SOAF donation \$1,000.

Notables: 1) SOA contacted OASIS prior to the publication of the PRP requesting OASIS prepare a full page (Tear Out) insert outlining services provided, documentary requirements, contact point, etc. This was provided and seemed effective as a means to get information to SOA members (see attachment). 2) SOA requested that OASIS Group provide a seminar for next year's reunion. 3) We appreciate the support provided by SOA in facilitating our Board meeting. This is very important to continuity and direction of OASIS Group operations.



The OASIS Group

Our goal at The OASIS Group is to ensure that all active duty/Veteran Special Operations personnel have access to accredited professional analysis of their claims in pursuit of Veterans Administration benefits.

The OASIS Group assists the Special Operations Warrior through its comprehensive understanding of the Veterans Administration processes and systems to ensure fair and thorough evaluation.

OASIS Group will provide its unique services to SOA members at SOAR XL from October 17th to the 21st.

To assist OASIS Group to help you we request you bring copies of all pertinent VA decisions and medical evidence in connection with your VA claim. We will be able to develop viable courses of action based on this information.

To schedule an appointment send an e-mail to OASIS Group at: customersvc@oasisgrp.org.



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.

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 Brian Vines, Secretary, SOA, located at 847 Coleman Drive The Villages, FL 32163, 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 Brian Vines, Secretary, SOA, located at 847 Coleman Drive The Villages, FL 32163, 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 Brightlight Program Fund.
 - 3. The SOA Personal Video History Project Fund.
 - 4. The SOA Warrior’s Family Fund.
 - 5. The SOA General 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 Brian Vines, Secretary, SOA, located at 2670 Lookout Lane, Kissimmee, Fl 34746-2883, 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 Brian Vines, Secretary, SOA, located at 2670 Lookout Lane, Kissimmee, Fl 34746-2883 for the specific purpose (one of the following specific projects):
1. The SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program Fund.
 2. The SOA Brightlight Program Fund.
 3. The SOA Personal Video History Project Fund.
 4. The SOA Warrior's Family Fund.
 5. The SOA General 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. 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 net income 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.

Note - 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.



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 on-going 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
Treasurer Pete Buscetto at CCSRECON@gmail.com



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Planned Monthly Giving Program

Registration Form

Special Operations Association Charities and Operations depends on the generosity of our members, their families, friends and the Public to help those in need and who are most deserving of our assistance. The Planned Monthly Giving Program is an opportunity to schedule your donations in monthly increments that best fit your personal situation and doesn't create a financial strain on your own budget. To participate just fill in this form and return it in the envelope provided, fax or e-mail it to the Treasurer (Fax (863)646-9872; or e-mail ccsrecon@gmail.com) or drop it off at the Registration Desk during SOAR XL.

- Monthly Contributions to be made by:
 Payment by Check (Personal or Corporate): Checks Mailed to SOA Treasurer: 934 Ashton Oaks Circle Lakeland, FL 33813
If by Automatic Withdrawal or Credit Card please fill in completely
 Payment by Credit Card: Visa Master Card American Express Discover Card



Monthly donations by credit card can be made on the SOA WEB-SITE:
www: specialoperations.org.

- Date Credit Card to be charged/Automatic Withdrawals made each month*: Please check only one box
- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1st of Billing Month | <input type="checkbox"/> 10th of Billing Month | <input type="checkbox"/> 15th of Billing Month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20th of Billing Month | <input type="checkbox"/> 25th of Billing Month | <input type="checkbox"/> 30th of Billing Month |

*The bank will charge your credit card or make the automatic withdrawal from your checking/savings
Please use the SOA website for recurring payments. Contact the SOA Treasurer if you need help setting up recurring payments at soatreasurer@specialoperations.org.

Payment by Automatic Withdrawals: You can set up automatic payments to the SOA please contact the Treasurer by email with contact information so he may call you

- IMO (In Memory Of) Assignment:
Please check the appropriate box to identify which fund your donation is to be assigned and in whose name you wish to memorialize. Please include the entire name of the person you want remembered: (Please Print Neatly)
- George C. Morton Scholarship Fund IMO: _____
 Brightlight Fund IMO: _____
 SOA Warrior Family Fund IMO: _____
 Video History Fund IMO: _____
 General Fund IMO: _____
 Special Operations Association Foundation: _____

Monthly Charge/Withdrawal Authorization:
By signing below, you are authorizing the Special Operations Association to charge your credit card or make automatic withdraws from your checking/savings account in the amount specified on the designated day, below. Withdrawal/charges will continue monthly until written notice to stop or suspend charges/withdrawals is submitted to the Treasurer.

My authorization to charge my credit card shall remain in effect until I notify the SOA Treasurer in writing that I wish to end this agreement and the SOA has had reasonable time to act on it.

A record of each payment will be included on my card statement and will serve as my receipt. In the event of an error, I have the right to instruct my credit card corporation to reverse any charge. I understand I must do this by written notice within 15 days of the date of the credit card statement, or within 45 days after the charge was made.

Authorizing Signature: _____



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

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

- 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:

**Membership Chairman
Felix Peterson
112 NE Dunlop St Lawton, OK 73507-1441
580-248-0837
Cell 580-504-2703
membershipsoa@gmail.com**

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.**

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.

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, STOAT, 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, STOAT, 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.

NOTE: SGM Cavaiani passed away 29 July 2014.

PRINT IMAGES

Upper Left: Lt George Sisler, FOB 2, Hatchet Force, was Killed in Action (KIA) in Feb 1967 during a bomb damage assessment (BOA). 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 Due, 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

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: _____

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: _____

Form available on SOA website: www.specialoperations.org



HONORING THOSE WHO ANSWERED THE CALL OF DUTY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SFA AND SOA

XM177E2

The XM177E2, in partnership with SOA & SFA, is the second in the TROY My Service Rifle series following the GAU-5/A/A.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION ON THEIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION! "SOAR XL"

\$1199
MyServiceRifle.com

TROY honors the 50th Anniversary of the XM177E2 by taking responsibility to meticulously recreate it to exacting 1967 U.S. military specifications ensuring the historical accuracy and functional reliability of this venerable carbine.

5.56x45mm (223 Rem) NATO // Carbine Handguard with Single Heat Shield
A1 Front Sight, A1 Drum Rear // Original US Govt. Issue Pistol Grip
4.5" Moderator with "Grenade Ring" // Teardrop Forward Assist
2-Position Aluminum Buttstock // (1) 20 and (1) 30 Round Metal Magazine
Period-Correct Sling with Paracord Rigger // DOD Acceptance Stamp

THE GREEN BERET SFA 2016 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.
JUNE 15 - LIVE FIRE AT THE WEAPONS FIRING EVENT.
JUNE 16 - ON DISPLAY AT TROY IN THE EXHIBIT HALL
ENTER TO WIN YOUR OWN XM177E2



866.788.6412

Order Yours Now. Visit MyServiceRifle.com



TROY

COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

The Troy XM177E2 is a non-NFA semi automatic only with the flash hider permanently installed. Compliant models available.

John Stryker "Trit" Meyer, with Lynne M. Black, Jr., MACV-SOG Vietnam.

CUSTOM ENGRAVING AVAILABLE



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Contact Information Form

If your contact information has changed, or if you would like to add emergency or next of kin information to your member record, complete this form and return it to the Membership Chairman. This is important to ensure that you receive SOA information in a timely manner. All information is confidential and will not be shared without the member's prior consent.

MEMBER PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

SOA# _____ Date of change _____

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + 4 _____

Home phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

EMERGENCY AND/OR NEXT OF KIN

Relationship to Member (wife, Son, Daughter, Brother, etc.) _____

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + 4 _____

Home phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Complete and return to:

Membership Chairman
Felix Peterson
112 NE Dunlop St
Lawton, OK 73507-1441
580-248-0837
Cell 580-504-2703



SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Annual Dues Information Form

Annual dues of \$30 are payable each year in January and are late after 31 January. Dues paid after 31 January are \$35.

To stay on the mail list to receive your PRP's and AAR's your dues must be current. The easiest and most secure way to pay your dues is on our website under the membership tab.

You can also pay by U.S. First Class mail.

Online: www.specialoperations.org. The Membership link is on the top right of the SOA webpage. Click to open and click on the green Dues tab on the right and follow the prompts to pay your dues.

By US Mail – Complete your payment information on the form below (make checks payable to SOA) and mail to the Membership Chairman.

Before applying for a Life Membership, you must contact the Membership Chair to verify your status.

For annual members, dues must be current to change status to Life.

Life dues are \$505 for members under the age of 70;
\$305 for members over the age of 70, with proof of age.

If your dues are more than 12 months in arrears, you may be charged reinstatement fees as well as late fees. If you are not sure of your dues status, contact the Membership Chair to determine the amount necessary to bring your membership current.

----- Cut along the dotted line and return bottom portion -----

NAME _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

SOA# _____ Email Address _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____

Check this box if your contact information has changed

Mail to: Membership Chairman
Felix Peterson
112 NE Dunlop St
Lawton, OK 73507-1441
580-248-0837
Cell 580-504-2703





SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

Quartermaster Sales

Internet Sales - www.specialoperations.org

Quartermaster: Bob Strange (989-202-2732)

EMAIL: bobstrange@QMSales.org

All 2X add \$2.00

Item	Price	#	Total
Ring, SOA 10ct gold w/ design options	\$1650.00	___	_____
Ring, SOA Sterling Silver, w/design options	\$500.00	___	_____
<i>Rings are Special Order through Quartermaster</i>			
MACVSOG Commemorative MOH print (includes shipping and insurance)	\$165.00	___	_____
Book, "When Terror Comes To Main Street" by Joe Ruffini	\$20.00	___	_____
Tie, Official SOA 58 " 64"	\$25.00	___	_____
Vest, Fleece, Nylon Reversible, Black W/SOA logo S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2X _	\$55.00	___	_____
Jacket, Polyester shell, mesh upper back, and nylon lower back, front and back vents W/SOA log Embroidered S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2X _	\$60.00	___	_____
Denim Shirt, Long sleeve, W/ SOA logo Embroidered S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2X _	\$36.00	___	_____
Denim Shirt, Short sleeve, W/SOA logo Embroidered S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2X _	\$33.00	___	_____
Polo Shirt, Dry fit W/SOA logo Embroidered, white ___ black ___ green ___ S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2X _	\$35.00	___	_____
Sweatshirt, black W/SOA logo Embroidered S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2X _	\$25.00	___	_____
T-shirt, Black W/ SOA Red Shield logo on back S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2X _	\$14.00	___	_____
T-shirt, Black W/SOA Red Shield left chest S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2X _	\$14.00	___	_____
T-shirt, Black W/SOA Red Shield left chest W/pocket S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2X _	\$16.00	___	_____
Baseball Hat suede W/SOA logo Embroidered Black ___ Khaki ___ Camo ___	\$16.00	___	_____
Field Hat W/SOA Embroidered Black ___ Khaki ___	\$16.00	___	_____
PUC Certificate Set	\$12.00	___	_____
Belt Buckle Brass New addition raised skull	\$35.00	___	_____

Item	Price	#	Total
Coin SOA 2008 edition bronze and enamel	\$12.00	___	_____
Coin MACVSOG PUC Commemorative edition	\$12.00	___	_____
Coin 50th Anniversary MACVSOG 1964 -2014	\$12.00	___	_____
Patch Blazer- Bullion, SOA Crest	\$25.00	___	_____
Patch, Prairie Fire gold embroidered on black background	\$5.00	___	_____
Patch square SOA logo embroidered on black background	\$5.00	___	_____
Patch SOA Red Shield logo embroidered 4" tall	\$10.00	___	_____
Life Member Pin SOA round Gold _____ Pewter _____	\$5.00	___	_____
Hat Pin SOA Red Shield 1 ½ inches	\$6.00	___	_____
Tie, Lapel Pin, SOA Red Shield	\$5.00	___	_____
Decal SOA Red Shield logo, outside 2 ¼ X 3 ¼ inches	\$4.00	___	_____
Decal SOA Red Shield logo, outside 3 x 4 ½ inches	\$5.00	___	_____

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WHAT WE DO

Special Operations Association Foundation Mission: to help Active Duty, separated, retired, and deceased Special Operations Warriors and their families by providing free educational, well-being, suicide prevention, and survivor assistance.

EDUCATION



The Special Operations Association Foundation provides educational grants to vetted Active Duty, separated, and retired SOF and their families through the George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program.

WELL-BEING



The Special Operations Association Foundation seeks to improve the well-being of Active Duty, separated, and retired SOF and their families by partnering with government and non-profit organizations to promote healthy and active lifestyles.

SUICIDE PREVENTION



The Special Operations Association Foundation seeks to reduce SOF veteran suicides by partnering with government and non-profit organizations to raise veteran suicide awareness, combatting depression, and providing resources to SOF veterans.

SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE



The Special Operations Association Foundation seeks to partner with government and non-profit organizations to provide surviving SOF family members with assistance understanding Veteran's benefits, filing VA paperwork, and access to non-VA Survivor Assistance resources.

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The Special Operations Association Vietnam Tribute Pistol

A Handsomely Decorated Browning Hi-Power Pistol

The left side features a banner reading "Special Operations Association," the SOA logo, a recon team with several members disguised as NVA (Note pith helmets), a special forces member with his suppressed M3 submachine gun, and a Montagnard returning from a mission. The Montagnard soldiers were trusted partners who played a pivotal role in numerous recon missions.



Elegant grips are laser-carved with the Special Operations Association logo.

A Limited Edition of 250

Only 250 of the SOA Vietnam Tribute Pistols will ever be produced. Reservations will be accepted in the order they are received. We will arrange delivery of your Tribute through a licensed dealer of your choice. If for any reason you are less than satisfied, you may return your Tribute in unfired condition within 30 days for a full refund.

This Tribute honoring those who served in Southeast Asia is a truly inspiring tribute to America's Special Operations warriors, those who fought, those who fell, and those still listed as missing in action. It is certain to be a treasured heirloom for those who served in Southeast Asia, and for all those Americans who want to remember the brave warriors who proudly served our country.

During the Vietnam War there was a special breed of warrior, whose assignments were among the most dangerous. Their efforts served all the fighting men in Vietnam. They performed strategic reconnaissance. It meant high-risk duty running recon deep in enemy territory, collecting intelligence, extracting downed pilots, raiding suspected POW camps, spiking enemy supply caches and striking at the enemy from within.

We know them as U.S. Army Special Forces, SEALs, Air Commandos, Force Recon, and SAS. Beyond these honored titles, and a handful of others, participants in Special Operations defy easy description. Today America Remembers is proud to honor all of these heroic warriors who served in Southeast Asia with the Special Operations Association Vietnam Tribute Pistol – a handsome Tribute issued on a legendary military sidearm, the Browning Hi-Power pistol.

From launch sites inside Vietnam, such as Kham Duc, Phu Bai, and others, members of the Studies and Observations Group (SOG) served covertly behind enemy lines, often in very dangerous situations and in difficult terrain. The young American warriors left behind the comforts of home for an uncertain fate on a far-off treacherous battlefield, putting their lives on the line in support of freedom and liberty, and serving with valor and distinction.

A Trusted Military Sidearm – A Fitting Tribute

In Vietnam, the Browning 9mm Hi-Power was a favorite combat sidearm for SOG warriors who operated secretly behind enemy lines. It featured a large magazine capacity, and was rugged, reliable and effective. In fact, the Browning Hi-Power was so respected, this classic military firearm was used for special presentations to recognize outstanding accomplishments. Designated the "Reconnaissance Team Leader Special Recognition Award," and called the "Silver Pistol," this unique presentation was awarded to a very limited number of individuals during the Vietnam War.

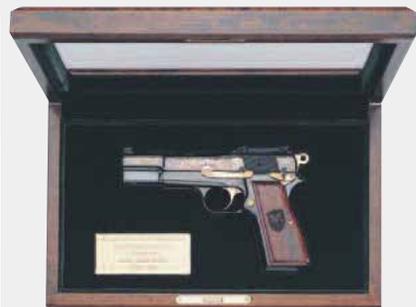
The Special Operations Association Vietnam Tribute from America Remembers features dramatic and powerful artwork honoring those who served in Southeast Asia.

The Tribute is authorized by the Special Operations Association, a fraternal organization of American and foreign participants of special military operations in a combat theater, primarily in Southeast Asia. For this Tribute, each working pistol is decorated with 24-karat gold and nickel artwork by craftsmen specifically commissioned by America Remembers, and it is available nowhere else.



The right side features banners inscribed Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, a SOG member outfitted with detonation equipment for a quick demolition ambush, carrying his CAR-15, and a cross-border operations team returning from a successful mission. Both sides of the slide feature three lightning bolts representing the three methods of infiltration – land, sea, and air.

Top of slide features the SOA logo, a banner reading "Special Operations Association Tribute," and a Huey picking up a recon team from behind enemy lines.



Free Display Case is included with each order for this Tribute. To proudly exhibit and display your Tribute, each pistol will be shipped with a handsome, luxuriously lined display case, with an engraved brass identification plaque. © AHL, Inc.

Model: Browning Hi-Power • Caliber: 9mm Luger • Edition Limit: 250

I wish to reserve ___ of the "Special Operations Association Vietnam Tribute Pistol" at the current issue price of \$2,295.* My deposit of \$195 per pistol is enclosed. I wish to pay the balance at the rate of \$100 per month, no interest or carrying charges. Certificate of Authenticity included. Thirty-day return privilege.

*All orders are subject to acceptance and credit verification prior to shipment. Shipping and handling will be added to each order. Virginia residents please add sales tax.

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