



# SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION

## PRE REUNION PACKET



**SOAR XLV**  
**OCTOBER 18-22, 2021**  
**THE ORLEANS HOTEL & CASINO**  
**LAS VEGAS, NEVADA**

You can also donate a portion of your Amazon purchases to the SOAF through the Amazon Smile Program at <https://smile.amazon.com>



# EDUCATION

Educational grants to vetted Active Duty, separated, and retired SOF and their families

The Special Operations Association Foundation provides educational grants to vetted active duty, separated, and retired SOF and their families through the Special Operations Association's (SOA) George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Program. As of September 2020, 173 young men and women have been awarded scholarships since the grant program began in 1983. The George C. Morton Scholarship grant is awarded by the SOA and must be used at an accredited four year College or University, Junior College, Community College, or Technical School which will lead to an Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, or a technical vocation program certificate.



**ELIGIBILITY:** A high school graduate, or a high school student anticipating graduation during the year of application, unmarried, and under the age of 21 years at the time of application. Must be a son, daughter, or grandchild, natural or adopted, of an individual who served in a Special Operations unit, and is a SOA member in "good standing". Applications are also accepted from wives and widows of Special Operators who are members of the Special Operations Association or were KIA or MIA while serving with a Special Operations unit in combat.

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

the Grant will be awarded. Inquiries should be addressed to the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, Dr. Steve Yevich at [SOAscholarships@outlook.com](mailto:SOAscholarships@outlook.com).

More information on the Special Operations Association can be found at <http://www.specialoperations.org>



# Special Operations Association Fact Sheet

The Special Operations Association, 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. Membership is limited to Free World forces who supported, or personally participated in missions deep inside hostile territory in a combat capacity. 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 the global war on terrorism.

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

The specific and primary purposes of the SOA are:

- 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;
- 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 \$656,000 has been awarded, or committed thus far to more than 169 deserving young scholars.

The Special Operations Association is recognized by the Department of Defense and by the IRS as a non-profit veteran's organization, 501(c)(19), operating on tax deductible donations, (EIN # 74-2619854). Annual membership dues are \$30 USD. Lifetime membership fee is \$505 USD under 70 years of age, and \$305 USD for 70 years and over. 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 conducted its 44th annual reunion (SOAR XLIV) via virtual ZOOM Webinar and Meeting. The SOA is looking forward to resuming the in-person reunion. SOAR XLV is schedule for October 18-22, 2021 at the Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas.

## Message from the President



SOAR XLV is coming October 18! We are live at The Orleans. For those of us who cannot read Latin, this is the 45th Reunion of the Special Operations Association. We have met several times with The Orleans staff. They are as excited as we are to be back in Las Vegas.

Many highlights for you and yours to enjoy. The Hospitality Room will be open at 0900 sharp Monday through Thursday and will stay open until 0100 through Wednesday. The room will close at noon Thursday to allow for set up for the Banquet that evening.

Doc Padgett, Board Member and Executive Director of the Foundation, will present a talk on Special Operator's Medical Threats on Thursday at 1000.

Our Author's event continues to grow. We have as many as 16 authors on Tuesday at 1230.

Without clear guidance from the State of Nevada and the City of Las Vegas regarding indoor/outdoor COVID-19 restrictions, John Russell was stymied during the early months critical to planning of this year's entertainment. He is currently working diligently to arrange an event worthy of our SOA members.

The highlight of this SOAR is The Memorial Breakfast — SOA's Unreturned Heroes - which will convene at 0800 hours Wednesday. We honor 86 Special Operators and 46 Airmen lost behind enemy lines due to hostile fire. Vice President and Chair, Joint SOA/SFA POW-MIA Committee Mike Taylor, and Bonnie Cooper have been working for a longtime to get this event right. We will be streaming this from the hotel to those unable to attend.

Sign up early! It will sell out.

Our Wednesday is packed. After a complementary lunch, we will proceed to General Membership Meeting at 1330, followed by Door Prizes and a Tanqueray Tasting hosted by Bill Werther at 1630.

A new Committee has been stood up, led by Vicki Chan and John Russell. Vicki will host the first meeting of the Women's Auxiliary Committee at 1300 on Wednesday. Please inform your spouses!

Last on Wednesday, Doc Padgett is busy again at night hosting a Fundraiser for the Foundation in the Bowling Alley. Bowling for dollars and a 50 buck food credit from the Orleans for the door prize!

Thursday begins with the CCS Breakfast. This event sells out quickly. Please sign up. The Silent Auction closes at 1000. The sought after Kingbee Symposium starts at 1100. We take the afternoon off to give our livers a break, and meet for cocktails at 1530 and the Banquet at 1730.

## **Message from the President *(Cont'd)***

Our speaker is Colonel Sean Berg, a distinguished active-duty Special Forces and Special Operator Combat Veteran.

And a completely new event! Last year, worldwide veteran video game producer, Rob Graham, appeared visually at SOAR to report on the SOG he was developing with the help of several SOA folks. The game is now setting sale records: Arma 3 S.O.G. Prairie Fire! The SOA has executed a Memorandum of Understanding with Rob to potentially share in the profits. One Zeroes and Wannabe One Zeroes, Rob and his crew will be there to show you how to play the game!

Last, an extra treat, on Friday October 22, 2021, the Special Forces Association Reunion convenes at The Orleans. I will attend, beginning with a Joint Brunch on Friday October 22 at 1000.

What a week plus! See you in Wide Open Las Vegas!

Doug Godshall

# Seeking Brightlight Candidates

June 2021

Fellow SOA Members,

Do you know any SOA members who will not be able to attend SOAR XLV this year due to personal financial problems? If you know an SOA member faced with that dilemma, please call or e-mail Operation Brightlight committee members who are listed below.

Operation Brightlight was founded in 2005 to help SOA members attend SOAR and is funded through member contributions. The levels of assistance can range from helping to pay for a hotel room, SOAR registration, airfare or travel costs, a stipend for taxi and general costs, or all of the above combined, depending on the SOA member's individual situation at the time of the review by the Operation Brightlight Committee members.

Operation Brightlight committee members screen any applicant's request for assistance before any final decisions are made regarding that individual candidate. The names of all Brightlight candidates remain confidential and are not shared with the general membership, only committee members and key personnel on the SOA Board of Directors or SOA Special Staff.

Since 2005, 43 SOA members and three family members have been assisted at some level of monetary consideration by this program thanks again to the generosity of the SOA membership in general, and the SOA Riders.

Please contact one of the following committee members for assistance:

- Chairman John "Doc" Padgett | 702-499-8155 | E-mail: [bacsi10@yahoo.com](mailto:bacsi10@yahoo.com)
- Tim Schaaf | 951-551-1462 | E-mail: [schaafnt@msn.com](mailto:schaafnt@msn.com)
- Rick Grabianowski | 775-846-1138 | E-mail: [rick@grabianowski.com](mailto:rick@grabianowski.com)

Respectfully submitted,

SOA Operation Brightlight Committee  
John "Doc" Padgett  
Tim Schaaf  
Rick Grabianowski

*"We sleep safely in our beds because rough men stand ready in the night to visit violence on those who would do us harm." —George Orwell*

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**2021 annual dues are now due and payable.  
Refer to the annual dues page 57 for additional information.**

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# Special Operations Association Special Staff and Committee Chairmen

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# Master Events List

*AS OF 1 July 2021 (Subject to Change)*

## **Friday, 15 October:**

TBD: Movement of SOA Items from Storage to Orleans Hotel

## **Saturday, 16 October:**

TBD: Onsite Material Organization and Equipment Testing at the Orleans Hotel, Clyde Sincere

## **Sunday, 17 October:**

0800-1200: Board and Special Staff Meeting (Board Room), President Godshall

0800-2100: SOA Video History Project (Suite TBD), Chairman Cummings

0800-1200: Vendor Setup (Vender Area, Mardi Gras Ballroom), Clyde Sincere

## **Monday, 18 October:**

0800-1200: Board and Special Staff Meeting (Board Room), President Godshall

0800-2100: SOA Video History Project (Suite TBD), Chairman Cummings

0900-1700: Registration Activities (Registration Area), Chairman Davis

0900-2400: Hospitality Room (Mardi Gras Ballroom), open bar

TBD: Planning and Budget Committee Meeting (Board Room), Treasurer Devon

## **Tuesday, 19 October:**

0800-2100: SOA Video History Project (Suite TBD), Chairman Cummings

0900-1700: Registration Activities (Registration Area), Chairman Davis

0900-2400: Hospitality Room (Mardi Gras Ballroom), open bar

1230-1630: Authors' Book Signing Event

TBD: Entertainment – Event, Date, and Time to be Determined, John Russell

## **Wednesday, 20 October:**

0800-2100: SOA Video History Project (Suite TBD), Chairman Cummings

0800-1130: Memorial Breakfast – “SOA’s Unreturned Heroes” (Suite TBD)

0900-1700: Registration Activities (Registration Area), Chairman Davis

0900-2400: Hospitality Room (Mardi Gras Ballroom), open bar

1200-1300: Lunch (Mardi Gras Ballroom)

1300-1500: SOA-WAC (President’s Suite) Vicki Chan-Padgett

1330-1530: SOA General Membership Meeting (Esplanade Room), President Godshall

1530-1630: Door Prizes (Esplanade Room), Clyde Sincere

1630-1730: Liquor Tasting – Explore Tanqueray, It’s What You Put In It... (Suite TBD), Bill Werther

1930: SOAF Bowling Tournament

## **Master Events List (Cont'd)**

### **Thursday, 21 October:**

- 0800-0930: CCS Breakfast
- 0800-1200: SOA Video History Project (Suite TBD), Chairman Cummings
- 0900-1200: Registration Activities (Registration Area), Chairman Davis
- 0900-1200: Hospitality Room (Mardi Gras Ballroom), open bar
- 1000: Silent Auction Closed
- 1000-1100: Special Operations Medical Threats (Suite TBD), Doc Padgett
- 1100-1230: Kingbee Aviation Symposium
- NLT 1200: All Vendors must be out of Mardi Gras Ballroom
- 1300-1400: Rehearsals (Mardi Gras Ballroom) President Godshall
- 1530-1720: Cocktails (Esplanade Room)
- 1730-2030: SOAR Banquet
- 2030-2400: Hospitality Room (Mardi Gras Ballroom), open bar

### **Friday, 22 October:**

- 0800-1200: Movement of SOA property to Storage Facility, Volunteers
- 0800-1000: Selective SOA Board and Special Staff Meeting (Board Room),  
President Godshall
- 0900-1200: Hospitality Room (Salon TBD), open bar
- 1000: SFA Convention Welcome Breakfast
- 1200: Hotel Check-out

## **Centenary Tribute to MG (Ret) John K. Singlaub**



July 10, 2021 marked the 100th birthday of one of America's greatest warriors and leaders, Major General John K. Singlaub (R.), a Special Operations Association stalwart.

Before the OSS, before the CIA, before Special Forces, before Special Operations, there was John Singlaub helping to stand up and train America's new soldiers to operate behind enemy lines to confound, confuse, and defeat our enemies around the world.

Where to begin...John Kirk Singlaub was born in Independence, California. After graduating from Van Nuys High School in 1939, he attended the University of California, Los Angeles. Following graduation, he received a commission as a second lieutenant of infantry on January 14, 1943. As a member of Operation Jedburgh, his three-man team codenamed "JAMES" parachuted behind German lines in August 1944 to work with the French Resistance fighters or Maquis groups that had swelled the resistance ranks after the Normandy Invasion.

Following his advance work for the Normandy invasion, he led a nine-man team that parachuted onto Hainan Island, China, just before the Japanese surrender in 1945. The mission was to arrange for the evacuation of US and Allied prisoners of war.

Post-World War II, he led CIA operations in Manchuria during the Communist revolution. Led troops in the Korean War, and, as a General Officer, served as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Forces in Korea.



In Vietnam, he was a Commanding Officer of MACVSOG, managing the Top-Secret war along the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos, Cambodia, and North Vietnam. SOG veterans founded the Special Operations Association

General Singlaub is widely respected as a soldier and fierce opponent of communism. General Westmoreland described him as a "true military professional" and "a man of honest, patriotic conviction and courage." Congressman Henry J. Hyde tellingly described him as "a brave man, a thorough patriot, and a keen observer"; someone who had been "in the center of almost every controversial military action since World War II." Retirement from the Army did not mean retirement from fighting the enemies of freedom. Active for 40 years in overt and covert operations, he had private and secret interviews with many military and government leaders

## **Centenary Tribute to MG (Ret) John K. Singlaub (Cont'd)**

worldwide. He personally knew William Casey, Director of Central Intelligence during the Reagan Administration, as well as Oliver North, and was involved in the Iran-Contra affair. He was President Reagan's administrative chief liaison in the so-called 'private' Contra supply effort. Through his chairmanship of the World Anti-Communist League (WACL) and its U.S. chapter, the U.S. Council for World Freedom (USCWF), he enlisted paramilitary groups, foreign governments, and American conservatives in the Contra cause. He often met on Capitol Hill with members of the U.S. Congress, including Congressman Charlie Wilson (D-Tx) about U.S. support and funding for the Contras and anti-communist resistance forces in Afghanistan opposed to the Red Army's invasion of Kabul in 1979.

During his military service, General Singlaub was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal w/OLC, the Silver Star, Legion of Merit w/2 OLC, the Bronze Star w/OLC, the Air Medal w/OLC, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Purple Heart. With the exception of the Silver Star, all awards have one or more oak leaf clusters. His foreign decorations include the French Croix de Guerre w/Palm and Bronze Star devices, the British Mention in Despatches w/OLC, as well as decorations from the Republic of China, the Netherlands, and South Vietnam.

The Special Operations Association has never had a better friend or supporter. He has been generous with his time and money. When the Video History Project needed funds, he and his wife wrote a large check to keep the video histories of our Special Operators going forward. He spoke at our Reunion on the 50th Anniversary of MACVSOG.

General Singlaub's most lasting devotion to the SOA may be the creation of the Major General Singlaub Jedburgh Award, presented annually since 2016 to an outstanding Special Operator of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command at its Red and Black Ball.



## **Memorial Breakfast — SOA's Unreturned Heroes**

At the end of American participation in the Vietnam War in 1973, the number of US personnel missing (Prisoners of War or Missing in Action [POW/MIA]) and otherwise unaccounted for (Killed in Action/Body Not Recovered [KIA/BNR]), totaled 2,646.

Sixty-three US personnel were accounted for between 1973 and 1975, the formal end of the Vietnam War. Since 1975, through the efforts of the US Government and cooperating nations, 999 US personnel have been accounted for, resulting in a total of 1,062 recovered, leaving 1,584 still missing and unaccounted-for as of May 2021.

A total of 287 have been accounted for from Laos, 42 from Cambodia, 727 from Vietnam and 3 from the Peoples Republic of China.

Extensive research has been conducted by the Joint Special Operations Association/Special Forces Association POW/MIA Committee, with assistance from The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and volunteer researcher Bonnie Cooper, to identify those still missing and unaccounted-for who would have been eligible to join the Special Operations Association (SOA) had they returned home.

We are confident that we have identified the 132 personnel that fit that category. Ground losses of MACV Studies and Observations Group (SOG), the Mobile Strike Force (Mike Force), White Star, and other eligible Army units account for 86 personnel still missing. Nine of those men are still carried in the category of Last Known Alive (LKA), the highest priority of accounting efforts. Air support personnel still missing total 46 (22 USAF, 3 USMC, the remainder US Army).

During SOAR XLV, at 0800, Wednesday, October 20th, the Special Operations Association will host a Memorial Breakfast for our missing and unaccounted-for brothers-in-arms, our unreturned heroes. Guest speakers are planned from DPAA, the National League of POW/MIA Families, the Defense Intelligence Agency's "Stony Beach" Project (the only intelligence-gathering agency dedicated solely to the missing of the Vietnam War), Special Forces Charitable Trust, SOA and SFA, and families of the missing.

We are continuing to contact the families of the 132 missing in order to inform and invite them. A list of the missing is included on the next page of this article. If you are in contact with any of these families, please tell them they can contact Bonnie Cooper via email at [coop553@bellsouth.net](mailto:coop553@bellsouth.net) for further information and registration details.

Members can register for the breakfast when they register for SOAR XLV this year. We hope to see you there.

# Memorial Breakfast — SOA's Unreturned Heroes (Cont'd)

**SOA'S UNRETURNED  
HEROES**

Biber, Gerald M.	LAO	Kusick, Joseph G.	LAO	Cecil, Alan B.	LAO
Bischoff, John M.	LAO	Maysey, Larry W.	LAO	Huntley, John N.	LAO
Moon, Walter H.	LAO	Scurlock, Lee D.	SVN	Stubbs, William W.	LAO
Parks, Raymond F	LOA	Cohron, James	LAO	Alford, Terry L.	SVN
Walker, Kenneth	SVN	White, Charles E.	CAM	Cavender, Jim R.	SVN
Jackson, Carl E.	SVN	Phillips, Daniel R.	SVN	Klimo, James R.	SVN
Roth, Billie L.	SVN	Calhoun, Johnny C.	SVN	Ware, John A.	SVN
Gallant, Henry J	SVN	Huston, Charles G	LAO	Helmich, Gerald R.	LAO
Taylor, Fred	SVN	Lawson, Karl	SVN	Ray, Ronald E.	LAO
Badolati, Frank N.	SVN	Padgett, Samuel J.	SVN	Suber, Randolph B.	LAO
Hodgson, Cecil J.	SVN	Englander, Lawrence	SVN	Tubbs, Glen E.	SVN
Terry, Ronald T.	SVN	King, Paul C.	LAO	Anderson, Gregory L.	LAO
Mauterer, Oscar	LAO	Condrey, George T.	SVN	Leeser, Leonard C.	LAO
Taylor, James L.	SVN	Dayton, Leslie	SVN	Pruett, William D.	LAO
Gates, James W.	LAO	Jenne, Robert E.	SVN	Shinn, William C.	LAO
Lafayette, John W.	LAO	Jurecko, Daniel E.	SVN	Sutton, William C.	LAO
Deere, Donald T.	SVN	Perry, Thomas	SVN	Boyle, William	LAO
Laws, Delmer L.	LAO	Robertson, John H.	LAO	Allen, Henry L.	LAO
Taylor, Danny G.	SVN	Lane, Glen O.	LAO	Brassfield, Andrew T.	LAO
Echevarria, Ray L.	LAO	Owen, Robert D.	LAO	Little, Danny L.	SVN
Jones, James E.	LAO	Wofkeil, Wayne	LAO	Wilson, Harry T.	LAO
Williams, Eddie L.	LAO	Pridemore, Dallas R.	SVN	Sanders, William S.	LAO
Hunt, William B.	SVN	Lawrence, Gregory P.	LAO	Bookout, Charles F.	LAO
Bott, Russell P.	LAO	Stride, James D., Jr.	LAO	Davidson, David A.	LAO
Dyer, Irby III	LAO	Wester, Albert D.	LAO	Gassman, Fred A.	LAO
Stark, Willie E.	LAO	Herreid, Robert D.	SVN	Wilson, Peter J.	LAO
Sulander, Daniel A.	LAO	Birchim, James D.	SVN	Smith, Ronald E.	LAO
Borja, Domingo R. S.	LAO	Copley, William M.	LAO	Green, George C., Jr.	LAO
Carpenter, Howard B. II	LAO	Stuifbergen, Gene	CAM	Bunker, Park G.	LAO
Small, Burt Chauncy, Jr.	SVN	Scherdin, Robert F.	CAM	Mixer, David I.	LAO
Hallberg, Roger C.	SVN	Kroske, Harold W., Jr.	CAM	Berg, George P.	SVN
Stewart, Jack	SVN	Evan, William A.	CAM	Demsey, Walter, Jr.	SVN
Wroblecki, Walter F.	SVN	May, Michael F.	CAM	Johnson, Gary L.	SVN
Dexter, Ronald J.	NVN	Rex, Robert F.	LAO	Lloyd, Allen R.	SVN
Seymour, Leo E.	LAO	Murphy, Barry D.	CAM	Watson, Ronald L.	SVN
Almendariz, Samuel	LAO	Davis, Ricardo G.	LAO	Woods, Gerald E.	SVN
Sullivan, Robert J.	LAO	Shriver, Jerry M.	CAM	Lilly, Carroll	LAO
Anspach, Robert	CAM	Bessor, Bruce C.	LAO	Krupa, Frederick	SVN
Adams, John R.	LAO	Scott, Mike J.	LAO	Bingham, Klaus Y.	SVN
Baxter, Bruce R.	LAO	Ramirez, Armando	CAM	Luttrell, James M.	SVN
Brower, Ralph W.	LAO	Montez, Anastacio	SVN	Pearce, Dale A.	SVN
Clay, Eugene L.	LAO	Burns, Michael P.	LAO	Soyland, David	SVN
		Neal, Dennis P.	LAO	Entrican, Danny D.	SVN
		Janousek, Ronald J.	LAO	Strohlein, Madison	SVN
		Kane, Bruce E.	LAO	Berg, Bruce A.	SVN

## Aviation Symposium A Tribute to the 219<sup>th</sup> Kingbees

A Kingbee tribute is planned by the SOA Board of Directors in October and we are seeking help from its members to locate any Kingbee pilots and crew members.

The highly respected Kingbee pilots and crew members who supported MACV-SOG teams throughout the eight-year secret war will be featured during SOAR XLIV's Aviation Seminar on Thursday, October 21, 2021. During our deadly war, SOG men were blessed to have air support provided by the bravest pilots in the world: US Army, USAF, USMC aviators, and VNAF Kingbees. All lost fellow aviators in support of SOG men on the ground in Laos, Cambodia, and North Vietnam.

The SOA BOD is asking SOA members and fellow veterans to assist Kingbee pilot An Nguyen, John "Tilt" Meyer and/or SOA Vice President Mike Taylor to contact as many former Kingbee pilots and crew members as we can. This committee is soliciting help from all members who are in touch with any Kingbee men who were attached to South Vietnam's 219th Vietnamese Air Force's Special Operations Squadron.

Please e-mail Mike Taylor at: [captmike.mt@gmail.com](mailto:captmike.mt@gmail.com); Meyer at: [idahonezero@sbcglobal.net](mailto:idahonezero@sbcglobal.net); and An at: [phongahuynh12042@gmail.com](mailto:phongahuynh12042@gmail.com).



*Captain Nguyen Van Tuong*



*SOG team leaders Don Wolken & John McGovern  
at Phu Bai - FOB 1*

Maybe we will finally learn why the crews always told us "Kingbee go down" whether it was a routine infiltration or if we were about to crash. Talk about "pucker factor"!

## **Authors' Book Signing**

Tuesday, 19 October 2021 the SOA will conduct its third SOA Authors' Book Signing Event. The two previous events were wonderful successes with nine (2019) and fourteen (2020) authors participating. This year, the SOA will again expand the time to four hours commencing at 1230 hours. The session suite has yet to be determined, but it will be one of the Alphabet rooms along the second floor heading to the Mardi Gras Ball Room. Chuck Woodson, SOA Reunion Chairman, promised he would secure the largest room available for this event. As of this time, of the 16 slots available, five (5) have already been spoken for. If you are an author, and a Member of the SOA, you owe it to yourself to "tout" your book to your fellow Comrades-in-Arms, and Guests attending SOAR XLV. "FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED".

Dependent on the number of Participants, the plan is if there are 16 Authors, each will have 10 minutes to "tout" his book, and Members and Guests will have five (5) minutes to ask you questions. If you have two (2) books, your time will be doubled. There will be two (2) fifteen minutes breaks during the session for refreshments and "personal visits". If per chance, there are less than 16 Authors, time to "tout" your book will be adjusted.

I request each author provide me with a short synopsis of your book to include where a Members not in attendance can secure a copy. Your synopsis will be published in the SOAR XLV AAR as space allows. Additionally, the SOA will advertise your book on the SOA Website. Also, you may consider placing a one-quarter, or even larger Advertisement in the SOAR XLV AAR. See your SOAR XLV PRP for details. ***Your Call. No Obligation Whatsoever.***

Also, during the conduct of SOAR — specifically, all day Wednesday (0900-1730), and Thursday morning between 0900 and 1130 hours, I will have a couple of tables available in the SOA Vendor Area for you to share with the other authors to sit at, autograph, and sell your Books.

There is NO FEE for this event activity. I would, however, appreciate you considering autographing a copy of your Book to the SOA, and donating it to the SOA Archives.

Finally, any queries whatsoever, don't hesitate to contact me. All I ask is that you email me your telephone number first if you elect to call. I receive far too many "odds and ends" solicitations, that I've taken to answering only phone numbers I recognize. Thank you.

I may be contacted as follows:

Clyde J. Sincere, Jr.  
661 W. Calle Torres Blancas, # 5108  
Green Valley, Arizona 85614-6442  
cjjrsincere@gmail.com  
(435) 680-4476

# SOA Information Technology Report

The Information Technology (IT) Committee, formed in November 2020, hit the ground running with a mission to update the SOA's information technology systems, improve the SOA's internet presence, and develop a communications network for the membership, sponsors, donors, and visitors seeking information about the SOA.

Towards that goal, the Committee redesigned the website and refocused SOA's FaceBook page creating a platform that recognizes SOA's heroes, is informative and easy to navigate:

- **Quartermaster Store** — The QM store is now accessible on the website's public side resulting in sales tripling in recent months. The SOA branded SOG Bowie Knife proved to be an extremely popular item, selling out in just a few days. For those members who missed out on the first run, additional knives have been ordered and will be available soon.
- **Hall of Fame** — MOH, DMOR, MG Singlaub awardees, USSOCOM and Air Commo Hall of Fame pages have been added recognizing SOA heroes and outstanding members.
- **Final Roll Call** — Two searchable databases have been added - TAPS with the names of over 1,000 deceased SOA members and The Fallen listing 524 Special Operations brothers who were lost during the Vietnam War.
- **Donations** — A master donation page allowing donors to designate to the general fund or a particular SOA program with a one time or recurring gift.
- **Facebook** — The SOA Facebook will soon exceed 12,000 followers. It has proven to be a tool in keeping the membership informed and supporting the mission of remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice by sharing the story of every MACV-SOG warrior lost during the war on the anniversary of his death, to include those who died in support of the wMACV-SOG mission.
- **MailChimp** — The SOA's primary means of getting information to our members underwent a subscriber update. It continues to be the main venue to communicate with the membership.
- **Newsletter** — Monthly newsletters started in May 2021 to keep the membership abreast of the upcoming reunion and other information important to the membership.
- **SOA Foundation** — The SOAF Website also underwent an update and will continue to be revised to support the needs of the SOAF under the leadership of John 'Doc' Padgett.

The IT Committee continues to add features to the website and plans to add a "Buddy Finder" soon. Also, under the leadership of Dennis Cummings, The Video History Project, will soon be ready to make the video interviews available online.

Your input is important to the Committee. We encourage all members to visit the website and provide feedback letting us know what you want to see on the site.

Fraternally,

Chris McClure, IT Committee Chairman — email: [cmclure@tech-architect.com](mailto:cmclure@tech-architect.com)

Bonnie Cooper, SOA Website Manager — email: [bonnie@specialoperations.org](mailto:bonnie@specialoperations.org)

# Melvin Hill

## March 26, 1939 – August 11, 2020

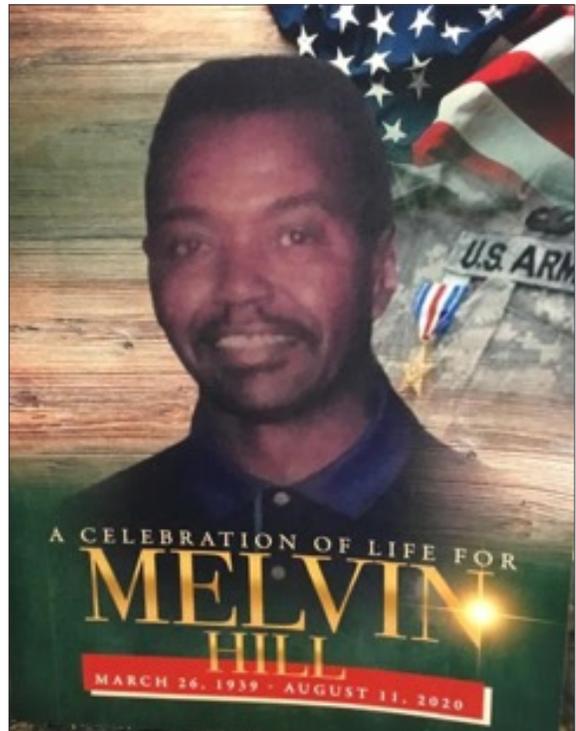
*From the Desk of LTC (Ret) Mike Taylor –*

Longtime member of the Special Operations Association and former member of the SOA Board of Directors, MSG (Ret) Melvin Hill, passed away on August 11, 2020 after a long illness. Melvin's interment at Arlington National Cemetery took place on May 17, 2021. Six members of Melvin's family were able to attend, as were a number of members of both the SOA and the Special Forces Association.

It was great talking with Melvin's family. They were most appreciative of our attendance and kept saying, "We didn't know Melvin had so many friends". We assured them he had many more friends than were in attendance, all of whom loved and respected him.

We learned that Melvin had convinced his mother to help him get a phony birth certificate so he could enlist at the age of sixteen.

When we called Mel's good friend Billy Waugh to tell him of the funeral, Billy summed up Mel's career by saying, "Melvin was as fine a commo man as was ever assigned to Special Forces. Melvin was an extraordinary lad, who gave his all to the USSF in the Vietnam War." Billy should know, as Melvin was usually one of first men Billy called when he was enlisting participants in one of his famous "good deals".



*L-R Denise Hill Allen (Eldest Niece), Darlene Johnson (Youngest Sister), Yanna (Tiara's Daughter), Patricia Hill (Elder Sister), Kevin Johnson (Youngest Brother), and Tiara Johnson (Youngest Niece)*



*A few of the SOA/SFA Attendees*

# TAPS

The following are our brothers who have passed since the last TAPS, and those who departed earlier, but were not previously identified.

The SOA has attempted to list our fallen as accurately as possible. Should any member have information of a deceased brother who has not been identified here, please contact a BOD member and the information will be published in our next report.

***We always give thanks to God for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers; constantly keeping in mind your work of faith and labor of love and perseverance of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father. 1 Thes.1:2-3***

Member Name	SOA#	Date	Member Name	SOA#	Date
Abraham, Albert, III	1131-G	7-Jan-21	Cotton, Clarence R.	2638-G	14-Feb-14
Aiello, Ralph P.	368-G	8-Apr-13	Crossman, Gary D.	517-G	5-Feb-21
Albee, Craig S.	1927-G	5-Sep-06	Dahmen, Lowell L.	3051-G	17-Feb-21
Anderson, Walter R.	2919-A	24-Feb-21	Dao, Phu Ngoc	2319-OA	8-Jan-20
Anorga, Jose	1913-G	6-Oct-12	Dearborn, Edwin V.	205-G	28-Aug-19
Armendariz, Jorge A.	348-G	9-Sep-17	Detra, Richard A.	2289-G	12-Jan-20
Arn, Paul R.	129-G	6-Feb-09	Dillard, Douglas C.	1882-G	9-Sep-17
Arnau, Robert R.	1463-G	24-Feb-15	Dobbs, William E.	255-G	19-Jun-13
Arnold, Lewis B.	2964-G	22-Jan-21	Donnor, Paul G.	942-G	24-Mar-03
Averill, Gerald P.	135-G	23-Mar-94	Draffone, Dennis A.	510-G	20-Mar-21
Barnes, Ronald C.	2612-G	6-Feb-16	Driscoll, John E.	1165-G	29-Mar-13
Barretta, Peter, Jr.	649-G	16-Dec-09	Farrell, Mike	856-G	23-Jan-21
Blanchard, Robert E.	1884-G	27-Jan-21	Fellenz, Michael T.	2042-G	25-Jul-14
Bleacher, Earl R.	284-G	30-Mar-21	Ferrante, Raymond P.	1840-G	18-Apr-15
Block, Michael	407-G	23-Jun-01	Fiedler, Frederick	950-A	13-May-12
Borgeson, John R	861-A	6-Feb-20	Fisk, Lee E.	2456-G	28-Jun-15
Bowen, Stanley E.	1443-G	8-Feb-10	Fletcher, Jerry J.	849-G	29-Mar-17
Brinton, William	1602-A	18-Jan-21	Fosmire, Thomas G.	1377-G	4-Nov-07
Bryant, Paul R.	2269-A	28-Sep-16	Frey, Don C., Sr.	1557-G	3-Jan-16
Budway, George	692-G	14-Dec-97	Gartland, John J., Jr.	788-G	20-May-12
Burke, Michael D.	1888-G	29-Jun-03	George, Larry T.	2917-G	7-May-12
Calderon, Rudolph	1935-G	30-Mar-21	Gibson, Milton T.	534-A	23-Mar-21
Callahan, Frederick D.	2573-G	8-Feb-21	Gillgren, John S.	2510-G	13-Feb-18
Campbell, Paul F.	2794-G	1-Apr-13	Gilliland, Victor G.	1862-G	2-Dec-16
Castellon, Leo	190-G	9-Jan-15	Goewey, Virgil L.	2376-G	4-Dec-14
Caton, Louis W., II	611-G	6-Oct-18	Gomez, Oliverio	251-G	19-Nov-13
Cavanaugh, Steven E.	1268-G	24-Mar-18	Goodin, Lyle E.	898-G	7-Feb-14
Cervenak, William	1075-G	9-May-20	Gratton, William F	892-G	30-Sep-97
Cheston, Elliot B., Jr.	162-G	3-May-15	Green, John W., III	1749-G	11-Dec-10
Chron, Gustav N.	801-G	19-Oct-13	Gregory, Frederick L.	219-G	24-Dec-06
Collar, Roy A.	922-G	28-Apr-16	Hancock, Ben W.	1136-G	8-Feb-20
Cooper, Nelson J.	1785-G	23-Aug-05	Handlin, James M.	1648-G	12-Sep-13
Copher, Paul D.	1001-A	11-Mar-13	Hebert, Richard F	501-G	18-Dec-20

# TAPS (Cont'd)

<b>Member Name</b>	<b>SOA#</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Member Name</b>	<b>SOA#</b>	<b>Date</b>
Hollenbach, William T.	478-G	8-Jul-09	Reagen, Gary L.	2267-G	24-Jan-21
Holshouser, John A.	2765-G	-Jun-09	Reyes, Gregorio H.	2990-G	20-Apr-13
Hyde, Roger L.	1142-G	12-Feb-07	Rich, Aaron L.	2015-G	12-Dec-18
Isaacs, Russell G.	2786-G	22-Jan-20	Riddle, Roy C.	297-G	24-Mar-10
Jeffrey, Alain M.	1794-G	10-Oct-13	Rogers, Patrick A.	1070-G	4-May-16
Jenks, David L.	399-G	25-Sep-09	Roseberry, Larry D.	1583-G	15-Mar-12
Jones, Jerry L.	1898-G	23-May-12	Sanchez, Joseph H.	2343-G	18-Sep-14
Katzenstein, Alfred N.	1411-G	28-Feb-21	Sanchez, Ramiro	2179-G	15-Jan-09
Kay, James E.	539-G	2-May-96	Santos, Richard E.	1623-G	14-Oct-16
Kennedy, James E.	37-G	4-Feb-21	Sarber, John D.	901-G	18-Feb-06
Kennedy, James L.	1095-G	30-Jun-18	Scharnhorst, John V.	164-G	22-Dec-10
King, Jay P.	683-G	10-Dec-18	Schmolze, Steven C.	544-G	12-Dec-88
Koehn, Henry H.	2536-A	12-Oct-12	Schwarcber, Alex C.	2508-G	7-Feb-21
Laux, Peter E.	1823-G	13-Jul-12	Self, John J.	1972-G	17-Apr-21
Lawson, John B.	76-G	1-Mar-16	Setser, Harry A.	1775-G	23-Nov-08
Lewis, David M.	2005-G	21-Oct-14	Sieh, John F.	2246-G	27-Jan-21
Lewis, Richard W	1505-G	18-Dec-15	Skutack, Daniel E.	1783-G	15-Sep-05
Liddy, Gordon	435-G	31-Mar-21	Slettbo, Theodore J.	1126-G	13-Nov-09
Linster, Frank J.	2349-G	6-Mar-16	Smith, James T.	799-G	24-Jul-10
Malott, Charles R.	2454-G	30-Mar-19	Sparling, Gordon D.	1647-G	27-Feb-21
Manor, Leroy J.	1177-G	25-Feb-21	Spooner, James H.	1341-G	9-Jan-05
Marino, James R., Jr.	1805-G	29-Sep-07	Stanford, James J.	1344-G	26-Aug-12
Martin, Jackson W.	2644-G	3-May-14	Stelow, Gary E.	460-A	14-Jan-14
Martin, Larry M.	1470-G	5-Oct-15	Stewart, George F.	1636-G	1-Feb-21
McDonald, Owen C	1908-G	30-Jan-21	Stokes, Paul A.	2232-G	1-Aug-15
Miller, George E.	2474-G	15-Nov-14	Sumlin, Burl Q.	2250-G	25-Oct-08
Mondrinos, Vieron F.	2147-G	31-Oct-09	Swindle, Michael E.	260-G	26-Aug-14
Monroe, James W.	716-A	23-Apr-20	Tobey, Paul A.	1539-G	28-Dec-10
Nguyen, Chan H.	2097-OA	23-Apr-11	Van Winkle, Max J.	201-G	13-Jul-84
Nie, Y Drun	810-H	3-Jan-07	Walles, Thomas F.	2620-G	21-Aug-16
O'Brien, Kevin R.	2333-G	18-Apr-17	Watson, James D., III	1309-G	26-Oct-13
Odom, Archibald D.	2322-G	10-Oct-18	Westbrook, K. Lee	1302-G	22-Jun-11
Odorizzi, Charles D.	853-G	7-Jan-21	Whitworth, Jeffrey	417-G	25-Jun-18
Ohmes, Robert L.	1871-A	6-Oct-14	Williams, William M.	2318-G	30-Aug-13
Ott, Gary R.	2576-G	1-May-15	Wiltgen, Floyd D.	1614-G	4-Mar-21
Park, Allen H.	1042-G	13-Jul-11	Winters, Herbert J., Sr.	1719-G	12-Apr-04
Peisen, Gary L.	1467-A	2-Dec-12	Wood, Bruce F.	1094-G	24-Nov-14
Perkins, Richard A.	248-G	6-Feb-13	Woody, Edward L.	1727-G	23-May-17
Peters, Gary B.	1006-A	2-Dec-20	Word, Harry B.	2658-G	19-Jul-15
Petry, Charles	249-G	19-Apr-18	Young, Keith A.	2746-G	18-Dec-14
Ralph, Johnny S.	188-G	28-Apr-10	Zimmer, Gerald H., Jr.	1023-G	21-Jan-10

# SOAF-WAC Report

Great news! The Women's Auxiliary Committee is now up and running as a committee of the Special Operations Association Foundation. Our first in-person meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20 October 2021 at 1330. The location will be announced at SOAR, so please be alert as you register for the reunion.

The mission of the Special Operations Association Foundation Women's Auxiliary Committee (SOAF-WAC) is to provide support to the Special Operations Association through the engagement and camaraderie of Association member's spouse, widows/widowers, and families.

To that end, the first meeting hopes to achieve the following actions:

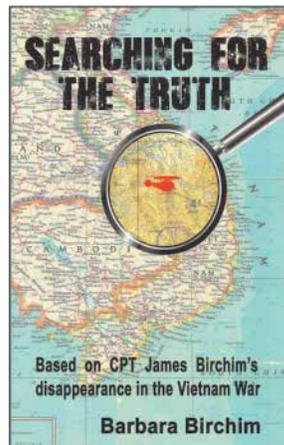
1. Elect officers;
2. Establish a committee to research and develop a logo; and,
3. Establish first and five-year goals.

Please join this exciting new adventure. Any question? You may contact Vicki Chan-Padgett at her email: [vickichanpadgett@yahoo.com](mailto:vickichanpadgett@yahoo.com)

## SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH

The author's first book, *Is Anybody Listening? A True Story About POW/MIAs In The Vietnam War*, not only chronicles the handling of the issue of POW/MIAs but reveals the twist-and-turns she goes through in searching for answers to her MIA husband. In 2006, it was given the President's Award by the Military Writer's Society of America.

In her new book, *Searching For The Truth*, she divulges information on her husband's case since 2005. To protect her sources-names-locations, she's written a mystery and used the new facts to create a cohesive story. She asks the reader to put on their detective hat and see if they can figure out the ending to her quest for answers to what really happened to her husband.



Barbara Birchim is the wife of Captain James D. Birchim who is still listed as Missing In Action. She is a member of the Special Forces Association and the Special Operations Association. She has traveled extensively including numerous trips to Southeast Asia. Over the years, she has done many radio, TV, and newspaper interviews.

She is the mother of two grown children, a nurse, has published a children's book, and currently resides in Southern California.

Her books are available at AuthorHouse and Amazon.

# Standing Rules of Order

## **Special Operations Association Reunion XLIV Annual General Member Meeting Standing Rules of Order**

### **Preamble:**

*The Board of Directors has created the following Standing Rules of Order in accordance with the directions and guidelines established in Chapter XIX of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised (RRNR).*

*The purpose of these Standing Rules of Order are to assure members' rights are fully protected, simplify what otherwise are sometimes confusing and contradictory Parliamentary Procedure options, establish order, and to capture the exact wording of proposed Topics of Discussion (TODs), Resolutions and Motions for the record.*

*These Standing Rules require approval by the General Members before they will be implemented and adhered to for this GMM. These Standing Rules of Order are temporary and apply to this one single GMM only. Their authority ceases on the adjournment of the GMM.*

*We ask every General Member to read these proposed Standing Rules and to approve them with his vote.*

Admission into the General Member Meeting room requires all members to wear or prominently display the Badge/Name tag issued by the Secretary/Registration Committee. General Members will be seated in the area designated by the Sergeants-at-Arms for "voting" members.

The Secretary, directly after the opening ceremonies, shall report the number of General Members registered at this year's SOAR and/or exclusively for the GMM and the number of those currently present in the meeting room. The number present at the beginning of the business meeting shall be the number used to determine if the SOA's quorum requirements have been met per Article VII Section C of the Bylaws. If the quorum requirement is met, the number of members reported present shall be the base number for determining a majority for all votes conducted during this GMM.

All voting will be by physical count of hands or ballots. When voting, members are requested to raise their RIGHT hand over their heads in order that the Sergeants-at-Arms can facilitate a proper count.

General Members who desire to present a Topic of Discussion (TOD), Resolution, or Motion from the floor that was not previously submitted to the Secretary per SOA Bylaws Article VII Section E must first submit a legibly written or typed copy to the Secretary prior to the opening the GMM but no later than the opening of New Business. If the request is in compliance with the Bylaws it will be added to the agenda under New Business in the order it was received by the Secretary.

At the appropriate time on the Agenda, the Secretary will request the Member who desires to open a TOD, make a Resolution, or Motion to rise and request their TOD, Resolution, or Motion to be read by the Secretary. In lieu of the President stating the question, the Secretary will read the TOD, Resolution, or Motion as presented and entered into the record at which time the Chair will call for a Second. If a Second is made, the Chair will then acknowledge the originating member who may then speak as defined in Rules 5 & 6, and, if appropriate, a vote will follow.

## **Standing Rules of Order (Cont'd)**

Two (2) microphones are available to members during debate. Any person wishing to speak during debate must do so from one of the microphones or he will not be recognized by the Chair. As designated, one microphone will be for those members who wish to speak in support of the question and the other for those opposed. When recognized, the member is requested to state his name and membership number prior to speaking.

Members are limited to two (2) three (3) minute periods of debate per question and a member will not be permitted to speak a second time until all other members who wish to speak to the question have spoken once. Total time for Debate will be limited to 12 minutes per question.

General Members may make a motion to set aside Rule 5 and substitute new requirements which will become the temporary Rule for that specific TOD, Resolution, or Motion if passed by a 2/3rds majority (as is detailed in RRNR, page 253) of the quorum requirement as defined in Rule 2.

The Chair will rule out of order TOD(s), Resolution(s), or Motion(s) and not approve for discussion, debate, and/or vote those subjects that violate the SOA Bylaws and those where the SOA Attorney and/or Attorneys for Association's Insurance Carrier have directed they not to be discussed beyond what has been previously posted by the BOD.

General Members may make a motion to set aside Rule 7 and if seconded and passed with a 2/3rds majority (ref. RRNR, page 253) of the quorum as defined in Rule 1. Prior to the vote, the Chair will provide the reason for his ruling, and if appropriate, either read or pass out copies of the board's posting(s). If the topic is one which the SOA's Lawyer and/or Insurance Company's Lawyer(s) has stated should not be discussed the Chair and the BOD will not answer questions or become involved in the debate. They will, however, participate in the vote if there is one.

General Members may appeal the President's rulings as stipulated in Section 24, pages 247–252 of RRNR. As stated on page 252, a majority or tie vote sustains the decision of the President. The President is authorized to vote in order to create a majority or tie decision.

The Chair will rule on all Parliamentary Questions in accordance with the authority granted in RRNR (pages 432 – 435 and elsewhere). At his discretion, as defined on page 243, the President may temporarily suspend the meeting, stand at ease, to obtain confidential advice from the Parliamentarian or other accepted parliamentary authority prior to making his ruling. Special attention is to be placed on "Decorum" specified on pages 379–384. A professional Registered Parliamentarian, (Mrs. Solveiga Unger) has been retained by the SOA Board to assist the President in the interpretation and application of parliamentary procedure.

All members and guests are required to turn off cell phones and pagers during the conduct of the General Member Meeting. Cell phones may be used to record the meeting if the ring and buzzer notifications are turned off. The use of recording devices is authorized.

# General Membership Meeting Agenda

## **SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**20 October 2021**

**The Orleans Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, Nevada**

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| I. Call to Order   | President Godshall |
| II. Recognition, Sergeants-at-Arms   | President Godshall |
| III. Pledge of Allegiance  | TBD                |
| IV. Opening Prayer/Moment of Silence for our Fallen, MIAs, and POWs  | Chaplain Padgett   |
| V. Roll Call<br>SOA Board of Officers/Directors — President Godshall, VP Taylor,<br>Secretary Jensen, Treasurer Devon, Director Padgett, Director<br>McClure, Director Leites, and Director Rivero, Director Haase | Secretary Jensen   |
| VI. SOA Special Staff Members Present  | President Godshall |
| VII. Introduction of Guests  | President Godshall |
| VIII. Credentials Report/Announcement of GM Present,<br>and if a quorum present  | President Godshall |
| IX. General Member's Approval of GMM Agenda  | President Godshall |
| X. Business Meeting:   |                    |
| A. Regular Business:   |                    |
| 1. Approve SOAR XLIV General Membership Mtg Minutes<br>(SOAR XLV PRP)  | President Godshall |
| 2. Financial Report and Budget   | Treasurer Devon    |
| 3. SOA Scholarship Committee Report  | Chairman Yevich    |
| 4. SOA Brightlight Committee Report  | Chairman Padgett   |
| 5. SOA Personal Video History Committee Report   | Chair Cummings     |
| 6. Information Technology (IT) Committee   | Chair McClure      |
| 7. SOA Warriors Family Committee Report  | Chairman Boner     |
| 8. SOA Chaplain's Report   | Chaplain Padgett   |
| 9. SOA Riders Committee Report   | Chairman Whitt     |

# General Membership Meeting Agenda (Cont'd)

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 10. SOA QM Sales Report                               | Chairman Strange   |
| 11. SOA Membership Committee Report                   | Chairman Wilson    |
| 12. Bill Sylvester SOA Tally Committee Report         | Chairman Keele     |
| 13. By-Laws Committee Report (By-Laws Revision)       | Chairman Dove      |
| 14. Special Operations Association Foundation Report. | Director Padgett   |
| 15. MG Singlaub Award Report.                         | Secretary Jensen   |
| 16. Non-valor Award Presentations                     | President Godshall |
| 17. Farewell to SOA Board Members                     | President Godshall |
| 18. Swearing in newly elected SOA Officers/Directors  | President Godshall |

Secretary:

Director Position 2:

Director Position 3:

- |                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 19. Recognition, 20 Year SOA Members | President Godshall — Member chair |
| 20. Recognition, 25 Year SOA Members | President Godshall — Member chair |
| 21. Recognition, 30 Year SOA Members | President Godshall — Member chair |
| 22. Recognition, 35 Year SOA Members | President Godshall — Member chair |
| 23. Recognition, 40 Year SOA Members | President Godshall — Member chair |

**B. New Business:**

- |                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| XI. For the Good of the Order | President Godshall |
| XII. Meeting Adjournment:     |                    |

Respectfully Submitted by

*Duffy Jensen*

DUFFY JENSEN

Secretary, Special Operations Association

# General Membership Meeting Minutes

## **SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 21 October 2020**

- I. Call to Order: 1300 PDT President Estes
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Opening Prayer/Moment of Silence for our Fallen, MIAs, and POWs Chaplain Padgett
- IV. Roll Call Secretary Jensen
- President Estes, VP Taylor, Secretary Jensen, Treasurer Devon,  
Director Padgett, Director McClure, Director Rivero, Director Haase
- V. Introduction of Guests President Estes
- In addition to the Board of Directors and guests, fifty-one attendees were identified as present for the meeting. Director Padgett asked that the membership recognize guest Vicki Chan-Padgett who was elected Chair of the newly formed SOA Women's Auxiliary.
- VI. Announce GMM Agenda. President Estes
- VII. Business Meeting:
- A. Regular Business:
1. Approve SOAR XLIII General Membership Mtg Minutes (SOAR XLIV PRP) President Estes
- President Estes stated that the minutes of the previous General Membership Meeting were published in the SOAR XLV Pre-Registration Packet and called for a motion to approve. Director Padgett made the motion to approve, Director Haase seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*
2. Financial Report(s) SOA and SOAF Treasurer Devon
- Treasurer Devon began with a comparative analysis of 2019 and 2020 Profit and Loss Statements. He pointed out the only significant deviations were found in items related to reunion income and expenses due to the cancelled 2020 SOAR.*
- Treasurer Devon moved on to a comparative analysis of the SOA Balance Sheet and again observed that all significant variations are directly related to a lack of reunion income for the year 2020. He directed attention to the 2020 Total Assets*

# General Membership Meeting Minutes (Cont'd)

*of \$221,000 which is all cash and contrasted that against the Total Liabilities of \$28,000 which he considers a healthy financial position.*

*SOA Foundation financial reports show limited activity and comparable to 2019. The SOAF Balance Sheet shows \$7,400 in Total Assets (all cash) and \$0 in Liabilities. The Statement of Activity shows a modest increase in profit.*

*The Treasurer acknowledged that questions from the membership would be difficult to address in the virtual forum and gave out his email address and encouraged members with questions to contact him in that manner. He also noted that the financial statement as posted on the SOA Website immediately following approval by the Board of Directors.*

2. Financial Report(s) SOA and SOAF

Treasurer Devon

3. Membership Report

Chairman Frovarp

*President Estes introduced the Membership Report by advising that the Chairmanship of the SOA Membership Committee would be changing in the coming months.*

*Chairman Frovarp reported the status of the SOA membership as of 21 Oct 2020.*

*Since January 1, 2020: 38 new members, 31 general and 7 associates. The active roster shows 1,381 members which is slight increase from last year - 1,236 general, 124 associates, and 21 operational associates. Deceased members – 57 members have been reported deceased. Experience suggests that the total number of deceased is likely higher. The Chairman prompted the membership to report any deaths to the Membership Committee or the Board of Directors.*

*Chairman Frovarp addressed the matter of annual dues and reminded everyone that dues are due no later than January and are necessary for the welfare of the SOA programs.*

*With respect to the annual award of tenure pins, he reported that due to Covid-19 the pins were mailed to the recipients in lieu of the traditional presentation at SOAR. He noted that over 200 members achieved membership of twenty years or more. He advised that a listing of the recipients was available for review on events page.*

# General Membership Meeting Minutes (Cont'd)

*The Chairman began his early promotion of next year's reunion by observing that it would be a milestone year – SOAR 45. He sweetened the pot by noting that SOAR and the SFA's convention would be back to back events in Las Vegas.*

*Chairman Frovarp concluded his report by reminding the membership that everyone must continually do ambassadorial work for the SOA and recruit new members, especially post 9/11 personnel, in order to sustain the SOA. That said, he introduced SOA Member Gary Seideman, a post 9/11 warrior, as the incoming Chairman of the Membership Committee. Mr. Seideman will assume Chairmanship in January 2021. Departing Chairman Frovarp will continue as a Committee member.*

4. Award Presentations

President Estes

*President's Award presented to Luke Dove for his many years of outstanding volunteer service as the SOA Judge Advocate General.*

*SOA Member John Russell was presented with a Major Donor Award for his substantial financial contribution to the SOA last year.*

*President Estes also acknowledged that he was the recipient of an award from the POW/MIA Committee for his tireless support of that committee.*

5. Farewell to SOA Board Members

President Estes

*As the only departing member, President Estes said it had been a great honor to serve as president of the SOA and thanked the men and women with whom he has worked over the years, in particular, Clyde Sincere and Jim Hetrick.*

6. Swearing in newly elected SOA Officers/Directors

President Estes

President: Doug Godshall

Vice President: Mike Taylor

Director: Don Haase

# General Membership Meeting Minutes (Cont'd)

B. New Business:

VIII. For the Good of the Order

President Godshall

*As his first official act, newly elected President Godshall presented outgoing President Estes with the James E. Butler Founders Award on behalf of the SOA Board of Directors. The Founders Award recognizes extraordinary achievements and service to the Special Operations Association. The award citation reads “Awarded to Richard L. Estes, SOA #567, for 6 years of exceptional and dedicated service to the Special Operations Association and its members. 6th Award, SOAR XLIV, October 20, 2020.” Previous recipients – Jim Butler, Clyde Sincere, Jake Jacobson, Jim Hetrick, and Pat Hephner.*

*President Godshall expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to once again serve the SOA in an official capacity. He recognized the many people responsible for his commitment to the special operations community...his wife Kathy, Steve Bric (son of Bill Bric, KIA 23 Aug 68), and Ann Mills-Griffith to name a few.*

*President Godshall then announced the winners of this year’s raffle drawings. AAR – Roger Hill, and PRP – Mr. Maranda SOA #2948*

IX. Meeting Adjournment: President Godshall asked for a motion to adjourn. Director McClure so moved, Director Rivero provided the second, and the motion carried unanimously at 1348 PDT.

Respectfully Submitted by

*Duffy Jensen*

DUFFY JENSEN  
Secretary, Special Operations Association

# George C. Morton Scholarship Report

1. SOA Scholarship Program for School Year 2021-22: Of the 22 requests for scholarship applications, 15 completed and vetted applications were received by the 15APR21 submission deadline. Over the next few months, these applications will be critically evaluated by the Scholarship Committee (evaluators' names intentionally kept anonymous), then the results will be tabulated and ranked. The SOA Treasurer and Board of Directors will determine the number of scholarships that SOA can fund based on the economic status of our organization during this COVID period. The final results will be announced by 15JUL21, and applicants will be personally notified. Refer any questions or comments to Scholarship Committee Chair at SOAscholarships@outlook.com.
2. Scholarship Program Discussions: Several program policy changes are again surfacing and will be debated over the next few months and presented to the BoD for decisions. This is all in the interest of fairness, increased competition to identify and reward the brightest and the best, and to ensure the program keeps abreast of changes in the COVID-altered academic and training world. For example, here are a few of the considerations:
  - a. Should SOA members themselves (and not just their children/grandchildren) be considered for scholarships? What about their wives?
  - b. Should the age limit for applicants be expanded beyond age 21?
  - c. Should the program be opened up beyond children/grandchildren of members to include GREAT grandchildren, nieces/nephews, as well as THEIR wives?
  - d. Should the program fund degrees beyond the Associates/Bachelor degrees, to include Masters and Doctoral programs, as well as advanced training certifications such as Physician Assistants/Nurse Practitioners, certain nursing and dental specialized training, advanced pilot training, other more-specialized certifications, etc.?
  - e. What about internet-based degree programs?

The Committee welcomes any ideas and comments regarding the program's structure and conduct. Email suggestions and comments to Scholarship Committee Chair at SOAscholarships@outlook.com .

Special Operations Association  
Scholarship Committee  
c/o Steve Yevich, Chairman  
SOAscholarships@outlook.com

Revised: 10 May 2021

*"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."*

*Anonymous*

# Brightlight Report

*The Operation Brightlight mission is to provide financial assistance to SOA members in good standing who, without monetary help, would not be able to attend the annual Special Operations Association Reunion. Members considered for BL grants are kept anonymous as far as possible, with names being revealed to the BL committee and special staff only.*

*Costs eligible for assistance are round trip transportation; hotel accommodations; SOAR registration; and, petty cash for cab fare, meals, and incidentals. This assistance also extends to a family member who is the member's primary care giver.*

The Brightlight (BL) Committee received no applications during the last year due to the SOAR for 2020 being virtual and not including travel related expenses or registration costs.

The Brightlight Committee welcomes applications from **SOA members** who, due to extenuating circumstances, cannot afford to travel to Las Vegas for SOAR XLV. Brightlight traditionally funds air transportation, SOAR registration, hotel room, meals, and any SOAR events, such as the Memorial Breakfast; any or all of these, depending on the review of the candidate's information at the time of the application. The Committee will also consider funding care givers for members requiring ambulatory or other assistance on a case-to-case basis. Contact information is below. The Committee will provide you with all requirements. It is a painless process. The names of all candidates are kept confidential and known only to the Brightlight Committee and necessary special staff.

In consideration of numerous requests from families of our MIA for funding to the MIA Memorial Breakfast, the Brightlight Chair asks that those considering contributions to Brightlight this year instead donate to the SOA Warrior Family Foundation, as Brightlight funding is for SOA members only. The Warrior Family Foundation can assist non-member families in attending the memorial.

Respectfully submitted,  
John "Doc" Padgett, Committee Chair

**Brightlight Committee contact information:**

John "Doc" Padgett, Bacs10@yahoo.com; Tim Schaaf, schAAFnt@msm.com;  
Rick Grabianowski, rick@grabianowski.com

***A message from our Quartermaster:***

***I've been a member of the SOA for 25 years, 8 years serving on the BOD from 2004 to 2012 under Jim Hetrick, Tilt Meyer, and Rick Estes. During that time frame I assumed the Quartermaster duties. It has now been 15 years serving as the SOA Quartermaster and now I would like to stand down and turn the responsibilities over to someone else.***

***I recently purchased a new motorhome and I'm looking forward traveling this great country. If interested, my contact info is rstrange81@yahoo.com or feel free to call (248) 935-5431.***

***Regards,  
Bob Strange GL 1304***

# Warrior's Family Fund Report

*The SOA Warrior's Family Fund was established in 2012 to assist SOA family members who cannot afford to attend SOAR. In addition, the Warrior Family Fund Committee can approve up to a \$500.00 cash stipend for widows and family members to cover funeral expenses following the death of a SOA member. Family members in need of assistance are encouraged to apply.*

## **2021 Request for Assistance**

As of the PRP preparation, there have been no requests for assistance.

## **Donations and Fund Raising**

The Warrior's Family Fund received \$300 through donations and fundraising efforts since the first of the year. The Fund's balance as of April 2021 was \$2,665.

As you are aware, the theme of this year's SOAR is SOA's Unreturned Heroes - those still missing. Extensive effort on the part of SOA Board has gone into ensuring that the families of the missing are aware of the Memorial Breakfast event that SOA will host during SOAR XLV in October. It is believed that there may be several requests for assistance to attend this event from the families of those missing persons. As we have generously contributed to the Brightlight Fund to assist fellow SOA members, please seriously consider donating to the Warrior's Family Fund. This will allow the SOA the flexibility to assist those who might need a helping hand to attend this event and/or the entire SOAR XLV. You may easily make donations to the Warrior's Family Fund through the SOA Website Donate tab, completing the requested information, and selecting the Warrior's Family Fund button.

/s/Horace Boner  
WFF Chairman

***Rich Mallowney and Russ Mann would like to see how many FOB 3, Khe Sanh veterans would be interested in attending a breakfast at SOAR 45. The number of folks interested will determine where and when the gathering takes place. The breakfast could range from a large table in the restaurant to our own room. Please contact Rich or Russ.***

***Rich Mallowney***  
***907.953.7185***  
***N185RK@hotmail.com***

***Russ Mann***  
***530.412.1067***  
***rmannrn@gmail.com***

## Video History and Archive Report

This year has been a difficult one for most of us. The COVID 19 virus has changed our way of living for the last 18 months and life is just starting to get back to normal. The virus also had an impact on the Archives and Video History Project. It limited my ability to raise funds for the VHP since I couldn't get together with many people who have given generously in the past. Fundraising takes a lot of time and effort to establish donors who understand the value of what we are trying so hard to preserve. This year we were very fortunate to have two donations of very different kinds. Once again Shirley Williams came through when I thought we wouldn't see much in the way of monetary donations. Her generous gift of five thousand dollars will help us to continue recording interviews. This is not the first donation she has made to the VHP, as she has been a strong supporter of the program for several years. Shirley also gives in another way. During SOAR you will find her at the Archive table volunteering her time to help keep things running smoothly. She and Kenyon Smith do a great job and the time they give during SOAR is very much appreciated. You will likely run into them this year if you stop by the archive table to look at the artifacts or to book an interview.

The SOA was also fortunate to receive a donation of a very different kind. Over the years, readers of this update have seen my call for artifacts such as uniforms, gear, photos and other things to help keep our history alive. This year Steve Hollingshead donated approximately 30 interviews that he has conducted through the years to try to preserve the history of special operations. He has released the interviews to us for inclusion in the SOA Archives and is allowing us to use them as needed. These interviews are now a very important part of the SOA Archives and we thank Steve for his contribution.

This year at SOAR, we will be conducting interviews Monday through Thursday and possibly Friday. Please come by the archive table and sign up as early as possible. Monday morning is currently booked, but all the other time slots are still open. If you already have your trip reservations made and would like to schedule an interview in advance please contact me via one of the methods listed below. I look forward to seeing everyone at SOAR.

Dennis Cummings-SOA Archivist  
3649 Taylor Ave  
Bridgeton, MO 63044  
314-303-9156  
djc106@aol.com





### **THE FOUNDATION IS BACK!**

The Special Operations Association Foundation (SOAF) is resuming its role as an active participant in support of Special Operations troops, veterans, families and surviving families.

**SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION MISSION:** To assist members of the Special Operations community in fostering the wellbeing of its members, families, and survivors.

Thanks to the work of the Board of Directors of the Special Operations Association, the Foundation has been reorganized to a Board of Trustees that includes Special Operations community members, and an Executive Director to address day to day operations. The Foundation will be active at SOAR and throughout the year with fundraising activities and support of our Special Operations community.

Look for the SOAF table at SOAR and stop by to learn more. Attend the “Bowling for the Foundation” event.

For more information about the Foundation, see our web site at [soafoundation.net](http://soafoundation.net) or contact the Executive Director at [Bacsi10@yahoo.com](mailto:Bacsi10@yahoo.com).

# Candidate for Election

## Candidate for SOA Secretary

### **Duffy Jensen** **SOA 3137-GL**

I am seeking a second term as the Secretary of the Special Operations Association.

I want to thank everyone for their support during my first term. It has been a rewarding undertaking and I would like to continue working with the Board of Directors and Special Staff in the furtherance of the SOA goals and objectives.

In Vietnam, 7/69-9/70, I served with the 195th Assault Helicopter Company in support of CCS. Upon completion of my military service, I returned to my home in Alaska and began flying the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands with a small bush carrier. In 2011, I retired as chief pilot from the company which had become the state's largest regional carrier. Along the way, I spent many years engaged in support of youth sports, from volunteering and officiating, to serving two terms on the board of directors of a Ski Education Foundation.



## Candidate for Election

### Candidate for SOA Director

#### **Marcus Whitt II** **SOA 602-GL**

I would like to submit my name for consideration as a SOA Board of Director member. I currently serve as the Director of the SOA Riders and wish to continue in this capacity.

I served as an SF O5B4S at CCS in 1969-1970, assigned to the TOC and a radio-relay site before joining the 1st Exploitation Company that participated in several Cambodia missions.

There is no greater service than to continue to serve the brave men that participated in and/or supported SOG. I wish to give all that I can to serve these great men and feel that my experience and prior service will enhance my ability to give back. I hope you will consider my name for a position on the BoD of the SOA.

I've enjoyed my SOA membership and, if elected, would like to give back my time to the organization that has given so much.



# Candidate for Election

## Candidate for SOA Director

### **Alfonso “RT” Rivero 1573-GL**

Fellow SOA Members,

I am seeking re-election for the position of SOA Director. During my term in office I endeavored to promote the interests of our current members and enhance membership recruitment efforts, particularly for “Post Vietnam” veterans. I also served and participated in various SOA Committees.

I served with the 20th SOS “Green Hornets” from 1969 to 1972 supporting SOG missions primarily at CCS but also for CCC and CCN.

Education: Bachelor’s degree in History (Magna cum Laude) from Weber State University, MBA from Pepperdine University, member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

If elected I pledge to renew my efforts to improve our Association, promote recruitment and serve our Membership to the best of my ability.

Email: [rtriverosog@gmail.com](mailto:rtriverosog@gmail.com)



# **SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL BALLOT 2021**

*Please indicate your vote by placing a check mark or an X to the left of your candidate of choice, then sign the bottom and enter your SOA number.*

Please put your name and SOA# in the return address space on the enclosed self-addressed envelope, or mail your ballot to:

Tally Committee  
C/O Mike Keele  
30634 Wood Duck Pl.  
Canyon Lake, CA. 92587

## **Ballots must be postmarked NLT 30 September**

### **SECRETARY: Vote for one (1) only**

( ) Duffy Jensen

( ) \_\_\_\_\_ write in

### **DIRECTOR Place 2: Vote for one (1) only**

( ) Marcus Whitt II

( ) \_\_\_\_\_ write in

### **DIRECTOR Place 3: Vote for one (1) only**

( ) Alfonso "RT" Rivero

( ) \_\_\_\_\_ write in

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ SOA# \_\_\_\_\_

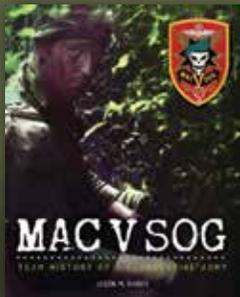
*"You have never lived until you have almost died. For those who have fought for it, life has a flavor the protected will never know".*

# MACV SOG

## TEAM HISTORY OF A CLANDESTINE ARMY

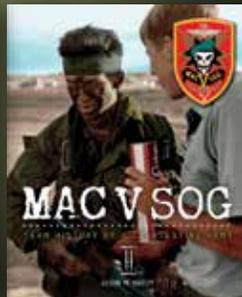
### NOW AVAILABLE FROM HARDY PUBLICATIONS

The Award-Winning Series Chronicling The Team History Of Ops-35



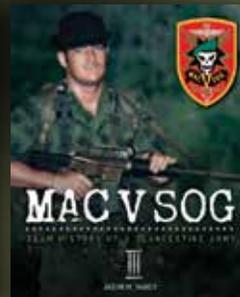
#### VOLUME 1

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



#### VOLUME 2

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



#### VOLUME 3

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



#### VOLUME 4

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



#### VOLUME 5

RT Alabama (CCN/CCC)  
RT Habu (CCN)  
RT Michigan (CCN)



#### VOLUME 6

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



#### VOLUME 7

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



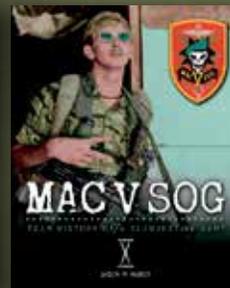
#### VOLUME 8

RT Delaware (CCC)  
RT Hawaii (CCC)  
RT Intruder (CCN)



#### VOLUME 9

RT Arkansas (CCC)  
RT Moccasin (CCN)  
RT Ohio (CCN)  
RT Rattler (CCN)



#### VOLUME 10

RT Alaska (CCN)  
RT Asp (CCN)  
RT Diamondback (CCN)  
RT Virginia (CCN)



#### VOLUME 11

RT Florida (CCC)  
RT Hotcake (CCC)  
RT Kentucky (CCC)  
RT New Jersey (CCN)  
RT Oregon (CCN)

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

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Jason Hardy • [jason@specialforceshistory.com](mailto:jason@specialforceshistory.com) • 978-337-1982

## PLAQUES

- CGS / CCC / CCN \$500 to \$1000
- Omega \$500 to \$1000
- Sigma \$500 to \$700
- Phoenix \$500 to \$700
- Mike Force \$500 to \$1,000
- Other SF Plaques \$250 to \$500

## UNIFORMS

- Indig Set \$500 to \$1,000
- Tiger Stripe Set \$250 to \$500
- 1-0 Jackets \$1000 and up
- Modified Fatigues \$250 to \$750
- Standard Uniforms \$250 to \$500
- Other Camouflage \$250 and up

## HEADGEAR

- Berets \$100 to \$250
- Embroidered Berets \$250 to \$700
- Black Boonie Caps \$250 to \$500
- Tiger Stripe Caps \$250 and up

## LIGHTERS

- Zippo® w/ Presentation \$250
- Others \$100 to \$200

## SOG IDENTIFICATION CARDS

- SOG ID's \$250
- Team Calling Cards \$150
- Others \$75

## FIGHTING KNIVES

- SOG Knives \$800 to \$1,400
- Presentation SOG Knives \$1,500 to \$2,000
- 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

- Ordinance \$100 to \$350
- 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

## **MG (Ret) Singlaub/Jedburgh Award**

For the second time in as many years, the MG (Ret) John K. Singlaub/Jedburgh Award ceremony has been postponed due to COVID-19.

The Singlaub Award was created by the Special Operations Association in honor and recognition of U.S. Army retired Major General John K. Singlaub's courageous actions on and off the battlefield as well as his significant contributions to the U.S. Army's Special Operations Forces.

First Sergeant Gregory A. Keller has been selected by the U.S. Army Special Operations Command as the 2020 recipient of the prestigious MG (R) John K. Singlaub/Jedburgh Award. 1SG Keller is currently assigned to D/2-10th SFG(A) as the Operations Sergeant for SFOD-A 0241.

Following an Associate Degree in the trades, 1SG Keller joined the U.S. Army in May 2003, and graduated from Special Forces Qualifying Course in May 2005 as an 18B Weapons Sergeant. He was assigned to 5th SFG(A) and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III (OIF III) with SFOD-A 566/5236 in June 2005. Immediately upon return from deployment, Keller volunteered for and successfully completed Ranger school and redeployed to Iraq in support of OIF IV from August 2006 to March 2007.

In January 2011, after a break in service, 1SG Keller joined C/2-19th SFG(A), West Virginia National Guard and was assigned to SFOD-A 9236, where he served as the Weapons Sergeant. He also attended college during that time, obtaining his bachelor's degree in Business Management from Elizabethtown College in May of 2012. In June of 2012, he returned to active duty and was assigned to United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School and served as an instructor at the 18B Weapons Committee for the MOS Phase of the Special Forces Qualifying Course.



Upon signing into 10th SFG(A) in August of 2014, then MSG Keller was assigned to the AFRICOM Crisis Response Force (CRF) C/2-10th SFG (A), where he served as the Senior Weapons Sergeant on SFOD-A 0236. From September 2014 to March 2015, he participated in the AFRICOM CRF Up-Cell rotation that was positioned in Baumholder, Germany. After completion of the rotation in Germany, MSG Keller was assigned to SFOD-A 0231 to be a cell leader on a new assault SFOD-A and to assist with the transition from the AFRICOM Area of Responsibility (AOR) to the CENTCOM AOR. In May of 2016, 1SG Keller deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR) where C/2-10th SFG(A) was postured as the Geographic Combatant Commander's Response Force for the CENTCOM AOR. During that deployment MSG Keller was a lead instructor during the creation of a new counter terrorist unit. Post deployment, 1SG Keller served as the Group S-3 Assistant Operations NCO. In May of 2017, MSG Keller was assigned to D/2-10th SFG(A) as the Operations Sergeant

# MG (Ret) Singlaub/Jedburgh Award (Cont'd)

for SFOD-A 0241 where he is currently serving. MSG Keller immediately integrated into the Pre-Mission Training and deployed in support of Resolute Support Mission VIII from September 2017- April 2018.

His Commanding Officer reports 1SG Keller is one of the most capable and unselfish leaders that has ever served in 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), serving as an Operations Sergeant for Special Forces Operational Detachment - Alpha (SFOD-A) 0241. During 2018 and 2019, 1SG Keller deployed twice in support of the RESOLUTE SUPPORT Mission (RSM). During RSM-VIII, 1SG Keller demonstrated personal courage during a combat operation by selflessly protecting his entire team by personally leading an element and killing multiple barricaded Taliban fighters when the partner force lost all momentum. 1SG Keller was awarded the Silver Star Medal for his actions. While deployed in support of RSM-XI in 2019, 1SG Keller's leadership was critical to achieving success in crippling the Taliban and their ability to affect the District Center of Tarin Kot. 1SG Keller led his team on the only HiMARS mission outside a protected US base,

conducted the largest joint fires campaign of RSM-XI, and was praised by the SOJTF-A Commander as one of the best Team Sergeants he had ever met. His outside the box thinking led to the employment of a D7 Bulldozer that uprooted the Taliban from a decade long stronghold and caused most senior Taliban leaders to flee the area and drove the Taliban to issue orders to not fight US forces due to his SFOD-A's lethality. According to the SOJTF-A Commander, his efforts significantly impacted the Taliban and drove them closer to peace negotiations with USFOR-A.

During RSM-VIII, MSG Keller and his leadership instilled such confidence that they were the only SFOD-A approved to execute a Time Sensitive Target (TST) during RSM-VIII)) by the 75th Ranger Regiment Commander. Further, He was such a fantastic mentor that when enlistment from the 75th Ranger Regiment to Special Forces was the highest it had been in a decade, the Special Warfare Center and School asked why, the Rangers cited that 1SG Keller was such an excellent mentor that they wanted to work with more units like his.



MSG Keller's awards and decorations include: two Silver Stars, two Bronze Star Medals, two Purple Hearts, Army Commendation Medal for Valor, 2 Army Commendation Medals, Navy Commendation Medal, three Army Achievement Medals, Special Forces Tab, Ranger Tab, Jumpmaster, Parachutist Badge, Special Forces Advanced Reconnaissance and Target Analysis and Exploitation Techniques Course (SFARTAETC).

1SG Keller has been married to his high school sweetheart, Virginia Lauren Paul Keller, since Dec 26, 2003. They have two sons, Gregory Adam Keller, 10 and Wesley Darryl Keller, 9.

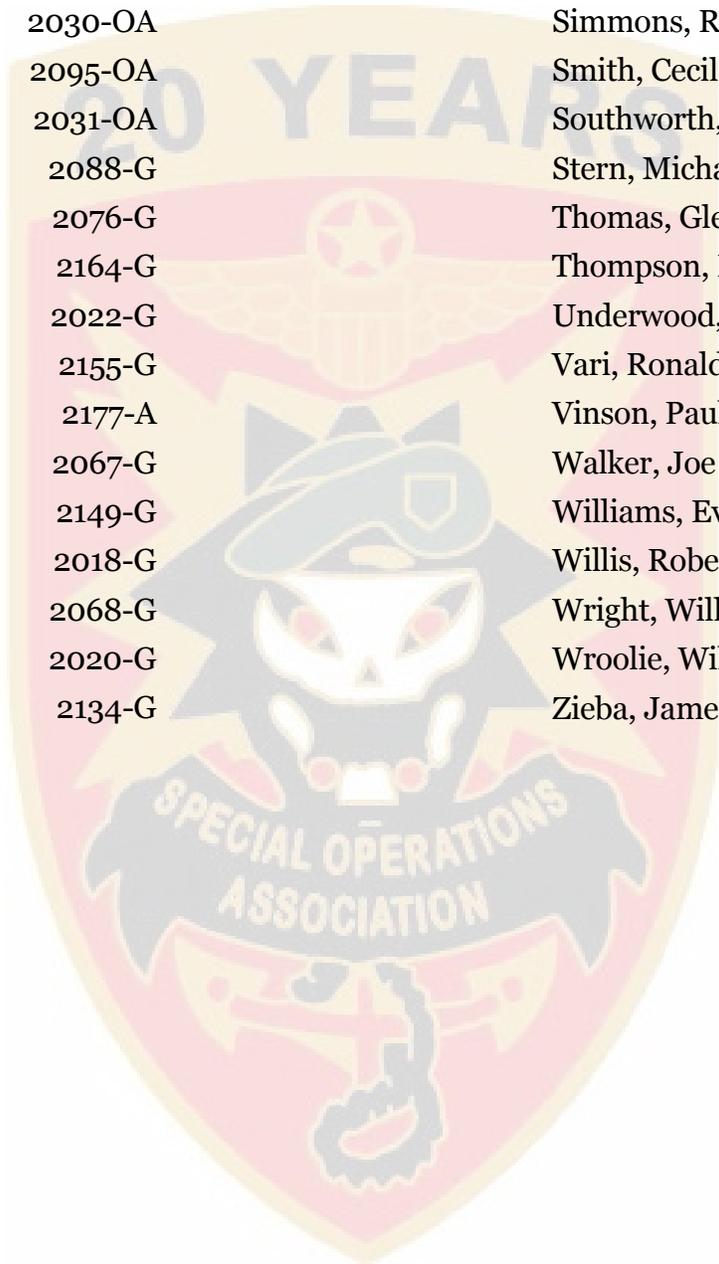
## SOA Members Achieving 20 Year Status

**The following have achieved 20-year status as Members in the Special Operations Association. In recognition, they will be awarded their 20-year SOA pin during the conduct of the 2021 SOA General Membership Meeting:**

Adderly, Tyrone J.	2080-G	Galletta III, Dominic C.	2061-G
Alley, Jerry T.	2180-G	Garrison, William	2156-G
Baldwin, James H.	2150-G	Gaude, Lyman E.	2187-G
Ballard, Sean P.	2127-G	Griffith II, John E.	2073-G
Barnes, Roger A.	2118-G	Hagen, Michael E.	2100-G
Beck, Dempsey M.	2176-G	Harrison, Randolph C.	2167-G
Berry, Brad E.	2130-G	Hays, Jay	2166-G
Blankenburg, William R.	2090-G	Hoefling, Darrell D.	2024-G
Brewer, Wilbur L.	2066-G	Howard, Frederick R.	2168-G
Broussard, Earl J.	2011-G	Hutchens, John J	2063-G
Burns, James W.	2190-G	Hyatt, John J.	2014-G
Chaffins, Stephen L.	2040-G	Inscore, Robert C.	2161-G
Clark, William D.	2182-G	Irmen, Clayton R.	2047-G
Clemens, John M.	2113-G	Jay, Charles D.	2089-G
Clinkenbeard, Larry J.	2174-G	Keith, Ralph L.	2006-G
Conway, Peter	2009-G	Kelly, Joseph B.	2189-G
Creed, Donald D.	2114-G	Kennedy III, Charles W.	2186-G
Crowder, Jeffrey D.	2121-G	King, Richard L.	2003-G
Curtis, Joshua W.	2126-G	LaFrance Jr, Paul W.	2044-G
David, Steven S.	2028-A	Le, Huu Van	2050-OA
Defoe, Robert J.	2103-G	Le, Minh V.	2175-OA
DeSeta, Louis J.	2007-G	Leonard, Gary L.	2043-G
Dill, William E.	2037-G	Linza, Anthony J.	2197-G
Dougherty III, William J.	2139-G	Lively, James R.	2099-G
Doyle, Steven E.	2194-G	Lockridge, Robert W.	2135-G
Frovarp, Raymond M.	2181-G	Magsby, Ray D.	2004-G
Fry, Charles H.	2074-G	McMenamy, Charles W.	2158-G

# SOA Members Achieving 20 Year Status

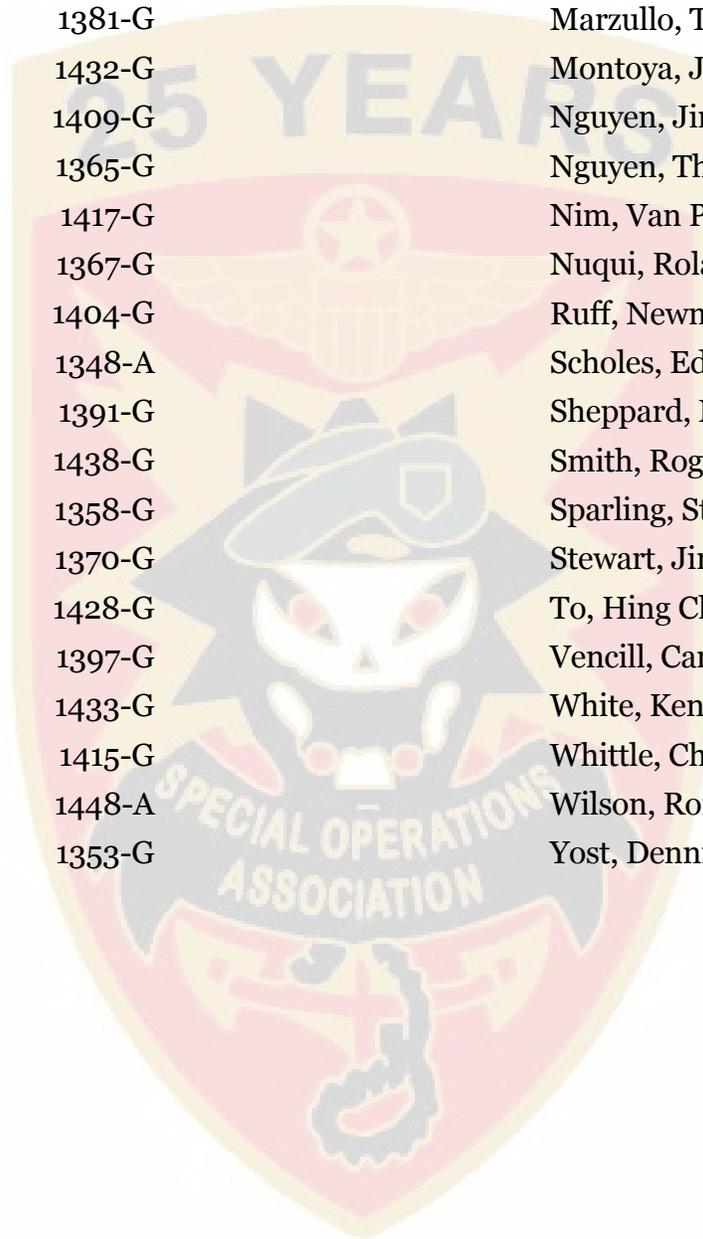
McMillin, Larry S.	2112-G	Schleher, Richard W.	2027-G
Morales, Edgar	2079-G	Schneider, Mark E.	2060-G
Nakahara, Ronald T.	2151-G	Sheppard, Andrew D.	2143-G
Nguyen, Dan Van	2030-OA	Simmons, Robert H.	2165-G
Nguyen, Trieu Hai	2095-OA	Smith, Cecil J.	2070-A
Nguyen, Trung V.	2031-OA	Southworth, John C.	2122-G
Orms, Robert J.	2088-G	Stern, Michael B.	2172-G
Owen, Alva A.	2076-G	Thomas, Glenn R.	2128-G
Owens, Ronald E.	2164-G	Thompson, Dennis	2069-G
Perry, Bruce E.	2022-G	Underwood, Victor C.	2038-G
Peters, John E.	2155-G	Vari, Ronald P.	2026-A
Pulos, Michael T.	2177-A	Vinson, Paul E.	2146-G
Roberts, Kenneth M.	2067-G	Walker, Joe J.	2023-G
Rodgers, Gary R.	2149-G	Williams, Everett D.	2077-G
Rollins, Glenn L.	2018-G	Willis, Robert G.	2183-G
Roper, James E.	2068-G	Wright, William E.	2185-G
Rossel, Eugene D.	2020-G	Wroolie, William A.	2192-G
Rougeau, James L.	2134-G	Zieba, James S.	2107-G



## **SOA Members Achieving 25 Year Status**

**The following have achieved 25-year status as Members in the Special Operations Association. In recognition, they will be awarded their 25-year SOA pin during the conduct of the 2021 SOA General Membership Meeting:**

Albracht, William L.	1381-G	Marzullo, Thomas J.	1405-G
Ash, Michael C.	1432-G	Montoya, Jerome A.	1416-G
Bost, Robert H.	1409-G	Nguyen, Jimmy Tong	1374-G
Bourgeois, Joseph M.	1365-G	Nguyen, Tho H.	1418-G
Boyd, Steven T.	1417-G	Nim, Van Pu	1440-G
Carlson, Lynn A.	1367-G	Nuqui, Roland	1403-G
Cleary, Thomas A.	1404-G	Ruff, Newman C.	1369-G
Clewell, Robert L.	1348-A	Scholes, Edison E.	1350-G
Dang, Win Phuoc	1391-G	Sheppard, Michael M.	1376-G
Durant, Henry L.	1438-G	Smith, Roger E.	1425-G
Fitch, Logan D.	1358-G	Sparling, Stephen B.	1453-G
Gates, William C. B.	1370-G	Stewart, Jimmie L.	1446-G
Gebbie, John W.	1428-G	To, Hing Chai	1439-G
Gurtiza, Jaime	1397-G	Vencill, Carleton P.	1426-G
Helfand, Edward A.	1433-G	White, Kent B.	1395-G
Holmes, Louis I.	1415-G	Whittle, Charles E.	1434-G
Hudson, James P.	1448-A	Wilson, Ronald C.	1383-G
Longaker, Frank E.	1353-G	Yost, Dennis E.	1356-G



# SOA Members Achieving 30 Year Status

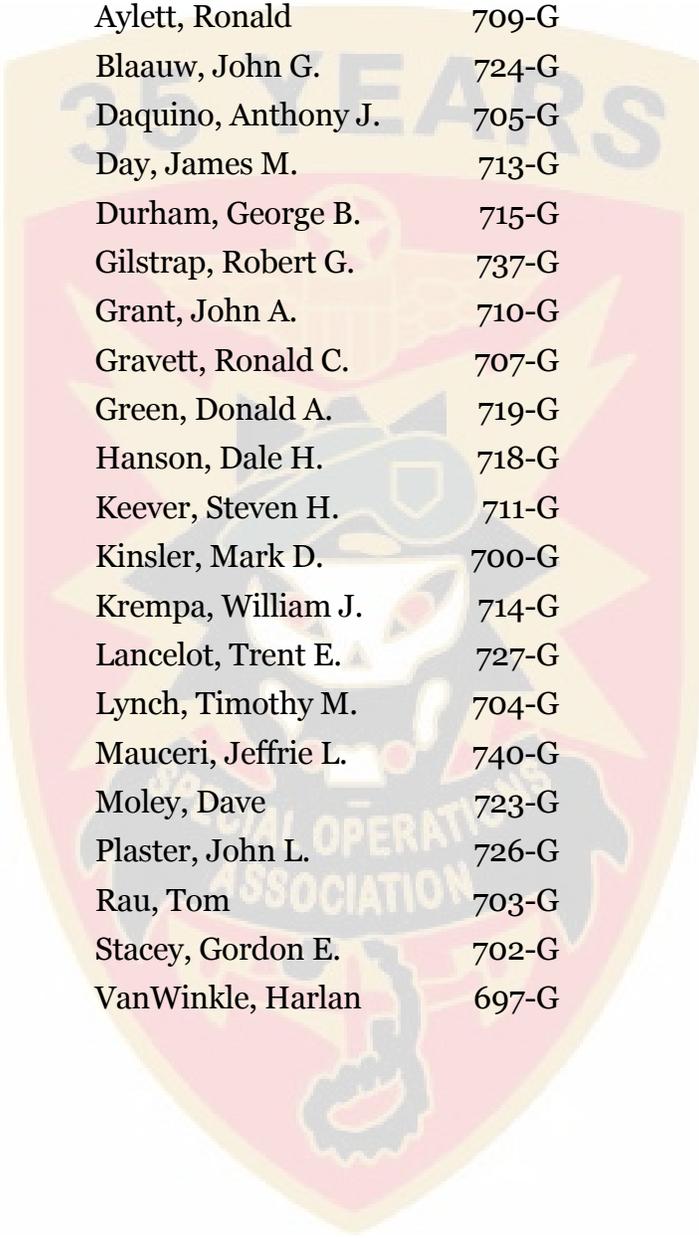
**The following have achieved 30-year status as Members in the Special Operations Association. In recognition, they will be awarded their 30-year SOA pin during the conduct of the 2021 SOA General Membership Meeting:**

Albertson, Roger L.	984-G	Eiland, Michael D.	976-G
Augustin, Donald C.	1016-G	Gensel, Edward G.	997-G
Bieber, Dennis E.	992-G	Gilley, A. Troy	1005-G
Blackwell, Michael R.	1007-G	Hayes, John G.	974-G
Bolton, Erik K.	986-G	Norris, Fred E.	1020-G
Clark, Johnson S.	999-G	Payne, Keith	978-G
Cook, Robert E.	1017-G	Salley, Hammond M.	977-G
Davis, Richard L.	1012-G	To, Thanh Chai	981-G
Delves, Robert L.	1004-G	Walz, Frederick A.	1010-G
Dodge, Charles M.	985-G		



## **SOA Members Achieving 35 Year Status**

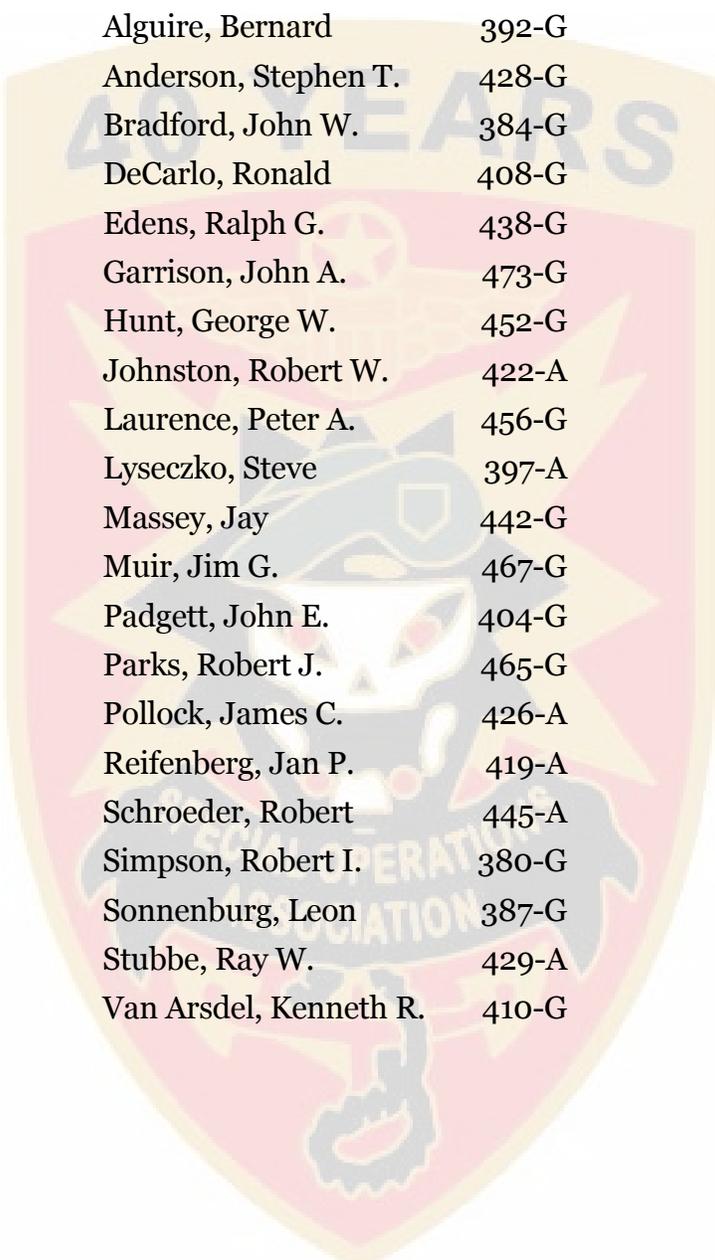
**The following have achieved 35-year status as Members in the Special Operations Association. In recognition, they will be awarded their 35-year SOA pin during the conduct of the 2021 SOA General Membership Meeting:**

A large, semi-transparent watermark logo for the SOA 35th Anniversary is centered in the background. It features a shield with a gear, a wrench, and a lightning bolt, with the text '35 YEARS' at the top and 'SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION' at the bottom.

Aylett, Ronald	709-G
Blaauw, John G.	724-G
Daquino, Anthony J.	705-G
Day, James M.	713-G
Durham, George B.	715-G
Gilstrap, Robert G.	737-G
Grant, John A.	710-G
Gravett, Ronald C.	707-G
Green, Donald A.	719-G
Hanson, Dale H.	718-G
Keever, Steven H.	711-G
Kinsler, Mark D.	700-G
Krempa, William J.	714-G
Lancelot, Trent E.	727-G
Lynch, Timothy M.	704-G
Mauceri, Jeffrie L.	740-G
Moley, Dave	723-G
Plaster, John L.	726-G
Rau, Tom	703-G
Stacey, Gordon E.	702-G
VanWinkle, Harlan	697-G

## **SOA Members Achieving 40 Year Status**

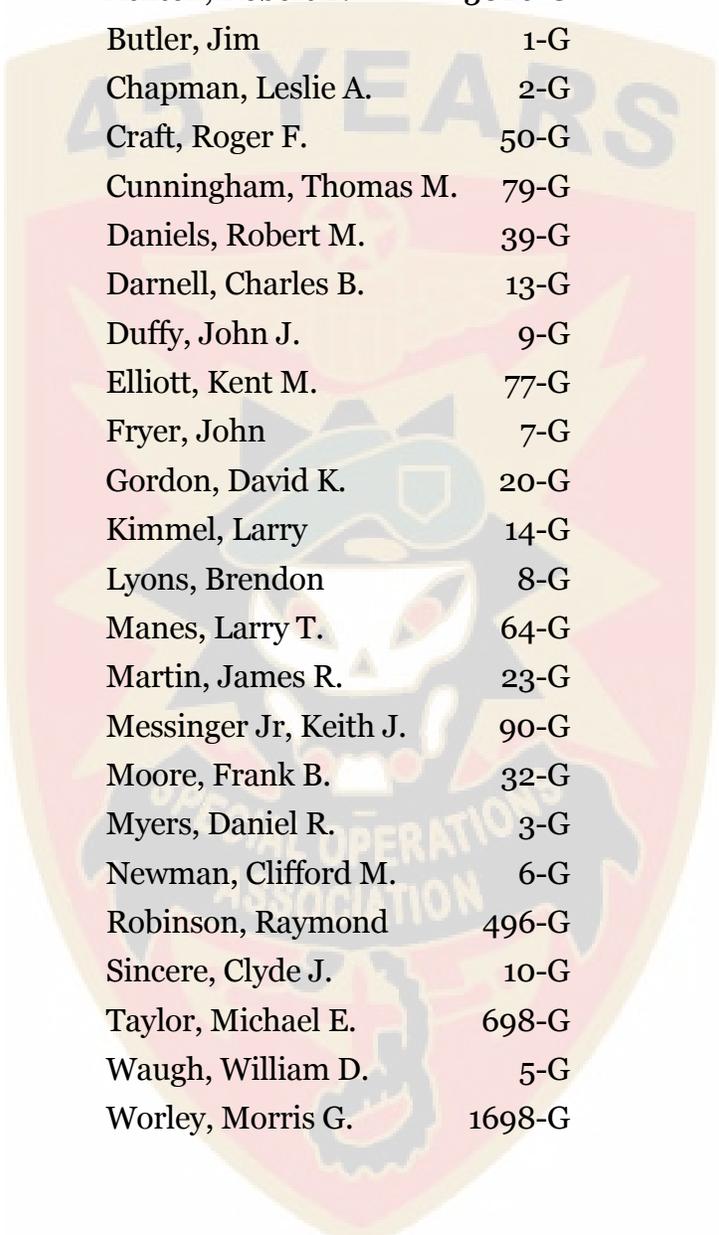
**The following have achieved 40-year status as Members in the Special Operations Association. In recognition, they will be awarded their 40-year SOA pin during the conduct of the 2021 SOA General Membership Meeting:**

A large, semi-transparent watermark logo for the SOA 40th anniversary is centered in the background. It features a shield with a stylized figure holding a gear, surrounded by the text '40 YEARS' at the top and 'SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION' at the bottom.

Alguire, Bernard	392-G
Anderson, Stephen T.	428-G
Bradford, John W.	384-G
DeCarlo, Ronald	408-G
Edens, Ralph G.	438-G
Garrison, John A.	473-G
Hunt, George W.	452-G
Johnston, Robert W.	422-A
Laurence, Peter A.	456-G
Lyseczko, Steve	397-A
Massey, Jay	442-G
Muir, Jim G.	467-G
Padgett, John E.	404-G
Parks, Robert J.	465-G
Pollock, James C.	426-A
Reifenberg, Jan P.	419-A
Schroeder, Robert	445-A
Simpson, Robert I.	380-G
Sonnenburg, Leon	387-G
Stubbe, Ray W.	429-A
Van Arsdel, Kenneth R.	410-G

## **SOA Members Achieving 45 Year Status**

**The following have achieved 45-year status as Members in the Special Operations Association. In recognition, they will be awarded their 45-year SOA pin during the conduct of the 2021 SOAR Banquet:**

A large, semi-transparent watermark logo for the SOA 45 Years Anniversary is centered in the background. It features a shield with a stylized figure holding a rifle, with the text '45 YEARS' at the top and 'SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION' at the bottom.

Ashton, Robert T.	3026-G
Butler, Jim	1-G
Chapman, Leslie A.	2-G
Craft, Roger F.	50-G
Cunningham, Thomas M.	79-G
Daniels, Robert M.	39-G
Darnell, Charles B.	13-G
Duffy, John J.	9-G
Elliott, Kent M.	77-G
Fryer, John	7-G
Gordon, David K.	20-G
Kimmel, Larry	14-G
Lyons, Brendon	8-G
Manes, Larry T.	64-G
Martin, James R.	23-G
Messinger Jr, Keith J.	90-G
Moore, Frank B.	32-G
Myers, Daniel R.	3-G
Newman, Clifford M.	6-G
Robinson, Raymond	496-G
Sincere, Clyde J.	10-G
Taylor, Michael E.	698-G
Waugh, William D.	5-G
Worley, Morris G.	1698-G



The Special Operations Association presents

**BOWLING FOR THE FOUNDATION!**

**THE ORLEANS BOWLING ARENA**

**Wednesday evening, 20 October 2021**

**1930 hours**

Come and join your fellow SOA members, families, and guests in this family-friendly event to support the SOAF!

For a \$10.00 entry fee:

- All participants will be entered in a drawing to win a \$50.00 gift certificate basket, compliments of the Orleans Hotel and Casino
- There will be a prize for the highest score
- All proceeds go to support the Special Operations Association Foundation
- This event is for fun and support of the SOAF mission. Heckling, rude remarks (no profanity), and friendly harassment of other bowlers will be tolerated. It will also be judged



# SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION SILENT AUCTION DONATION



## THE MISSION

Please consider donating an item from your display inventory to the **SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION SILENT AUCTION** to support the Special Operations Community and the Special Operations Soldiers and Sailors from ALL Services.

*Our Mission is to help active duty, separate retired, and deceased Special Operations Warriors and their families by providing financial, educational, well-being, suicide prevention, and survivor assistance.*

## ABOUT THE SOA

The Special Operation Association (SOA), established in December 1977, is a fraternal veteran's organization of past and present American and Allied military personnel who conducted special operations in a combat environment. SOA includes veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Panama, Grenada, the Balkans, Somalia, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Membership is limited to Free World forces that supported or participated in missions inside hostile territory in a combat capacity.

SOA includes active duty and recently retired Special Forces (Green Berets), USAF Air Commandos/FAC's, Navy SEALs, Marine Raider (MARSCOM), U.S Army Rangers, Force Recon personnel and other elite military organizations that are an integral part of Special Operations.



# ABOUT YOUR DONATION

## **Your Silent Auction Item Donation Supports our Charitable Organization, The Special Operations Association Foundation, a 501(c)(3) entity:**

- The Special Operations Association is recognized by the Department of Defense and the IRS as a non-profit veterans' organization, 501 (c) (19), operating on tax deductible donations, (EIN # 74-2619854)
- Mission is 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
- Is an All-Volunteer Organization with one Part-Time Paid Administrator
- Contributes over 95% of Funds Collected to Charitable Programs
- Supports the SOA George C. Morton Memorial Scholarship Grant Fund. Since 1983, over \$656,500 has been awarded, or committed to 168 deserving young scholars

**Your Donation will be displayed for Auction at our  
annual Special Operations Association Reunion. In advance of the  
Silent Auction your Company's Donated Item(s) will also be marketed on  
our Facebook Site to over 11,500 Special Operations members and  
Facebook Community at large as our Thank You.**



Each year at the annual SOA Reunion in Las Vegas, we hold a Silent Auction of various donated items to help us raise money for the SOA's charitable programs. The support we receive greatly enhances our charitable efforts. Please consider donating items of interest to the Auction to help us raise money for the SOA's charitable programs.

Popular donated items that we have generously received for prior Auctions included: military books, military memorabilia, firearms, military hand-crafted knives and other handcrafted items.

For more information see us at  
[www.specialoperations.org](http://www.specialoperations.org) or on  
Facebook: Special Operations Association  
Email inquiries or any questions on donations to [administrator@specialoperations.org](mailto:administrator@specialoperations.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.

## SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION ADVERTISING RATES

**Front Outside Cover ..... Not Available**

**Back Outside Cover.....\$1700**

**Front and Back Inside Cover .....\$1500**

**Interior Full Page ..... \$1400**

**Interior ½ Page .....\$400**

**Interior ¼ Page .....\$275**

*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.  
661 W. Calle Torres Blancas, #5108,  
Green Valley, AZ 85614  
cjrsincere@gmail.com

# Endowments, Bequests and Wills

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

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

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

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

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

## I. General language for a Bequest

- A. “I give all my real and personal property to the Special Operations Association, a veteran’s fraternal organization, in care of Linda M. Leavitt, SOA Administrator, P. O. Box 335461, North Las Vegas, NV 89033, 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 Linda M. Leavitt, SOA Administrator, P. O. Box 335461, North Las Vegas, NV 89033, 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.

## **Endowments, Bequests and Wills (Cont'd)**

### 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 Linda M. Leavitt, SOA Administrator, P. O. Box 335461, North Las Vegas, NV 89033, 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 Linda M. Leavitt, SOA Administrator, P. O. Box 335461, North Las Vegas, NV 89033, 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  
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, fill in this form and return it via mail C/O Linda Leavitt, P.O. Box 335461, North Las Vegas, NV 89033, or email to the Treasurer at [soatreasurer@specialoperations.org](mailto:soatreasurer@specialoperations.org), or drop it off at the Registration Desk during SOAR.

**MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE MADE BY:**

**Payment by Check (Personal or Corporate):** Checks Mailed to SOA Treasurer: P.O. Box 335461 N. Las Vegas, Nv 89033  
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](http://www:specialoperations.org).**

**Date Credit Card to be charged/Automatic Withdrawals made each month\*:** Please check only one box

- 1st of Billing Month
- 10th of Billing Month
- 15th of Billing Month
- 20th of Billing Month
- 25th of Billing Month
- 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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_

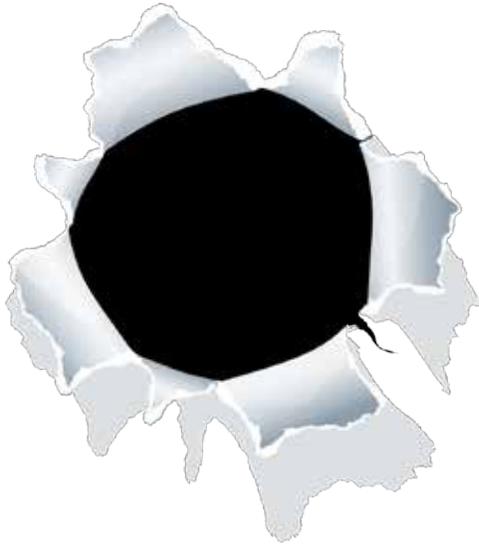
**MONTHLY CHARGE/WITHDRAWAL AUTHORIZATION:**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

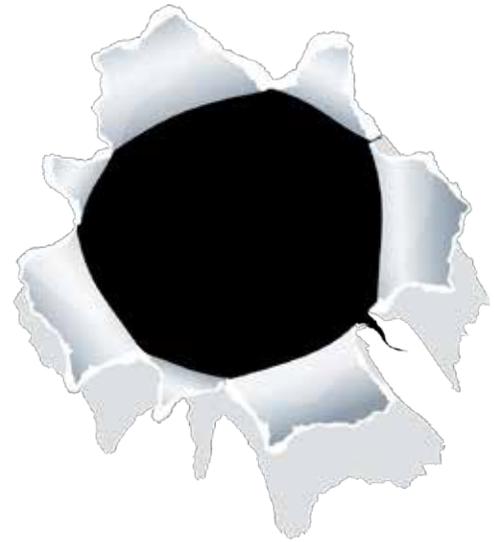


**SOA ANNUAL MEMBERS**

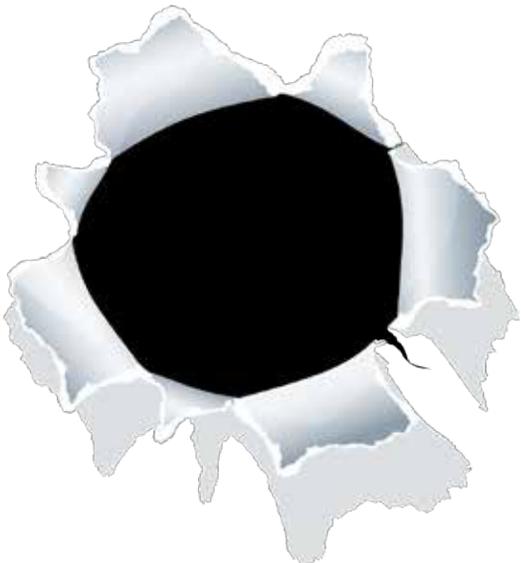
**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY:**

**January 31**  
(EVERY YEAR)

**AND NOBODY GETS HURT**



*A FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE*





## **SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION**

### **SOA FEE SCHEDULE**

Fees can be processed online on the public side of the SOA website by clicking the Membership tab. It is not necessary to logon to the members' side.

#### **ORDER REPLACEMENT LIFE OR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CARD**

\$20 Life Members  
\$10 Annual Members

#### **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

\$30 If paid before January 31  
\$35 If paid after January 31

#### **REINSTATE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP**

\$25 Add fee if you have not renewed in more than 12 months

If you are applying for reinstatement or a change in status from annual to life, contact the Membership Committee in advance to verify status.

Fraternally,

Joe Wilson, Membership Chairman  
(954) 448-2981  
email: [membership@specialoperations.org](mailto:membership@specialoperations.org)

**[www.specialoperations.org](http://www.specialoperations.org)**

V 6/2021



# **SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION**

## **CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE FORM**

Indicate below the changes you would like to make on your record. All information is confidential and will not be shared without consent.

This information can be processed on the SOA website by clicking Membership tab or mailed.

### **MEMBER PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION**

SOA# \_\_\_\_\_ Date of change \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip + 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### **NEXT-OF-KIN CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Joe Wilson, Membership Chairman  
email: [membership@specialoperations.org](mailto:membership@specialoperations.org)  
(954) 488-2981  
PO Box 335461  
N. Las Vegas, NV 89033

V 6/20210

# MEMBER RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE

## UNCONVENTIONAL WARRIORS, THE LEGACY ENDURES

Capt. Jim Butler founded the Special Operations Association in November 1976 with a primary mission to ***unite fraternally all past and present American and Allied military personnel who have conducted special operations in a combat environment***, and to continue the close relations forged in combat while serving on recon team RT Python.

*We have a special kind of brotherhood. We would have given our lives for each other and in some cases, we did.*  
- Jim Butler, SOA Founder



Jim's poignant comments still resonate with today's combat warriors who continue to carry forward our mission.

We continue to have successful recruitment years; however, attrition continues to take its toll and we still have work to do.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Help create a list of websites, newsletters, publications, Special Operations reunions, etc., to update the SOA website calendar and determine placement for SOA recruitment ads.
- Visit the SOA website, get familiar with membership qualifications and documentation requirements and volunteer to represent the SOA at conventions, reunions, and meetings.
- Attend SOA's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October 2021; bring guests and encourage other SOA members and potential members to attend.

Jim Shorten, Chair of the recruitment initiative and I ask all SOA members to help in recruiting qualified Special Operations combat veterans, especially the modern-day, post 9/11 warriors.

Fraternally,  
Joe Wilson, Membership Chairman  
954 448-2981  
membership@specialoperations.org

Jim Shorten  
520 249-6692  
TheEmeraldSea@aol.com

[www.specialoperations.org](http://www.specialoperations.org)



## **SOAR XLV 18-22 October 2021 REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

***SOAR XLV registration for reunion fees and individual events must be completed online on the SOA website: [SpecialOperations.org](http://SpecialOperations.org)***

***Members preferring to pay by cash, check, or money order, may do so at the registration desk on arrival at SOAR in October.***

**Reunion Fees:** Choose Full or Daily:

FULL — \$190 per person

- Includes Hospitality all days, Wednesday Luncheon, and the Thursday Banquet.

DAILY — \$70 per day per person Individual days include:

- Monday & Tuesday — Hospitality
- Wednesday — Hospitality + Luncheon
- Thursday — Hospitality + Banquet

**Individual Events:** Fees for individual events, Entertainment, SOA's Unreturned Heroes Memorial Breakfast, CCS Southern Brotherhood Breakfast are not included in the Reunion Fees and must be completed on separate registration forms.

**Name Badges:** For security, reunion name badges will be provided and must be displayed during the reunion. Temporary badges will be available for attendees arriving after the registration desk closes.

**Refunds:** All requests for refunds must be submitted to the Registrar.

**Volunteers:** Volunteers are vital to the success of the reunion. Please indicate your willingness to help on the registration form.

**If you have questions or need assistance completing the online forms, contact the Registrar:**

Ivan Davis, SOAR Registrar  
Registrar4soar@gmail.com  
541-543-1073



## **SOAR XLV 18-22 October 2021 REUNION INFORMATION**

**Eligibility:** SOA members in good standing and their guests.

**Where:** The Orleans Hotel and Casino  
Phone: 800 675-3267  
SOAR Group Code: ASP1C10  
(Alpha-Sierra-Papa-One-Charlie-One-Zero)

SOAR room rates are guaranteed through 24 Sept. 2021:

Sunday through Thursday daily — \$47 per day plus tax and resort fee.  
Friday and Saturday — \$97 per day, plus tax and resort fee.

**Banquet Seating:** Reserve your banquet seat after you check in.

**End of Reunion:** All SOAR activities will cease at 1200, Friday, 22 October 2021.

**Contact information:** Chuck Woodson, SOAR Reunion Chairman  
SOARreunion@specialoperations.org

Joe Wilson, Membership Chairman  
membership@specialoperations.org

***Updates will be posted on the SOA website: [SPECIALOPERATIONS.ORG](http://SPECIALOPERATIONS.ORG)***



## **SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CONVENTION 22-25 October 2021**

The SOA Reunion and the SFA Convention will be held back-to-back at the same venue and overlap one day. The overlapping day will feature a shared hospitality room\*.

SOA members planning to attend the SFA Convention should visit the SFA convention website: **SFACON.COM** for specific information on registration, reunion fees, events, and hotel reservations.

**Where:** The Orleans Hotel and Casino  
Phone: 800 675-3267  
SFA Hotel Code: ASF1C10

**\*SFA/SOA Shared Hospitality Room:**  
22 October 2021  
1000 – 1200, Mardi Gras room  
Coffee, donuts, and bagels will be served. There is no charge for this event.

### **SFA contact information:**

John Joyce, SFA Reunion Chairman  
info@sfacon.com

***Updates will be posted on the SFA website: SFACON.COM***



# OFFICIAL SOA COIN



**\$12**

**Available now through  
SOA Quartermaster sales or at SOAR**

Also available online:  
[www.specialoperations.org/soa/](http://www.specialoperations.org/soa/)

**NOTE: This is a members only item.**



**SPECIAL OPERATIONS ASSOCIATION**

Presidential Unit Citation -- certificate set		\$12.00	___	_____
Coin, Official SOA		\$12.00	___	_____
Coin, 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary MACVSOG		\$12.00	___	_____
Coin, FOB# 4 Commemorative 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary		\$12.00	___	_____
Coin, MACVSOG PUC Commemorative edition		\$12.00	___	_____
Patch, Prairie Fire gold embroidered on black background		\$5.00	___	_____
Patch square SOA logo embroidered on black		\$5.00	___	_____
Patch SOA Red Shield logo embroidered 4" tall		\$15.00	___	_____
Patch SOA Red Shield logo embroidered 9" tall		\$30.00	___	_____
Life Member Pin SOA round	Gold__Pewter__	\$6.00	___	_____
Hat Pin SOA Red Shield 1 ½ inches		\$7.00	___	_____
Tie, Lapel Pin, SOA Red Shield		\$6.00	___	_____
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	___	_____
SOA 3D Red Shield logo car badge w/3m backing		\$14.00	___	_____
Flag, Special Operation Association-3' x 5' Single/reverse black flag w/grommets		\$50.00	___	_____

SUBTOTAL\_\_\_\_\_

SHIPPING, Flat rate USPO - Sm \$8.45, Md \$15.50, Lg \$21.90

SHIPPING\_\_\_\_\_

HANDLING\_\_\_\_\_ \$3.00\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL\_\_\_\_\_

**ORDER INSTRUCTIONS:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ SOA# \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST. \_\_\_\_\_ ZC \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT: Check/Money Orders/Credit Card (US currency only) payable to: Quartermaster SOA**

CARD INFO: MasterCard \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ AMEX \_\_\_ (check one) CC# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3 digit code on back \_\_\_\_\_ Mail to:

**Quartermaster SOA 1492 Lake James Dr., Prudenville, MI. 48651**

## **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.

# 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

rstrange81@yahoo.com

**DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE**

NOTE: Administrative Use Only

Date Order Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Payment Processed: \_\_\_\_\_

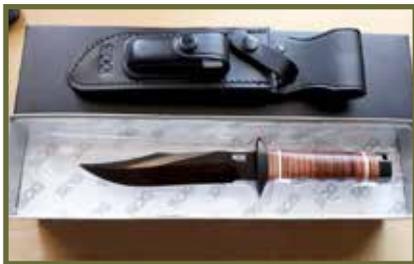
Date Shipped: \_\_\_\_\_

Print # Requested and/or Available: \_\_\_\_\_

Form available on SOA website: [www.SpecialOperation.org](http://www.SpecialOperation.org)

# EXCLUSIVE OFFER

**SOA MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING**



**\$180.95**

## SOG Bowie 2.0

In February 2021, the SOA offered 50 unique SOG Bowie knives which sold out in hours. Due to popular demand, we are now offering an additional 100 of these serial numbered knives, engraved on the blade with the words “Special Operations Association” and the SOA logo for \$180.95 plus shipping. A fitted leather sheath and sharpening stone are included.

SOG Knives and Specialty tools, LLC, a Corporate supporter of the SOA, produced the Bowie knife based on the one used by the Studies and Observation Group of the US Special Forces and other elite soldiers in the Vietnam War. It combines the traditional SOG Bowie with modern technology and materials to produce a top-notch working knife. The sculpted cross guard, deep hollow grinds and precision detailing, and faceted tip are unmistakable signatures.

**Order now at the SOA Quarter Master Store:  
[www.specialoperations.org/soa/qmstore/](http://www.specialoperations.org/soa/qmstore/)**

**IF YOU COULD ONLY OWN ONE KNIFE,  
THIS WOULD BE THE ONE .**



**HONORED TO SERVE  
THOSE WHO SERVE.  
PAST, PRESENT AND  
FUTURE.**

For 35 years, SOG's mission has been to create knives and tools for those who would go into harm's way in defense of our country.

SOG is proud to continue to support these elite warriors through the Special Operations Association, members and their families.

**SOG**

**RELENTLESS BY DESIGN.**  
SOGKNIVES.COM



*The Orleans is proud to present*

# SOAR XLV

**October 18-22, 2021**



*Thank you for your service*

CALL 1-800-ORLEANS (675-3267) AND BOOK YOUR ROOM UNDER SPECIAL OPERATIONS

**The ORLEANS**<sup>SM</sup>

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