



SFA Indian Nations Chapter 32/50  
1715 Spoke Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73108

### **MINUTES 10 FEB 2024**

SFA Chapter 32-50 met at the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Headquarters, 2101 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK, on Saturday, 10 FEB 2024, at 1200 hours.

#### **Officers Present**

President: Roger "Rock" Taylor  
Treasurer/Medal Sales Coordinator/ WebMaster: Jerry Cooper  
Secretary/Assistant WebMaster: Pat Carr  
Assistant Secretary: Charles Watts  
Chaplain/Assistant Treasurer: Dick Goodman  
Quartermaster: Rick Cacini  
Medal Presentation Coordinator: Doug Warden

#### **Officers Absent**

Vice President: Bill Coultrup

#### **Opening Ceremonies**

President Rock Taylor called the meeting to order, at 1200 hrs.  
Alan Battles led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Chaplain Dick Goodman led the Special Forces Prayer.  
Rafael Elias played and the members sang the Ballad of the Green Beret.

#### **Guests**

To the immense appreciation of all, MSG (R) Otis Bennett attended with his lovely wife Maxine. Otis, who served as the long-time and beloved team sergeant for OD 211, Co A, 2d BN, 12<sup>th</sup> SFGA, has been out of touch with us for many years. As if we were not sufficiently blessed by Otis and Maxine, Ray Williams returned from his four-month quarantine looking well! Also present were Everett Bagley and Robert Kelson, both of whom have been on extended sick call. The reunions were warm and heartfelt. Jim Selders was accompanied by wife Keely; Roger Routh by Sylvia; John McAllister by Thu; and Ellis Edwards by Thao. Tommy Bradbury, USMC, was also present.

#### **Death of COL (R) (MOH) Roger Donlon**

The recent death of COL (R) (MOH) Roger H.C. Donlon marks the loss to Special Forces of one of its greatest heroes. Col Roger Donlon passed away 25 Jan 2024, in Leavenworth, Kansas, at the age of 89. His Celebration of Life will be 10 Apr 2024, at 1300, at the Frontier Conference, 350 Biddle Ave, Ft. Leavenworth, KS. The burial service will follow at the Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery. The eulogy will be presented by MG (R) Ken Bowra. Master of Ceremonies will be Gary Sinise. Col Donlon was the first Recipient of the Medal

of Honor for the VietNam War, and the first member of the United States Army Special Forces to receive the Medal of Honor. This was for actions at Nam Dong, on 6 Jul 1964, with Special Forces Detachment A-726.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer/Medal Sales Coordinator Jerry Cooper reported, as of 10 FEB 2024:

General Fund bank balance	\$4,833.21
ROTC Medals bank balance	\$4,785.28
Green Beret Benevolent Fund	\$2,754.00
<b>Total Cash in Banks</b>	<b>\$12,372.49</b>

**Medal Sales Report as of 10 FEB 2024:**

Item	2024	2023	Difference	%
Medals sold since January 1st	82	60	22	36.00%
Remaining Medals on Hand	2,866	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gross Medal Sales	\$1,476.00	\$1,022.32	\$453.68	12.98%
Net Profit from Medal Sales	\$739.30	\$146.16	\$885.46	48.61%

Jerry reported 8 unpaid annual membership dues for 2024. He will submit the required Chapter Financial Report for 2023 to National and post it to the website.

Doug Warden's motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Medals Report, seconded by Rock Taylor, was unanimously approved.

**COL(R) Jim Selders**, a former Chapter President, presented a most interesting briefing on his Vietnam service, complete with slides.

**Old Business**

Robert Kelson's motion to approve the meeting minutes for 13 JAN 2024, seconded by Ray Williams, was unanimously approved.

Historian, Maj (R) Joe Todd, is continuing to record videos of combat veterans. If you have not recorded an interview, contact Joe at (918) 914-2179.

Please give Pat Carr your submissions for The Drop. Please also give Pat your old photographs (in uniform or out) to be preserved on the chapter website.

All who have not completed a personal biography on Team House, please do so.

## SFA CARNIVAL CRUISE

SFA Legacy Initiatives has signed a contract with Carnival Cruise Lines to charter an entire ship for SF, family, and friends. The Carnival Paradise will provide an exclusive cruise experience departing from Tampa, FL on October 19, 2024. The current planning itinerary will include the following events that will also support many SF small businesses during this epic event:

October 17-18 Pre-cruise gatherings, USSOCOM events, golf tournament, poker run, supporting local SF businesses with Scuba dives, off-shore fishing, boat trips, & more

October 19 - Board the ship, SF Swag, Regimental Colors flying from the mast, sail away party with nationally known music artist(?)

October 20 - Day at Sea, beer and wine tasting from SF owned breweries and wineries

October 21 - Bimini

October 22 - Nassau with a shore party at the SF owned "The Bearded Clam Sports Bar", support other SF businesses with shore excursion

October 23 - Day at Sea, SF liquor tasting from SF owned distilleries

October 24 - Return to Tampa-more activities like football games, hockey games, etc...

We have over 1,000 passengers already registered during the pre-registration phase.

**Register today at:** [specialforces2024cruise@gmail.com](mailto:specialforces2024cruise@gmail.com).

During the 2023 SFA Convention (SFACON), the membership voted that this cruise will also be the venue for 2024 SFACON. SFA Chapter VIII (8), Hawaii Chapter, is organizing the convention and the cruise.

Prepare to be inspired by an exceptional lineup of keynote speakers who have conquered adversity and achieved remarkable success, both during and after their military service. Hear stories of resilience, leadership, and triumph, drawing upon the lessons learned from your time in the Special Forces and applying them to your civilian life. Potential speakers include: The Originals, Medal of Honor Recipients, Commanders of various organizations like USSOCOM, USASOC, etc. The 1st SFG and Detachment A/Berlin have already committed to conduct their reunion on the ship. We are in discussions with SOA, 5th SFG and others to do the same.

If we don't meet our goal we will have to open this up to the Night Stalker Association, Rangers, Civil Affairs and other organizations to fill up the ship. There has never been an opportunity like this before, so don't be the one who sees the pictures, videos, smiles and memories after this is all over, wishing you had attended. Make the commitment today and sign up.

Rooms are designed for two occupants. If you don't have someone to come with you, we have started a forum where folks can find someone to defray the cost of the room.

<http://pub24.bravenet.com/forum/static/show.php?usernum=1987450266&frmid=10393&msgid=0> What is included: Cabin in selected category for 2 passengers, taxes, port fees, and gratuities. 3 sit down meals a day, snacks and more throughout; non-bottled

water, lemonade, iced tea, hot chocolate, and some coffees and teas. Also includes things like a Brunch, Fast Food, around the clock buffet, and ice-cream bar, Vegas type production shows, water slides, comedy club, activities for kids, competitions, etc.

**Make Lifelong Connections:** Strengthen the bonds forged in the crucible of the Special Forces and form new connections with like-minded individuals who share a common mission and purpose. The reunion cruise is a chance to expand your network, exchange ideas, and collaborate with fellow warriors who are making a difference in various fields.

So don't miss out on this extraordinary gathering of elite warriors. Reserve your spot today on this Global Gathering of Green Berets and embark on an adventure that will reignite the fire within and create memories that will last a lifetime. Together, let's honor the past, celebrate the present, and embrace the future.

### **DON'T MISS THE BOAT!**

Pete Tingstrom, SFA 2024 Cruise Lead Planner / SFACON 2024 Chair  
[specialforces2024cruise@gmail.com](mailto:specialforces2024cruise@gmail.com)

### **New Business**

Charles Watts, seconded by Rick Cacini, moved that Chapter 32-50 donate \$500 to the Gary Sinise Foundation in memory of COL (MOH) Roger H.C. Donlon. The motion passed unanimously.

Due to health issues, Sarge Cronic has resigned as Quartermaster, and Rick Cacini has assumed the position..

Rick Cacini reported on the January meeting of the Oklahoma Veterans' Council.

Doug Warden reported that Jerry Haney and Nokey Klutts both continue to convalesce at home.

Medal Of Honor recipient, MSG (R) Earl Plumlee, has stated he is moving to Oklahoma City, and he plans to join Chapter 32-50.

Henry Israel reported that Oklahoma City Gun Show presenter Claude Hall has a foundation that refurbishes motorized wheelchairs for disabled vets who are unable to obtain them from the VA.

J.O. Dickey is looking for a computer literate/capable volunteer to assist at the Dale Graham Veterans' Center, in Norman.

For the second month in a row, Larry Zimmerman won the 50/50 raffle in the amount of \$110. Although this seems like an unreasonable coincidence, he again donated all the money back to the Chapter.

**Our Next Meeting** will be Saturday, 9 MAR 2024, at the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Headquarters, 2101 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City. The entrance to parking is on the north side of NE 36th Street. The social hour begins at 1100 hours, and the business meeting begins at 1200 hrs. The building has no bar or refreshments.

De Oppresso Liber,



Charles J. Watts

D-2833

Assistant Secretary