### THE BOB SALZMAN MEMORIAL CHAPTER FLORIDA

# CHAPTER XXI SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION

Volume LXXV October 2025 NR 10

Website: <a href="http://specialforceschapter21florida.com">http://specialforceschapter21florida.com</a>





# **Chapter XXI Officers, Directors, and Administrative Staff**

**PRESIDENT: John Vislosky**, D-14010L, Tel: (914) 406-0316, E-mail: **JV4@aol.com** 

VICE-

PRESIDENT: Richard Whitman, D-6528L, Tel: (407) 482-3817, E-mail: <u>rgwsrw99@aol.com</u>

**Phil Devon**, M-13612, 4313 Tel: (585)739-4785, E-mail

TREASURER: pnjdevon@gmail.com

Suzie Gaspard, Tel: (904) 287-1681, E-mail: gwgsrg@aol.com

**SECRETARY:** 

**QUARTERMASTER:** Susan Micelli, Military Presents, Tel: (386)734-2711, 386-717-8197

(cell) 386-734-5167(fax); E-mail: SusanMicelli@hotmail.com

**DIRECTOR:** Robert J. Schlafke, Jr.; D-8729L, Tel: (321) 616-6798,

E-mail: <u>rjscocoa@gmail.com</u>

WEBMASTER: Dave Grose, D-3910L, Tel: (315) 573-2014, E-mail: dgrose895@gmail.com

# President's Update - John Vislosky



Happy Oktoberfest everyone...Proust!

I trust everyone is enjoying our 99-degree Florida Fall Weather?

**SOAR/SFCON 2025:** I look forward to seeing those of you who plan to attend in Las Vegas from 13-17 October at the combined SOA/SFA Conventions. Let's plan to get a SFA Chapter 21 photo at the event to share with those who could not attend.

**Christmas get together**...We are still in the process of selecting a date and venue for our Christmas Meeting. The Board is weighing several options including having the meeting after the holidays in early 2026.

### SFA National Information and "The Drop":

I will be at the SFA National President's Meeting on 17 October at SFACON 2025 in Las Vegas. In addition to representing Chapter 21 and taking copious notes, I plan to raise a question/suggestion that one of our Chapter members raised, the sponsoring of a *Special Forces Scouting Organization (SFSO)*. The SFSO would be based on the original charter of the Boy and Cub Scouts of years before. Developing Confidence and belief in Duty, Honor, Family and County while cultivating worthwhile skills in our youth (i.e. developing an appreciation for hunting, fishing, and wilderness skills, etc.). Great concept.

#### The Drop

SFA National has added additional digitized back issues of *The Drop* and posted them on SFA National's website. There are gaps because they were missing copies. Some of the scans are not of the best quality. If anyone has better quality scans or digitized version of any missing back issues, send them to me and SFA will add them. SFA has also added an index of the major articles in the uploaded copies of *The Drop*. Go to "The Drop" on the main menu and then click on Drop Index to download a copy of the index.

Second, SFA has extracted the Obituaries from all the uploaded copies of The Drop and added them to the Final Formation (Obituaries) folder of the Documents Library. For instructions on how to search these obits go to [Member Support] > FAQ and select "How to search obituaries". You can search not only by name but by anything in the title or description field e.g., OSS, SOG, KIA.

# **Next Chapter Meeting**

Where & When: TBD. Workin' on it....

## **Donations**

• Bill Schulz has donated another Randall knife to be raffled off. The proceeds going to the Education Grant Fund for Chapter 21. Jim Summerville is selling tickets. First come - first served. If interested, send Jim a check for \$20.00 for each ticket. Make the check payable to SFA Chapter 21 and mail to:

Jim Summerville at 3165 Greenwood St, Winter Park, FL, 32792



• Thanks to the generosity of **Bill Schulz and Richard Whitman**, we have several signed bottles of *Horse Soldier Bourbon* available for purchase. All the bottles are signed by one of the Founders of the Bourbon Distillery and who also happened to be one of the SF Team members of the first ODAs in Afghanistan after 9/11. If interested in purchasing some or all the signed bottles contact Richard Whitman for details: Tel: (407) 482-3817, E-mail: **rgwsrw99@aol.com** 

# What's Happening

• Green Beret Troop Support Luncheon. Another fine gathering on September 30<sup>th</sup> of our SF Brothers at *Grills Seafood Deck and Tiki Bar* in Canaveral, FL.









• Benefits for 100% VA Disabled: Below are some of the primary advantages:

#### **Medical and Commissary Access**

Access to Military Bases: Military ID cards allow 100 percent disabled veterans to enter military installations. This provides them with access to commissaries, military exchanges (PX/BX), and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) facilities. These services offer lower-cost groceries, household supplies, and recreational activities. Do 100% disabled veterans get military ID cards to utilized for their benefits? The answer is a resounding, yes. It is very different (it is beige in color) from your VA Medical Card and Retiree ID Card.

#### **Space-Available Flights**

Eligible veterans can use Space-A flights, which provide free travel on available military flights within the U.S. and other destinations.

#### **Health Care Benefits**

With a valid military ID, disabled veterans can access specific military health facilities, though most medical services are provided via the VA. A military ID simplifies proving one's eligibility for medical benefits when needed. Do 100% disabled veterans get military ID cards to use their medical benefits? Yes.

#### **Discount Opportunities**

Many businesses offer military discounts for veterans with military ID cards. From retail stores to entertainment venues, presenting this card can lead to significant savings on products, travel, and services.

### **Other Perks**

Additional perks include access to free tax preparation and legal assistance through services offered on military installations. Some educational institutions also offer special scholarships or grants for 100 percent disabled veterans with a military ID. Having a military ID allows veterans easier and quicker access to these benefits, making it a valuable credential for their everyday interactions and needs.

- <u>Being Prepared</u>: In the spirit of all of us being "prepared". The VA recommends preparing a file for family members in the event of a SF Brother's passing which contains the following:
  - 1. Have a copy of veteran's DD214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, a copy of marriage certificate for current spouse, a copy of birth certificate for all minor children & a copy of Social Security Card for eligible family members of the deceased at the time of death.
  - 2. Contact Funeral Director to set-up funeral arrangements and Military Honors

- 3. Notify Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) call 1-888-332-7411
- 4. Notify Veterans Administration 1-800-827-1000
- 5. Notify Social Security Administration 1-800-772-1213
- 6. Notify Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) 1-800-538-9552
- 7. Notify VA Life Insurance, if applicable 1-800-669-8477
- 8. Notify SGLI and VGLI Insurance, if applicable 1-800-419-1473
- 9. Notify Civil Service Retirement System, if applicable 1-888-767-6738
- 10. Obtain at least 10 certified copies of long form death certificate and 10 copies of short form death certificate from funeral directors
- 11. Notify Life Insurance companies, and file appropriate claims
- 12. Notify Medical, health, disability, travel & accident insurance companies, & file appropriate claims
- 13. Notify Homeowners insurance company
- 14. Notify Vehicle insurance company
- 15. Visit the County Property Appraiser's Office and transfer all real estate properties to surviving spouse
- 16. Apply for widowed person's Homestead Exemption
- 17. Apply for appropriate (VA, Civil Service and other) benefits, if applicable
- 18. Apply for Veterans Burial Benefits and Survivor Benefits, if applicable
- 19. Check for non-government pension benefits, if applicable
- 20. Apply for Workers' Compensation Benefits, if applicable
- 21. Picture and prewritten obituary (that can also be used for our Chapter 21 Newsletter and The Drop)

# **Health & Welfare**

- Ray and Judy Drewry: Please continue prayers for them.
- Richard "Whit" Whitman: Prayers for Whit. He spent some time in the hospital for his heart. He is back at home now and resting. Get better soon Brother!

# **SF/Ranger Luncheons**

- St Petersburg SF/Ranger: *The Harbor Master* at Bay Pines Marina, 4999 Harbor Lights Drive, Seminole FL 33706. 4 October 2025 @ 1130 Hours ET.
- Cape Canaveral (GBTS) SF/Ranger: Held monthly on the last Tuesday of the month at 1130 Hours ET at *Grills Seafood Deck and Tiki Bar*, 500 Glen Cheek Drive, Cape Canaveral, FL. The next one is 28 October 2025 @ 1130 Hours ET.

# **Upcoming SFA & SOA Events 2024**

13-16 Oct 2025: SOAR, The Orleans Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV

14-17 Oct 2025: SFACON 2025, The Orleans Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV WEBSITE

17-20 November 2025: 2025 Modern Warfare Week – Fort Bragg, Global SOF Foundation WEBSITE

(TBD??): Chapter 21 Holiday Meeting

# Chapter XXI Quartermaster (Sale Items)

Make checks payable to SFA Chapter 21
Mail your order and checks to: Susan Micelli, 4243 McCorvey Rd, Deland, FL 32724



\$3.00 postage



SF Crest Zipper Pull for Jackets or Bags \$7.00 plus \$3.00 postage



SF Member Pins in Gold or Silver, Basic Jump Wings or Master Jump Wings \$6.00 each plus \$3.00 postage



NEW SFA Chapter XXI Challenge Coin \$15.00 each plus \$8.00 postage