

**THE BOB SALZMAN MEMORIAL CHAPTER FLORIDA
CHAPTER XXI SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION**

Volume LXXXVII October 2026 NR 10

Website: <http://specialforceschapter21florida.com>



Chapter XXI Officers, Directors, and Administrative Staff*

*(*Officers listed below were elected on 21 February 2026 for 2 Year Term ending on 21 February 2028)*

PRESIDENT:	John Vislosky , M-14010L, Tel: (914) 406-0316, Email: JV4@aol.com
VICE- PRESIDENT:	Richard Whitman , D-6528L, Tel: (407) 482-3817, Email: rgwsrw99@aol.com
TREASURER:	Phil Devon , M-13612, 4313 Tel: (585)739-4785, Email pnjdevon@gmail.com
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Jim Summerhill : (C) (407)718-0999 ; Email: jimsummerville@yahoo.com
SECRETARY:	Lyndsay Hastings , (C): (701) 240-2939, Email: Las1954@gmail.com
QUARTERMASTER:	Susan Micelli , <i>Military Presents</i> , Tel: (386)734-2711, 386-717-8197 (cell) 386-734-5167(fax); Email: SusanMicelli@hotmail.com
DIRECTOR (at Large):	Joe Hasting , (C): (301) 922-6025-6798, Email: JPHMBOX@yahoo.com
WEBMASTER:	Dave Grose , D-3910L, Tel: (315) 573-2014, E-mail: dgrose895@gmail.com
DIRECTOR JROTC AWARDS & PROGRAMS	Steve Epkins , (Tel) 239-810-0488; (Email) sepkins@proton.me

President's Update - John Vislosky

- **Opening Comments:** A very busy September. I really feel the year slipping away quickly. At all the retail stores the Christmas decorations are already out. The best news is the humidity seems to have finally broken and the weather is fantastic. Stay safe and enjoy! I hope to see some of you at SOAR 50th 12-15 October in Las Vegas.



- **Frohes Oktoberfest!!! Happy Oktoberfest!!!!**

- **Board Member Changes:** You will notice a change in a few of our Board positions. I checked with SFA National, and this change can be made without a Chapter vote. Provided, that said BOD members request the change of status by email or in writing. All have done so.
 - **Jimmy Summerhill** has graciously agreed to assist Phil Devon as the **Assistant Treasurer**. Thank you, Jimmy.
 - Both **Bob Schlafe (Director at Large)** and **Suzie Gaspard (Secretary)** have asked to step down from their Board duties. I want to Thank them both for their contribution over the years to Chapter 21. We look forward to seeing both of them at the upcoming Chapter meetings.
 - Replacing Bob and Suzie are **Joe Hastings (Director at Large)** and his wife, Retired Air Force Colonel, **Lyndsay Hastings (Secretary)**. Thank you both for volunteering. You will be officially sworn in to complete Bob's and Suzie's 2-year term at an upcoming Chapter meeting (TBD). Then we will hold regular Board position elections in 2028.
- **Scam Alert:** A growing Scam has developed in Florida. The Federal, State and local police are trying to crack down on these phone scams. The current Scam is calling you and posing as a Sheriff's Deputy or IRS Agent. They will inform you that you have either missed jury duty, failed to pay a fine or failed to pay your taxes, etc. They are very convincing and seem to have enough knowledge of your personal information (address, full name and maybe your SSN) to be creditable. They also understand the law and associated penalties.

The signs that it is a Scam are:

- The call comes in from an unknown or ID blocked number.
- Remember, no Agency will call you about a violation. You would receive an official notice in the mail. However, in one case the "Deputy" said they received on "X date", your "signed" statement in which you acknowledge the fine or Jury Duty date. You may get confused that you really did receive, sign and mailed back a notice. They are convincing.
- They will threaten you with arrest, and/or an increased fine if you do not comply immediately.

- They will tell you that to rectify the issue, you will have to make a cash or cryptocurrency payment directly to them. They will coach you on where to get the money (an ATM or Crypto Currency from a Kias at a gas station).
- They will ask you to stay on the phone with them while you get the payment and drive to a specific location to pay the “fine”. They mask collecting the payment by having you go to a seemingly official location (Court House steps or some other location) to make payment. Again, they want you to stay on the phone and not get assistance from a family member , etc.
- **SOLUTION:** Hang up. Call the local police and inform them of this Scam. If you feel it necessary, consult legal counsel. By no means give out personal information or give any money.
- **For more information see:** <https://consumer.ftc.gov/consumer-alerts/2026/06/ignore-calls-texts-and-emails-threatening-arrest-you-missing-jury-duty>

Next Chapter 21 Meeting

- We discussed scheduling at least two more meetings before 2026 ends. Therefore, the next meeting will be in conjunction with the Green Beret Troop Support Luncheon (see details below) that so many of our members attend. The second will be an overnight super casual Christmas gathering in early December depending on costs, availability, etc., of the hotels. If the costs are too high or no availability then we will look towards 1st Quarter 2027
 - **Chapter 21 Meeting in conjunction with the Cape Canaveral (GBTS) SF/Ranger Luncheon: 27 October 2026 @ 1130 Hours ET** at *Grills Seafood Deck and Tiki Bar*, 500 Glen Cheek Drive, Cape Canaveral, FL. All Chapter 21 members wives and families are invited to attend. Also, any other SFA members also can attend. Just show up – no need to register. The cost is \$20 per person for drinks and charitable donations. You pay for your own meal(s).
 - **Chapter 21 Year-end meeting and Christmas Celebration. DATE & LOCATION TBD**
We plan to do either a Friday/Saturday **or** Saturday/Sunday event in early December or early January 2027 at a hotel. Location and dates TBD. We will confirm the details in the coming months. The idea would be a casual get together in our own hospitality room. We would have the Chapter meeting, then a catered dinner in the same room followed the gift exchange & then enjoy the rest of the evening sharing war stories. You have the option of staying overnight or leaving for home afterwards. The next morning would be an informal hotel breakfast at the hotel and the rest would then depart. If you have any thoughts or suggestion on a location—please email John Vislosky at JV4@aol.com

Again, to set expectations... several factors that we are attempting to work through may prevent us having a meeting in December 2026 and bumping it to January 2027. The cost of the Hospitality/Meeting/Dinner room, cost of hotel rooms (for those who wish to stay over), and other factors. But we will try and see if we can figure it all out.

Health & Welfare

- **Phil Devon** : Our continued prayers for Phil and Joette as he fights the good fight.
- **Mary Haskel**: Please keep in her in your prayers as she recovers from knee replacement surgery.
- **Sheila Whitman**: Please keep her in your prayers.

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SGM (R) James “Jack” Lee Carey
1935-2026. RIP Brother



Sergeant Major James “Jack” Lee Carey, 91 of Waterville, ME. Passed away peacefully, on September 17, 2026, in Belleview, FL. Jack was born in Waterville, ME to Auguste J. Carey and Alma L. (Vachon) Carey on July 04, 1935. He enlisted in the United States Army was a Green Beret and other service-related assignments for 28 years. He was a Veteran of the Vietnam War, and he served three tours in an active warzone. He enjoyed woodworking, collecting coins, and going to the game room slots. Jack is preceded in death by his brothers, Richard J. “Spike” Carey, Perley Alfred Carey and wife, Anna “Marie” Carey. Jack is survived by his wife, Florence “Flo” Tomasella, his children, Roxanne “Rocky” Carpenter, Ronald J. Carey, his wife, Anne “Marie” Labbe. He also leaves behind his grandchildren, great grandchildren and many, nieces and nephews. A funeral service for Jack was held on 22 September in Belleview Florida. Memorials may be made in form of donations to the [Wounded Warrior Project](https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org) at support.woundedwarriorproject.org

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CSM (R) James Richard Warrick
1935-2025. RIP Brother



Corrected Version

CSM (R) James Richard Warrick, born on April 1, 1935, passed away peacefully on December 1, 2025, surrounded by loved ones. A devoted family man, dedicated soldier, and honorable leader, he lived a life marked by courage, service, and unwavering commitment. James proudly served his country in both the United States Army and the Army National Guard, rising to the distinguished rank of Command Sergeant Major. Throughout his military career, he earned numerous commendations, including two Bronze Star Medals honoring his extraordinary bravery and leadership. He was married to Shirley, with whom he shared many meaningful years, and later to Nancy, forming lifelong partnerships built on love and respect. Family was always at the center of James's life. He is survived by his daughter, three grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren, each of whom brought him immense joy and pride. James will be remembered for his humility, strength of character, and the quiet but powerful impact he had on everyone who knew him. His legacy lives on through the generations he leaves behind and the many lives he touched through his service and personal kindness.

John Steven Joyce

1962-2026. RIP Brother.

(Note: John was a close friend of the Chapter and designed and minted our newest Chapter 21 Coin. Pictured here with his wife, Ozielly)



John S. Joyce, 62, of Henderson, Nevada, passed away on September 6, 2026. John entered the U.S. Army in 1984 and served with the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment and later with the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Lewis, Washington. While assigned to 1st SFG(A), he helped develop and teach Special Forces combatives. Following his military service, John continued a career devoted to service and training. He became a California police officer and defensive tactics instructor and later founded Special Operations International, providing security, investigative and training services. John remained deeply involved with the Special Forces community throughout his life. A member of the Special Forces Association, M-11877, he was for many years active with SFA Chapter 78 in Southern California, where he served in several leadership positions, including Director at Large and Treasurer. After moving to Nevada, he became active with SFA Chapter 51 in Las Vegas. His contributions extended far beyond simply attending meetings. John gave freely of his considerable talents as a designer, organizer and businessman. He helped produce Chapter 78's Sentinel, designed chapter coins and awards, supported countless Special Forces events, and played a major role in organizing the Special Forces Association International Convention in Las Vegas.

John was the founder of Excalibur Industries, where his creative work became familiar throughout the Special Forces and broader military communities. Through Excalibur, he designed and produced challenge coins, plaques, insignia, awards and other commemorative pieces for military units, veterans' organizations, law-enforcement. A Celebration of Life was held at Palm Mortuary - Henderson, 800 South Boulder Highway, Henderson, NV 89015, on September 26, 2026.

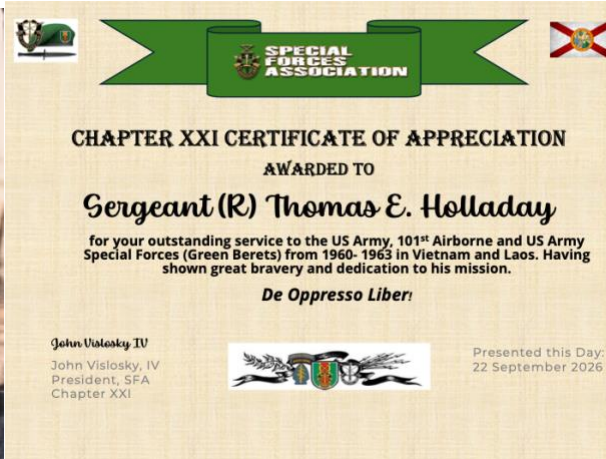
Also, to assist John's Widow, Ozzy, during her time of grief, there is a *Go Fund Me* set up in John's memory. If you wish to donate, go to: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/standing-with-john-joyces-family-in-their-time-of-need>

What's Happening

- On 22 September, Chapter 21 VP Richard "Whit" Whitman and President John Vislosky honored our Chapter member **Sergeant (R) Thomas E Holladay**, with a *Chapter 21 Certificate of Appreciation*. at the Alwyn C Cashe State Veterans Nursing Home. Tom served in the U.S. Army Special Forces (Green Berets) from 1960 to 1963 in both Laos and Vietnam. A former 1st Group member, Tom served proudly. At the ceremony, Tom was surrounded by family, friends and the Veterans Home Staff members to honor the occasion. Also, it happened to be Tom's 86th Birthday, Whit and I presented Sergeant Holladay with the Chapter XXI Certificate, a *De Oppresso Liber* medal with ribbon and the Chapter 21 Coin. It was a joyous occasion, a huge THANK YOU to the VA Center for hosting the event. Above all, we Thank Tom for his service to this great Nation. De Oppresso Liber!!



SGT Thomas E Holladay, 1st SFG



Chapter 21 President, John Vislosky, SGT Holladay and Chapter 21VP, Richard Whitman



Tom with VA Center Receptionist and Retired 1st SGT Jose Aviles



Several generations of Tom Holladay's family were there to celebrate the Chapter Ceremony and his 86th Birthday. Happy Birthday Tom!!



VP, Richard Whitman, pictured in the center with Tom's two daughters Barbara Pierre (L) and Mary Naugle (R)

- **The Green Beret Troop Support Group (GBTS)** held their monthly lunch on 29 September 2026 at *Grills Seafood Deck and Tiki Bar*. We plan to have our next **Chapter meeting at Grills on 27 October at 1130 Hours**. It is a great place to meet in advance of the potential year end meeting/dinner. For more information on the monthly Luncheon contact either Jimmie Summerhill (407) 718-0999 or Richard “Whit” Whitman (321) 388-4208. **Again, we will also conduct a Board/Member Meeting provided we have a quorum. So ,if you can attend that would be great!!**



Great turn out for the monthly GBTS Luncheon on 29 September

- **John Erskine** emailed me the following about his Granddaughter and SFA Chapter 21 Educational Grant Recipient, Anna Erskine:

Our granddaughter Anna, completed an Ironman Triathlon held in Cambridge, MD on Sept 19, 2026! It consisted if a 2.4-mile open water swim in the Choptank River, a 112-mile bike race and a 26.2-mile marathon! She finished in 15:37:09 hours!

An unbelievable test of physical and mental strength and endurance! Really proud of her! She's an Air Force ROTC Senior at MIT and is the recipient of a Chapter 21 Grant. She is representing our Chapter well!



We are all
very proud of
your Anna!!

SF/Ranger Luncheons

- **St Petersburg SF/Ranger:** *The Harbor Master* at Bay Pines Marina, 4999 Harbor Lights Drive, Seminole FL 33706, on the 1st Saturday of the month. The next get together is **3 October 2026 @ 1130 Hours ET**.
- **Cape Canaveral (GBTS) SF/Ranger:** Held monthly on the last Tuesday of the month at *Grills Seafood Deck and Tiki Bar*, 500 Glen Cheek Drive, Cape Canaveral, FL. The next get together is **27 October 2026 @ 1130 Hours ET**. It will also be a Chapter 21 Meeting provided we have a quorum.

Upcoming SFA & SOA Events

12-15 October 2026: SOAR 2026 - The 50th Anniversary of the SOA!!!, Orleans Hotel, Las Vegas NV . Registration is now open along with the hotel reduced rate code. See <https://specialoperations.org/soa/> for more information and to register.

- **27 October 2026 @ 1130 Hours ET:** Chapter 21 Meeting & in conjunction with the Cape Canaveral (GBTS) SF/Ranger Luncheon at *Grills Seafood Deck and Tiki Bar*, 500 Glen Cheek Drive, Cape Canaveral, FL. All Chapter 21 members, wives, and family members are invited to attend. Also, any other SFA members also can attend. Just show up – no need to register. The cost is \$20 per person for drinks and charitable donations. You pay for your own meal(s).
- **TBD - Early December 2026 or January 2027:** SFA Chapter 21 Year End Meeting:

Chapter XXI Quartermaster October 2026 Sale Items

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



SFA CHAPTER 21 COIN

\$15.00 each
plus
\$8.00 postage



SF DOL Lapel Pin

\$6.00 each
plus
\$4.00 postage



SF Shot Glass

\$7.00 each
plus
\$8.00 postage



DOL SF Airborne Vest/Jacket Patch

\$30.00 each
plus
\$8.00 postage