

THE BOB SALZMAN MEMORIAL CHAPTER FLORIDA
CHAPTER XXI SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION
Volume LXXXVI September 2026 NR 9
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)*

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DIRECTOR JROTC AWARDS & PROGRAMS Steve Epkins , (Tel) 239-810-0488; (Email) sepkins@proton.me

President's Update - John Vislosky

- **Opening Comments:** Happy Labor Day 2026! A great many Chapter activities happening – all good. I will plan to update you more in the October Newsletter.
- In the interim, I am looking for a handful of Chapter 21 members to join me in presenting the Chapter XXI Certificate to **Sgt (SF-R) Thomas E Holladay**. The presentation will be on **Tuesday 22 September at 1400 hours EDT at the Alwyn C Cashe State Veterans Nursing Home, 5255 Raymond St Orlando FL 32814**. Whit and I plan to attend to present the Certificate in a short ceremony. Uniform is Green Beret, and SF/Chapter Polo Shirt. Please consider attending especially if you are +/- the Orlando area. We plan to meet in the lobby of the Center NLT 1330 Hours EDT. Please let me know (email/text/call) if you plan to attend.

While Tom is not a Chapter member, this gives our Chapter the opportunity to celebrate the contribution of a fellow SF Brother in nursing care. Hope to see a few of you all there!!

BIO: Thomas E Holladay, served in the U.S. Army Special Forces (Green Berets) in 1960-1963. Served in Laos and Vietnam. He also participated in *Operation White Star* for the CIA in Vietnam from 1965 – 1968 and was involved in the attack on American Embassy during TET 1968.



- **MSG Matt Dorn's SF History Project** sent me a request for Chapter members with a unique story to be interviewed for his SF History Project" Matt emailed me the following:

Thanks for taking my call. Matthew Dorn here, retired MSG -1st SFG(A) and 20th SFG(A) and SFA # D-8243. I am working on the history the US Army Special Forces units- some of this history isn't well documented- which I am trying to correct. I have gathered about 2000 original documents and newspaper/periodical articles. Here is a link to a website I have built to go along with the project.

<https://www.onshouldersofgiants.org/>

Please note this is a multi-phase project (I am working on phase 2). The last page of each Group section explains my plan process forward. The site is best view on a PC versus a phone. I haven't quite figured out the phone format-sorry about any inconvenience. All feedback and suggestions are appreciated!

DOL Matt 772-403-3761(FL)

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 – details TBD.
 - **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

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.

What's Happening

The Green Beret Troop Support Group held their monthly lunch on 25 August 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.



Rick Comerford with Kevin Key. Kevin is crackin' open a cold one....



(L-R) Mike McCrudden, Rick Comerford and John Haralson



(L-R) Jerry Mierle, Jimmie Summerhill and Bill Schulz



(L-R) Ed Chandler, Mike Conlon, Jerry Mierle & Jimmie Summerhill



(L-R) Chapter VP Richard "Whit Whitman, John Favel and Mike McCrudden

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 **5 September 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 **29 September 2026 @ 1130 Hours ET**.

Upcoming SFA & SOA Events

- **Tuesday 22 September at 1100 hour:** **Recognition of Tom Holladay**, at the Alwyn C Cashe State Veterans Nursing Home, 5255 Raymond St Orlando FL.
- **19- 26 September 2026: 5th Special Forces Group's 65th Annual Reunion:** For more details contact SFA Chapter 38:
sfa38secretary@gmail.com
- **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 September 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