

"SF NEWSLETTER"

FLORIDA CHAPTER XXI (AT CAPE KENNEDY)
Special Forces Association
P.O. Box 521
Cocoa Fla. 32922

Message from the President;

in June 1975, a small group of active duty and retired Green Berets had a get-together at the Anchor Club in Cocoa Beach Florida. At this informal gathering, it was decided to look into the possibility of forming a chapter of the Special Forces Association with chapter headquarters in the Cocoa/Cocoa Beach/Cape Kennedy area. After coordination with the National Association regarding administrative procedures and requirements for activating a chapter, a mailing list of all known Special Forces Association members were compiled. In October, letters were dispatched to these members to ascertain the level of interest and what support could be expected for such an endeavor. The response was overwhelming and in all cases, support and cooperation for a Florida Chapter were pledged. Based on this response an organization meeting was conducted on 13 December 1975 at Cocoa Beach Florida. Twenty "HARDCORE" Berets showed up, 14 with, Ladies and the establishment of a viable chapter was insured. The following board of officers was installed;

Maurice H. Price - President	Ammon A. Sink - Treasurer
Howard C. Upchurch - Vice President	Duane C. Vierk - Rep to National Ass
Amadeo Castagno - Secretary	Raymond Flanerty Recruiting
James A. Castagno	Public Information

As mentioned and published in the January chapter newsletter, all members attending the organization meeting were designated charter members and so recognized on the original copy of the chapter constitution. In

early January 76 the National Association. acted favorably on the request for recognition and designated the Florida Chapter at Cape Kennedy as Chapter XXI and bestowed all rights and privileges under the provisions of the Association Constitution, On 31 January 1976 the second monthly meeting was held at Cocoa Beach and it was a resounding success. Chapter membership was increased to 30 with representatives in attendance: from all parts of the State of Florida. A report was made regarding the activation of a Chapter Ladies Auxiliary. Their initial project will be providing volunteer services weekly to Aquarius

Hall, Cocoa Florida. This is a home for boys who are wards of the state. It is certainly a most commendable project for the ladies to assume. In summary, a great deal has been achieved by the Florida Chapter of the Green Berets in record time, The National Association has already forwarded a letter to chapter headquarters lauding this chapter for such an outstanding organizational effort. I am proud as I know all of you are, to have a chance once again to perpetuate the "SF" tradition and to enjoy the camaraderie of the men who are now or Who have been assigned to the United States -Army Special Forces. I wish to thank and congratulate all of you. who played a part in our organizational efforts. I also ask for your continued support, cooperation, and dedication to the objective of this chapter; a strong, viable, and proud representative of the Special Forces Association, we have taken one great step but now let us **pick up the cadence, display the endurance, the perseverance and- dedication of our, "Elite Corps" and get on with the challenging task of our, basic function', developing, organizing and achieving unheard FEATS. The officers of your chapter have their rucksacks packed,-are we ready to move out??**

Any **Anyhow, Anytime.**

MAURICE A PRICE
Acting. President

The second monthly meeting of our chapter was a complete success. Some 50 troopers, their wives, or dates attended the meeting. As it stands now it looks as if the Black Angus is a little small. Our growing pains were felt during the last meeting. Because of this, it has been decided to hold the next meeting at Kiwanis Island in Merritt Island, The February meeting will be held there at 2000 hours, 28 February 1976. A small strip map is included herein so your compass will not be required. In hopes of saving our members some money, it has been decided to make the affair BYOB (hand-carry your poison). Set-ups will be provided and hors d'oeuvre

will be brought by the wives of the local members. Again, the officers would appreciate knowing in advance if you plan to attend. Contact your area representative, or drop us a line at the chapter address.

As was earlier stated by our acting president, our membership increased by nine troopers. Congratulations to each of them listed below.

Mr. Robert H. Bost - Tampa
Mr. Booker T. Cherry - Merritt Island
Mr. George Dean - Brandon
Mr. Charles J. Hurley - Naples
Mr. Earle L. Petty Jr. - Melbourne

Mr. Don W. Quimby - Clearwater
Mr. Sylvester J. Ray - Melbourne
Mr. Roger W. Templar - Melbourne
Mr. Jack W. White - Brandon

In last month's newsletter, we asked if anyone was looking for an employer or employee. One job opening has come to our attention and is listed below.

Opening for retired SF NCO as a JROTC instructor in Naples Florida, beginning August 1976. Interested parties contact;

LTC JAN PANAGEAS
SAI JROTC
Naples High School
Naples, Fla. 33940

At the February meeting, several motions were passed by the members. A new area representative for the Tampa/ St. Petersburg area was appointed. Accepting was;

Mr. Robert H. Bost
3915 Leila Ave.
Tampa, Fla. 33616

Mr. Edward L. Fizer, who is still on active duty, and residing in Palm Bay, volunteered to be the chapter's active duty representative. Mr. Thomas C. Norwood of Rockledge was designated to head a committee to honor deceased members. Both of these individuals would appreciate any suggestions and help.

"BLIND' BROADCAST"

BT: PRIORITY; Area representatives notify one of the officers as to the number of personnel from your areas that will attend the 28 Feb meeting. Deadline COB 24 Feb 76.

BT: A limited number of association pins, the Golden Badge of Courage, are still available at \$6.00 each. Pick up one at the next meeting.

BT: Becky and Brenda did what?

BT: SF license tags were approved at the Feb meeting, hope to have them available at a minimal cost by the quarterly meeting.

BT: TO DAVE RIDER; Hope to get down your way this summer to do some diving call to let you know. Jim Castagno

BT: Want something printed in the monthly newsletter? Just write it out and send it to the chapter address Attn; J. A. Castagno. It does not have to be a work of art, and it only costs a 130 stamp.

CONTACT PERSONNEL

Mr. Maurice H. Price (305)452-9362
Mr. Ammon Sink (305)632-5899
Mr. Howard Upchurch (305)783-1501

Mr. Amadeo Castagno (305)632-8314
Mr. James Castagno (305)636-6337
Mr. Duane Vierk (305)452-4317

