



Chapter XXVIII
Special Forces Association
“Devils Brigade Chapter”
In Honor Of The First Special Service Force

ACTIVITIES, NEWS & PROGRAMS, 2024 3rd QT Autum.

THE DEVIL’S BRIGADE CHAPTER 28 as of this date has 234 members and is the second largest of 95 chapters around the globe. Regional Demographics: . 131 in-state (81 West of the Continental Divide and 50 East, and with 103 members in 28 other States/APO & Canada.

“**RESPITES**” have as their focus the *Preservation of the Force and Family*. In keeping with USSOCOM’s mandate to assess the SOF wear and tear on the soldiers. Our “Respites” do provide such activities to hopefully improve marital and parental relationships of SOF families and bolster service members’ physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being. The guests are sourced from: the 1st, 5th, 10th Special Forces Groups (with Gold Stars); Canadian Special Operations Regiment and the US Army Special Warfare Training Center; The activities center around: skiing; fly fishing; dog sled; snow mobile rides, all in Montana, “**The Last Best Place**”.

SCHEDULE 2024/ WINTER 2025

- **Ruby Springs Lodge**, Alder, MT Seven(7) cabins May 30-June 2, (11yrs.- 155 guests).
5th SFG(A) sent 16 members. Fly fishing on some of the finest Blue Ribbon Trout streams on the continent. Guides pick them up from their private cabins and off to the river. The food and beverage were first rate, and no one suffered for it Second day, at the guest’s election, was shooting gofers from a two-level motorized platform and trialing single level, music a-blaring and a good time was had by all. Testimonial from Eric Mann, “To put it simply, it was absolutely incredible! From day one’s skeet shooting through the subsequent days of fly fishing and gofer hunting, it was incredible. The cabins and food were breath taking and the location was truly picturesque; you have my compliments on choosing one of the, if not the prettiest place in the world to live.”
- **K Bar L Ranch & Medicine Springs** , Augusta, MT (Bob Marshall Wilderness) June 17-22, 2024 (2yr. - 32 guests).
1ST SFG(A) sent 10 guests, 19th SFG(A) sent 2 guests. The location and back story: Post Civil War had veterans being owed back pay. Thomas Valentine found a piece of paradise and soon thereafter was granted, by an Act of Congress in 1872, a forty-acre tract of land as compensation for his unpaid service in the Union Army. Now it is within the confines of the Bob Marshall Wilderness. The guests we are offered horseback rides, fishing, hiking and just solitude and peace from the luxury of their own private cabin. Wood heat if needed.
- **Big Horn**, Billings, MT Aug 14-18, 2024 (1st Yr. – 12 Guests)
This the first years hosting four families (12) guests from the 10th SFG(A) to an event filled with diverse activity at multiple venues: Little Bighorn Battlefield with Rose a Native American storyteller; regional baseball game; water borne activities at Big Horn Lake culminating with a trip up to Red Lodge on “the most scenic” highway. Tim and Rita received numerous accolades from the guests.
- **Whitefish Mountain Resort**, Whitefish, MT Feb 10-15, 2025 (10yrs.- 312 guests to date). This one is our “hall mark” event incorporating the annual membership gathering.

PISTOL TEAMS at the Universities of Montana, Montana State, Washington State, and Idaho participated in the first Annual Competition held in Missoula/Lewiston ID. in April. 2024, firing in two locations concurrently. with



the same “ Course of Fire.” The winner- University of Idaho was awarded custody of the **DEVILS BRIGADE HORSE SOLDIER TROPHY** for one year. Member Brent Schaff, former 10th SFG(A) & SWC(A) Weapons Instructor, ran a most efficient and effective competition at two locations. Michelle Garrison is the major donor from CCI/Speer to the UI and WSU



programs which was facilitated by Member Bob Prasil. Over the course of years CCI/Speer has donated sufficient munitions to see the cadets through each scholastic year’s cycle.

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT PROGRAM has provided to date 106 scholarships totaling \$123,500 since 2003 (22 years) .The following Scholarships were awarded:

Lucille McGinnis	James Mason University	\$2,000.00
Ayden Paul	University of Alabama	\$1,000.00
Ruby Blazer	Montana State University	\$1,000.00
Josey Blazer	Montana State University	\$2,000.00

The Program is under the watchful concerning eyes of Cate Cadina & Sue Riopel. With the new **DEVIL’S BRIGADE FUND INC** fund-raising Corporation, we will focus on an endowment fund to facilitate long-term growth and sustainability.

ENDOWMENT FUND CAMPAIGN. This will have as its purpose to create a semi perpetual robust account to perpetuate the Chapters primary activities: 1.) “Respites” 2.) MG Robert T. Frederick Leadership Award™ 3.) Scholarship Program. The **DEVIL’S BRIGADE FUND INC.** is a Montana non-for-profit **501 (c) 3.**

MG ROBERT T. FREDERICK LEADERSHIP AWARD™ was created for the purpose of perpetuating the legacy of the First Special Service Force (FSSF) 1942; its founder MG. Robert T. Frederick, **USMA class of 1928**, and the US Army Special Forces. To date, the award is at 22 Universities in 10 States. Presented annually by Chapters & Institutions to their outstanding ROTC or Service Academy senior cadet, soon to be commissioned in the US Army. W.R. Case Cutlery has and will donate the award to each new state sponsored university or college, until all fifty(50) states are represented, *with 40 more states to go!*

THE V-42 “**UPDATE**” *there are still more rumblings* on the W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery production line, that a V-42 blank has made the run through new manufacturing equipment. Output projected for mid-2024. **MISSED THE BOAT!** We have a hardy and patient waiting list for the V-42 starting with #4687. First come first serve. The waiting list is digitally chronologically in storage, so “that is” the priority of orders, once product rolls off the line. We are the exclusive “*serial numbered*” *Case V-42 dealers.*

80th Anniversary of the Invasion of Southern France WWII by the First Airborne Task Force commanded by MG Robert T. Frederick & the Revealing of the bronze of Frederick in La Motte, sponsored by the La Motte Rotary



This was a multi-day event to honor the men of the First Airborne Allied Task force which spearheaded the liberation of the south of France. Led by MG Robert T. Frederick in the first wave of the airborne assault wherein they established a Command Post in Le Mitau on August 16, 1944. (left was the command post, right was the First aid station). La Motte, just down the road from Le Mitau, was the first village liberated, then Le Muy then Draguignan. The La Motte chapter of Rotary International spearheaded the Bronze effort with Elieen Ferrand being the lead. They “decided to honor his memory



over two years ago when they opened a public subscription for 75.000 euros so we could order a life-size bronze statue of this exemplary soldier before he and his men and their sacrifice fade from local memory. The 6 pm on August 14, the 80th August 14/15,1944”.

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The next day, Pearl (My Cemetery & Memorial in Service Force members who Reg 1-1 (2) Théodore McDonald Driscoll Reg 3-1 (5) Harry



spouse) and I visited the Rhone American Draguignan. We located five of the First Special gave the “ultimate price”: (1)John Walkmeister Reg 1-1. (3) Dewey Capps Reg 2-1 (4) John Moore Reg 3-1.



The streets entering Le Muy were evident of the celebratory nature of the long-term effect of the success of liberation. On hand was a glider from the assault. The Frenchmen are eternally grateful, and you hear it from shops, boucherie`, stores, boulangerie, restaurants to the local tourism offices.

Devils Brigade Chapter 28 was a capital contributor to the Frederick Bronze.



President, Max Carpenter. Vice President. Tim Small. Secretary, Shawn

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DONATIONS - contact: Treasurer Bob Brugh rgb@montana.com 406-240-7368