



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

## 2024 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA

February 14, 2024, 1:30-4:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time  
Whitefish, Montana

In accordance with Article XI, Section II of the Special Forces Association Devils Brigade Chapter Constitution, the President called the Meeting to order.

- 1.) **Officers present:** Max Carpenter - President; Shawn Modula - Secretary; Bob Brugh - Treasurer.
- 2) **Ambassadors present:** **Glacier Country:** Frank Curry; Pat McCauley; **Bitterroot Country:** John Nolan & **Gold West:** Randy Kaminsky **Yellowstone Country:** Willie; **Russell Country and Custer Country:** Tim Small **Virginia:** Matt Falk absent; **Colorado:** Chris Sorenson absent; **Idaho:** Bob Prasil & Paul Turpin absent.
- 3.) **Total Members attending** (in-person or virtual / including above officers and ambassadors): **22**

### AGENDA (Topics for discussion and evaluation):

- 1.) **FUND RAISING:** An introduction to your future as we move forward in sustaining the mission. A seminal critical component of the first Five-Year plan (2024-29) is to create an Endowment Fund. This should ultimately self-sustain most of the Chapter activities within this five-year period. The role of fund raising is to build real meaningful relationships that satisfy the donor as well as optimize the income for the organization. The Officers, Ambassadors and Members and potentially a proposed Executive Director are the front line of asking for support, “the ask”. Bob Brugh and Bob Radcliffe participated in a six-week Philanthropy course sponsored by the *Boomerang Academy* in April 2020. *“Boomerang’s core purpose is to improve donor retention in the nonprofit world. Everything we build is focused on ease of use, clarity of purpose, and making the experience of using our product as rewarding as possible.”* **BOB**
- 2.) **CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE:** **MAX/BOB (Advance dissemination of info)**
  - a. **Assistant Treasurer:** (Article VI Section II, add the following title and duties) Function:
    1. Provide planning; boost donor retention; develop a pipeline of major and planned giving donors; predictable cashflows that are less susceptible to economic fluctuations and develop sustained donors. We have one who gives \$100.00 / month and has for years.
    2. Administer the MG Robert T. Frederick Leadership Award™ & the V-42 sales.
    3. Appointment with no term limit. Tenancy at the discretion of Chapter officers.
  - b. **Executive Director:** (per the Chapter’s Five-Year Plan 2024-2029, add the following to Article xx, Section xx) Once the sustainable Endowment fund level has been reached, the Chapter will hire an Executive Director to manage the Five-Year plan and the Endowment Fund. The Executive Director would be a paid position that takes direction from the elected leadership and is responsible for achieving the Chapter’s strategic goals per the Five-Year Plan and all successive planning cycles, to include co-managing the Chapter’s fund-raising efforts.

The Executive Director's proposed job description:

1. Ensure ongoing programmatic excellence, rigorous program evaluation, and consistent quality of finance and administration, fundraising, communications, and systems.
2. Actively engage and energize Devils Brigade Chapter 28 nonprofit volunteers, board members, event committees, members, partnering organizations, and sponsors.
3. Develop, maintain, and support a strong board of directors; serve as ex-officio of each committee; seek and build Chapter 28's member involvement with strategic direction for both ongoing operations and SFA National programs.
4. Lead, coach, develop, and retain the Devils Brigade Chapter 28 nonprofit's officers and ambassadors/senior management team.
5. Co-Manage the Endowment Fund distributions, aka the 501(c)(3) The Devils Brigade Fund.

- 3.) **ACCOUNTING** *services/custom tailored to assist by JCCS CPA. Quick Books Online* has been installed as of October 2023 and is in operation. [BOB](#)
- 4.) **MEMBERSHIP:** As of this date we have 230 members. Visited with Mike Goodrich, Executive Director of SFA on Feb 1, 2024. It is my hope that a fruitful discussion will ensue. We have more members than any of the 95 chapters, except for maybe Chapter 118 which services 'SF Ground Zero' at Fort Liberty (Bragg). We have 126 Members in-state, and the others are in 26 states/APO. There are members who want to be here for a myriad of reasons. Then there are those from out of state who just want to touch the Montana "stone". We are an anomaly in that we dispersed across a domain larger in area than any other chapter. We do not have coffee at 4:30 every other week. On the roster today, we have fabulous out of state members who have been phenomenal contributors. Their numbers, as a percentage of contribution (operational/economic), rival the in-state members. So, if we could select our out-of-state members, who would contribute, that might be a good thing. What is the benefit of the next new out of state, *exclusive of contiguous states*, member?  
*Review the membership demographics (see the attached 'Regional Distribution and Age Band Analysis')*
- 5.) **SCHOLORSHIP:** New software *SMART SELECT*. Ther basic model provides applications tailored to our specs. The software: [CATE & SUE](#)
  - Links to our web page which has a beginning and ending date for intake of applications. Jan 1<sup>st</sup> - March 31<sup>st</sup>. Chapter 28 criteria: Applicants must have a sponsoring member, who must be a Chapter member for one year prior to the application cut-off date of March 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Collects all applications. No paper!
  - Aids the selection committee with grading and scoring, which includes reading essays and other docs.
  - Is anonymous to eliminate any unintended bias or prejudices.
  - Allows for remote viewing.
  - Manages communications with applicants.
  - Can be scaled for additional cost with more criteria and detail as may be desired.
- 6.) **COMMUNICATIONS:** Chapter comms require continuous monitoring and better input by event organizers. Implementers: Event Organizers (provide detail input and updates to Paul), Paul Turpin (Internet venue postings) & Shawn Modula (Website) [PAUL/SHAWN](#)

- 7.) **IRS CODE 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit Corporation Status:** On Feb 9, 2024, Bob Brugh submitted the Chapter's application to the IRS for *The Devils Brigade Fund Inc.*, a Montana Non-for-Profit Corporation EIN 92-1557767. Donations can now be made to this organization. **BOB**
- 8.) **MG ROBERT T. FREDERICK LEADERSHIP AWARD™ & V-42 sales** production has a projected commencement for mid-2024. The Böker V-42 will be substituted in the Awards until W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery production resumes. Bob Brugh has informed all participating chapters and institutions of the status with Case. New participants will be solicited and recruited through two venues, Individual new SFA Chapter sponsorship and directly to Targeted Institutions. **BOB.**
- 9.) **RESPITES:** **MAX** The Chapter hosted three respites during 2023. The Chapter will execute three in 2024 and are looking out to 2025: history to date)
- Ruby Springs, Alder, MT May 2024 (Guest per event 16)
  - K Bar L, Augusta, MT June 3<sup>rd</sup> Week, 2024 (Guest per event 16)
  - Big Horn River, Billings, MT. **"NEW"** **(TIM)** (Guests per event 16)
  - Winter Whitefish, MT Feb 13-18, 2025 (1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, CSOR) Guest 60+/-
- 10.) **PISTOL TEAMS:** The program is with four universities: University of Montana, Montana State, University of Idaho, and Eastern Washington University. There will be a competitive shoot, with "standards" on April 28, 2024, in Missoula. Honors to the excelling team. The Traveling trophy is a 16-inch-tall *Horse Soldier* statue mounted on a wood pestle. There is a place for engraved plaques wrapping around the base with names of the winners each year. The "Horse Soldier" statue shall be retained by the excelling institution for the subsequent year and passed on! Brent Schaff, a new recently retired SWC weapons instructor, has agreed to be the Marksmanship Director for the Pistol Clubs. Brent has prepared a course of fire with collaborative effort with the other three institutions and will facilitate the competition in April. **BRET SCHAFF**
- 11.) **AMBASSADORS:** The Chapter relies on Ambassadors to organize and lead regional gatherings across the state and to represent the chapter's efforts in key out of state areas. Ambassadors work directly with the president and treasurer and perform the following functions: . Given our extensive "range" we need to reinforce the essential role for geographic regional Ambassadors. **MAX/BOB**
- Represent Chapter 28's efforts in your "Country".
  - Communicate with local organizations in your "Country".
  - Recruit event hosts and donors to support the Chapter's initiatives.
- 12.) **GATHERINGS:** For an event to occur there must be energy behind the proposed gatherings or events. That energy is a dedicated enthusiastic "member". The Chapter extends its *Tip of the Beret* to Aaron Flint in Custer country, Lonnie Cook in Gold West Country and to Frank Curry in Glacier Country for arranging member gathering in their respective areas. The Chapter has approved funding for these types of events or more of them, subject to pre-approved budgets. If you want to organize an event, then propose a simple budget to the Treasurer. **MAX/BOB**

13.)Topic *What can 28 do for you ?*

14.)Topic What can you do for 28?

15.)Topic What else can we do for others?

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President

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Secretary