



Special Forces Association Devil's  
Brigade Chapter 28 Montana  
June 19, 2021



## Tip of the RED ARROWHEAD NEWS

### PRESIDENTS LETTER,

June 19, 2021

Chapter 28, Members:

With the Montana summer in full swing and viruses abating drastically, I am pleased to announce the Chapter is moving full speed ahead with our sustainment of the force respites and member activities. The Ruby Springs Lodge respite over Memorial Day weekend was a clear success and a huge thank you goes out to Bob, Ike and our travel guru Deborah who worked like air traffic controllers sorting out airline caused flight drama for some of our Ft. Bragg guests. (See the Ruby Springs article below for more details on the event). John Nolan represented the Chapter at the Plumbers Union of New York Golf Tourney Benefit for Chapter 28 and brought home a very generous check to greatly assist our programs which are also detailed below in the newsletter.

After observation and analysis over the past few years of the unique geographical footprint Chapter 28 covers, the Chapter Officers are proposing some new initiatives to increase continuity in our programs and provide more opportunities for Chapter 28 members to gather and participate. The first initiative is to enable regional activities in our areas throughout the state of member concentration (Flathead, Missoula/Bitterroot, Helena, Bozeman, etc). To do this, the chapter will provide a budget based on member numbers to pay for activities in each region, coordinated by a network of regional "ambassadors". Members from other regions are free to participate in any activity organized in any region as long as they coordinate participation with the respective ambassador to ensure an accurate head count. We will still plan a "whole Chapter" event every year or every 18 months as appropriate.

The second proposed initiative is designed increase continuity in our leadership. The proposal is to amend the Chapter Constitution to extend Officer terms from 2 to 4 years. The depth and breadth of the activities the Chapter sponsors has a steep learning curve which can take quite a bit of time to gain a detailed understanding. A longer term of service for Chapter Officers will allow for greater continuity and more efficient execution. Both the regional activities and term lengths proposals are detailed further on in this newsletter. For those members interested in out of state activities coming up, the dates for the 2021 SFA International Convention are October 22-25, 2021 in Las Vegas, NV hosted by Chapters 57 and 78. This year's convention has a ton of activities and opportunities to re-connect, details can be found on the SFA national website at [www.specialforcesassociation.org](http://www.specialforcesassociation.org).

Another opportunity is an event hosted by the relatively new "Combat Diver Foundation" who will be hosting the "Deep Dive 2021 Combat Diver Reunion" 20-21 August 2021 at the Flora-Bama Lounge, Perdido Key, FL (Pensacola area) to Raise awareness of Soldier/Veteran mental health challenges and support the mission of the CDF to preserve the history of the Combat Diver community. Details can be found at [www.combatdiver.org](http://www.combatdiver.org) under "Deep Dive 2021".

To an active and safe summer,

DOL, MAX

# RUBY SPRINGS RESPITE 2021 17 GUESTS

Guided fly-fishing, horseback riding, gopher hunting, skeet shooting, world class dining, relaxation, and great camaraderie over Memorial Day Weekend! This year's Ruby Springs Lodge Respite, hosted by our awesome supporter Paul Mosley and his excellent staff, was a resounding success as we were able to get busy again after a year of reduced activity. Our guests this year were a great combo of Special Forces father-daughter, father-son, individual Green Berets and Crew Chiefs from Special Operations Aviation as well as our Gold Star guest and son. Also stopping by were Chapter members Ike Slaughter, Shane and Nancy Gore and Willie Blazer.



The diverse blend of SF families and single soldiers meshed well as the group quickly became like an extended family and were able to escape the daily grind of operations, long hours and life in general by exploring the beauty of Montana and its hospitality.

Flying in from both sides of the country, the guests were awed by the stunning scenery of South-Central Montana and the superb facilities at Ruby Springs Lodge. This venue allowed these great serving families to unplug, take a much-needed break and reconnect. One Green Beret asked his daughter what she liked best about

the trip, and she replied, "Being able to spend time with you Dad". Several Green Berets from a forwardly deployed unit stated that the resort was "purpose built for having a blast".

Another Green Beret stated, "Hands down the best weekend I've spent with my daughter in a long time. The ability to bond with her one on one will be a memory we both carry for the rest of our lives. Additionally, being able to spend time with my dad who himself spent 35 years of service (27 in SF and RGR RGT) was amazing. We are greatly indebted to the staff and owner of Ruby Springs Lodge and SFA Chapter 28. True professionals."

One of Chapter 28's foundational missions is to assist in preserving the force. Events such as the Ruby Springs Lodge, Flathead Lake Lodge and the Whitefish Winter event make a significant impact in strengthening our participating SF and SOF families. As they say, "You enlist the Green Beret, but you re-enlist the family".



Thank you to Paul Mosely and staff at Ruby Springs and all of the Chapter 28 members who made this event a home run!

# Proposed Constitutional Amendment Terms & Limits

The Devil's Brigade Chapter was formed in 2002. We modeled our constitution after Nationals & Chapter 60. We are down river almost 20 years and a few things come to mind. The term of office two (2) years lacks adequate time to come to control and full understanding the organization and its many business functions:

- (1) fraternal organization.
- (2) Travel business, displaying the Big Sky country to others through "respite".
- (3) lecture series through leadership seminars, Gen Robert Frederick Leadership awards across the country.
- (4) Retail business with the V-42 and Frederick Award across the country
- (5) and a myriad of other activities.

**TERMS & LIMITS:** We are proposing to change the term of office of the officers to four(4) years and no term limits. If we need to adjust, we can! Additionally, we will use this constitutional change to extend the terms of the current officers to coincide with the afore mention terms, such that their terms will end Dec 31, 2023.

## Article VI Officers and Chapter Representatives

**Section I. Chapter Officers.** Elected chapter officers will serve a ~~two~~ **four** year term, commencing on 1 January in **first** even-numbered years **of the four year term of office**. Elections will be announced prior to, and held, during the month of November in **last** odd-numbered years **of the fourth year of the term of office**. Election will be based upon a majority of votes cast during the electoral period. The installation of officers will occur during the winter Annual Devil's Brigade Special Forces Chapter Banquet **or on a date in the election year as decided by a quorum of the Board of Officers**. Chapter officers serve without compensation. The Chapter president, with the approval of the majority of the elected **Chapter Officers**, may authorize expenses for the conduct of Chapter business. The voting officers are the four elected members: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

**Section V. Terms of Office.** The chapter officers are elected to serve a ~~two (2) year term~~ commencing on 1 January of **first** even-numbered years **of the four(4) year term of office with no term limits**. ~~The Presidential and Vice Presidential officers may not serve more than two consecutive terms in their respective offices.~~ Appointed officers serve at the pleasure of the President.

**ARTICLE VIII Elections**, shall be revised to coincide with the above provisions for the Constitutional Change vote!



## **AMMENDMENT CHANGE & SOLICITING FOR VICE PRESIDENT**

**VOTING** on the change of terms and extension of the current terms by Constitutional change will occur after the chapter members have had time to review and discuss the proposed changes. A vote mechanism shall be concluded with after comments have been received. Please send comments via email to an officer within Twenty-one (21) days of the newsletter distribution date.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** We are seeking a person who is interested in an *appointment to the position of VICE PRESIDENT*. Anyone interested, submit a Chapter membership application if one is not on file and forward on to one of the Chapter officers, no later than July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 for the term to coincide with the current officers' terms which will end, with the constitutional change Dec 31, 2023, if approved.

## **RESPITES 2021-2 STATUS**

**FLATHEAD LAKE LODGE.** Due to Post Pandemic protocols this years event will not be available for outside quests.

**BAR W. EVENT.** The facility has sold and we are optimistic of securing slots in Sept/Oct. with the new owners. I

**WHITEFISH WINTER** event 2022 Jan . We have signed the contract and are *full throttle forward* in planning.

**SCOUTING around for VENUES** to do smaller events. The search "is on", by one and all. Submit ideas to MAX, SHAWN & BOB



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## *September 11 Memorial V-42 Award*

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The 9/11 Commemorative V-42 Award was conceived of by LTG John Mulholland and CSM Parry Baer while both were serving, respectively, as the Commanding General and Command Sergeant Major of the United States Army Special Operations Command (2008-2012). The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which had – and has – responsibility for what we now know as Ground Zero, had gifted a large block of World Trade Center (WTC) steel to USASOC for purposes befitting the use of such sacred steel. Given the central role that US Army Special Forces played as the core of Task Force Dagger, Mulholland had selected symbols reflective of the Special Forces Regiment in this historically unique role for Special Forces from the very beginning of his command of the task force. For example, the TF Dagger logo was a V-42 stiletto juxtaposed with an attacking bald eagle.

With that in mind, the Command Team conceived the idea of crafting authentic V-42 knives from the WTC steel to be used as a commemorative knife for presentation to two distinct groups; the first would be to fellow special operations units that had participated so magnificently in those early days and campaigns in Afghanistan following the attacks of 9-11.

The second group would be to representatives of the locations where the attacks took place; the places where our fellow Americans both died at the hands of those unspeakable terrorists and where Americans willingly sacrificed themselves to take care of their fellow man. Together, Mulholland and Baer thought a WTC steel V-42 would be a worthy symbol to present to both entities on behalf of both the men and women of TF Dagger, and the Special Forces Regiment.



LTG Mulholland was aware of Chapter 28's pursuit of the production of the V-42 per plans and specifications from the original version from 1942. In 2012 LTG Mulholland put in a call to one of his senior staff officers, COL Chris Sorenson, who happened to be in Montana, to investigate with Chapter 28 teammates about asking W.R. Case and Sons Cutlery (the original makers of the WWII V-42) about making V-42s from the steel. Initial responses were discouraging.

However, following lengthy review and discussions, W.R. Case was ultimately convinced that the lack of certain structural properties of the WTC steel was not essential to producing the exact stiletto for presentation in a shadow box. While both Mulholland and Baer were hopeful that this initiative could be completed before the end of their respective command tours, the reality was that this effort would span more than seven years. In fact, as a direct result of Chapter 28's unique relationship with Case Knives and its own on-going effort to produce the V-42 Chapter awards, the driving force for ensuring this initiative came to completion with Case was Bob Brugh, treasurer of Chapter 28.

Eventually the dedicated efforts of many good people - including key individuals at Case Knives - came to fruition. On November 9, 2017, in a powerful ceremony at National 9-11 Memorial and Museum at Ground Zero the first three WTC V-42s were presented by LTG Mulholland (Ret) to the 5<sup>th</sup> SFG, CIA and the National 9-11 Memorial and Museum.

The remaining 21 Awards were presented over time to the US Army and Joint special operations units that participated in the initial and subsequent campaigns in Afghanistan following the 9-11 attacks. At a presentation held on November 20, 2019 at Ft Bragg, NC, all the commands belonging to USASOC, including all our Special Forces Groups were presented with a commemorative WTC Steel V-42 by General Mulholland and SFA 28.

The funding for this initiative was a collaborative effort by the Green Beret Foundation; The Special Forces Association (National); SFA 38, The LTG William P. Yarborough Chapter, Fort Campbell, KY and SFA 28 The "Devil's Brigade" Chapter, Montana



From left to Right: LTG John Mulholland (ret); Col Lewis Powers ,CO 5th Special Forces Group; Toni Hiley, Director of CIA Museum; Alice Greenwald, President & CEO of National September 11 Memorial & Museum

*The following Placard was penned by General Mulholland as a companion to the 9-11 Commemorative V-42s to the units when they received their serial numbered stiletto.*

## *The September 11 MEMORIAL V-42 Commemorative Stiletto Award*

*The September 11 Commemorative V-42 was crafted by W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery to uniquely honor and recognize three specific groups of Americans whose stories are forever intertwined and now embedded in the history of the hideous attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001. The first group we honor and recognize is our fellow citizens who were the first victims on that terrible day. These men and women, innocent in every possible way, suffered enormously. Despite the horror they experienced, we know of many acts of heroism and sacrifice as they worked to save one another and, in the case of United Airlines Flight 93, successfully defeated the Al Qaeda effort to attack a major target, believed to have been the US Capitol building.*

*The second group are those who, in the immediate aftermath of the attacks, courageously rushed literally into the flames to rescue their fellow citizens. These are the police, firefighters, fellow citizens and all first-responders who demonstrated unimaginable levels of individual and collective valor, professionalism and dedication to duty before the eyes of the world.*

*Finally, the men and women of our Special Operations Forces (SOF) who immediately responded to our Nation's call, taking the fight in devastating form to our enemies in historically record time. These forces included Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-North, an Army Special Forces-centric entity known as Task Force Dagger, Joint Special Operations Task Force-South, a US Navy SEAL and Allied SOF -centric force known as Task Force K-Bar, and a third joint special operations task force consisting of the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment and Special Mission Units. Collectively, these task forces represented the full breadth and depth of our Nation's unparalleled special operations forces capabilities, and all three were supported by the world's finest special operations aviation units, the 160<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) and the full complement of air and ground capabilities from the Air Force Special Operations Command. Partnered with a magnificent team of CIA operatives, these units conducted Unconventional Warfare and Counter-Terrorist campaigns into and across Afghanistan both to destroy and overthrow the Taliban regime, and to hunt down, capture or kill those responsible for the attacks on our Country.*

*The World Trade Center steel from which these commemorative knives are made was originally presented by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to the United States Army Special Operations Command for the purpose of crafting these magnificent stilettoes. The stilettoes themselves are made to same original wartime plans and specification of the V-42 stilettoes carried by the Forcemen of the First Special Service Force, one of America's first special operations force in WWII. The stiletto is still the symbol used by today's U.S. Army Special Forces. This effort, executed in full partnership with CASE, has been many years in the making and literally forges together the three stories, the three threads of this unique tapestry illustrating another chapter of true courage, sacrifice and victory in American history.*

STRENGTH AND HONOR

John F. Mulholland, Jr.

LTG (RET), U.S. Army Special Forces

## REGIONAL ACTIVITIES & ANNUAL GATHERINGS

After observation and analysis over the past few years of the unique geographical footprint Chapter 28 covers, the Chapter Officers are proposing some new initiatives to increase continuity in our programs and provide more opportunities for Chapter 28 members to gather and participate. The first initiative is to enable regional activities in our areas throughout the state of member concentration (Flathead, Missoula/Bitterroot, Helena, Bozeman, etc). To do this, the chapter will provide a budget based on member numbers to pay for activities in each region, coordinated by a network of regional “ambassadors”. Members from other regions and states are free to participate in any activity organized in any region as long as they coordinate participation with the respective ambassador to ensure an accurate head count. We will still plan a “whole Chapter” event every year or every 18 months as appropriate.

### Member Demographics Instate by regions;

Bitterroot Country ( Missoula, Ravalli Mineral County's)	38	36.9%
Glacier Country ( Flathead, Lake, Sanders. Lincoln)	25	24.3%
Yellowstone ( Bozeman, Three Forks, Ennis)	12	11.7%
Gold West (Helena, Townsend, Butte)	19	18.4%
Russell Country ( Greatfalls, Shelby, Conrad Havre)	4	3.9%
Custer Country ( Billings, Hardin, Milles City)	<u>5</u>	<u>4.9%</u>
	<b>103</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Bitterroot Event** ,scheduled for Late July August, is a float trip on the Clarks Fork through the Alberton Gorge, lunch provided then group dinner after in Missoula. *All other Regions plan your own event.*

Budget 8-10 per boat at \$85 /pax. Dinner for the group budget at \$45.00 per pax including beverage's. *Best guest* for budgetary purposes 50 guests. \$130 per, funded by the chapter for members and immediate family. Guests paid for by members. Other regions use these budgetary numbers for planning purposes.



# Devils Brigade Chapter Financial Well Being

## Checking accounts; 06/19/21

First Montana Bank General account	\$48,590.32
First Montana Bank V-42 account	\$ 11,475.82

## Line of Credit

First Montana Bank \$10,000.	\$00.00
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<b>Checks outstand.</b>	Joi Stoll Designs Web Page	\$425.00
	W.R. Case	\$311.82

## INVESTMENTS—TD AMERITRADE

	Market Value	% of Account
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Alternatives</b>	\$100,731.40	50%
<b>Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)</b>	\$59,017.20	29%
<b>Mutual Funds</b>	\$4,173.37	2%
<b>Stocks</b>	\$38,353.90	19%
	<u>\$202,275.87</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

## NYC Plumbers Association Donation

May 24 in NYC The Association of Contracting Plumber held their annual Charity Golf Tourney. SFA 28 was the recipient of the annual event. Member John Nolan was on hand to receive the \$116,000. This donation was brought about by the collaboration of members Frank Curry and Matt Falk. Matt's Uncle was instrumental with the association and provided the path for SFA 28 to be the beneficiary of the 2021 Charitable event.

"On behalf of the entire Board of the ACP, our membership, and everyone at the event it was our pleasure and honor to contribute \$116,000 to SFA chapter 28. " Terence O'Brien, Executive VP ACP NYC





## Officers & Contact Information



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