

SSG John K. Weber / SFC Matthew R. Kahler, Chapter XV

173rd Airborne Brigade Association



Rally Point

President: *Trudell Guerue*

Vice President: Bill Andersen

Treasurer: Dave Nordan

Secretary: *Jack Running*

August 17, 2011

Editor: Steve Anderson

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Chapter XV's next meeting will be held on Wednesday September 21 @ 7:30PM Hearthside Pizza, 1641 Rice St., St. Paul (Rice St. & Larpenteur Ave.). The Chapter regularly meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Hearthside Pizza Restaurant. The Hearthside has very good food at reasonable prices—if you are looking for a place to eat stop in and give it a try.

CALL TO ORDER

President Guerue called the meeting to order at 1925 hrs. Pledge of Allegiance S Anderson, Prayer J Running.

ROLL CALL

Ed Haider, Jerry Carlson, Howard Tellin, John Anderson, Ed Stuart, JackRunning, Trudel Guerue, Steve Anderson, Dave Nordan, Tom Dvorak, Tom Arneson, Bill Andersen, Art Kirby,

Guests

Bill Johnson VFW Post 1350, Khao Insixiegmay, Somkhaih Mranthapahya, Charles Vu, Wajoe Vu, Toua Ly, Long Vang, Bouadran Sinouthasy Representing the Royal Lao Veterans and Lao-Hmong American Veterans Coalition.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Guerue opened the meeting by speaking about even though we had a small hitch the MWAAA Annual Picnic had its best turnout ever. We even had a sailor (a squid in our midst) who was representing his brother who is currently attending SGM School while serving with the 173rd. We also had several people attend who brought their street rods for display. We thank them for attending and bringing with them some very nice cars and trucks.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dave reports that we are solvent but can always use a little cushion

Mail Dues or donations to:
Chapter XV 173rd AB Brigade

PO Box 583131

Minneapolis, MN. 55440

Single year membership is \$24.00

Life Membership \$173.00

Annual membership runs Jan 1 to Dec. 31.

TELEPHONE REPORT

Jack made some calls for the funeral of Navy Seals Nick Spehar and John Faas. He reported that only the Spehar funeral was public.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bill Andersen had suggested that contact be made with Navy Seals Org. and see if they would be interested in a monument and plaque at Ft. Snelling. Bill Andersen was contacted by that organization and will be meeting with meeting with Louis Norrel at the National Cemetery on 9-13.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Jack reported the Royal Lao Veterans led by Col. Khao Insixiegmay along with a couple of Chapter members led the Vadnais Heights Parade again this year. With around 20 people carrying flags it was another great day, several of those watching the parade were appreciative and broke out in applause.

MIDWEST ALL-AIRBORNE ALLIANCE (MWAAA)

Nothing new to report, there will be a September meeting on 9-15-2011. At least one plaque & monument will be placed this year looks like Troop Carrier Command. Date for ceremony not yet determined (is looking like October). Next year will be Airborne Pathfinders.

PARADES AND POW WOWS

Jack reported that Indian Magnet School Pow Wow's will commence for this school year on Friday Sept 29. Grand Entry 6pm and closing ceremony at 8:00pm. Nice way to meet people and enjoy an evening.

VETERANS DAY (2010)

Ceremony will be held at Vietnam Memorial behind the Department of Veterans Affairs Building on the State Capitol Grounds (20 west 12th St. Paul, MN.) 11am Friday November 11, 2011. Many will arrive at 0600 to raise the burial flag of SFC Matthew Kahler (KIA 1-26-2008) and enjoy fellowship and breakfast following.

NEW BUSINESS:

Members of the Royal Lao and Lao-Hmong American Vets were in attendance for the purpose seeking recognition for benefits the same as American vets for those who fought with the Americans during the secret war in Laos in the 60's. Many Lao lost their lives and were wounded while fighting alongside the Americans. This writer believes that they paid a very high price for their involvement on our behalf and continue to pay as extended family members are still disappearing in Communist controlled State. Any and all who agree will write or call their congressman and Senator to help these brave people.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 15 Bill Johnson No. St Paul VFW post invites everyone to Candlelight Parade in honor of POW MIA. Parade is about 5 blocks long with a short program following the march. Chapter 15 member Jerry Carlson is the guest speaker. Live Bugle and Bagpiper. Refreshments and sandwiches at VFW after event. This is a nice time to get together and enjoy an evening of fellowship.

Saturday, September 17, 2011 [SF Chapter 20 Annual Jerry Schroefer Memorial Picnic](#)

TIME: 1400 HRS (local) - **LOCATION:** 28180 Hopewood Drive - AKA: FOB Thorsen Northfield, MN 55057

Main entrée, beer keg, soda and water will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. POC is Dan Thorsen, (612)423-4868, gigpit@prodigy.net. This is a great family event, and we hardly ever injure anybody anymore...

Vietnam Veterans:

Camp Ripley invites Vietnam Veterans to its biennial open house Sunday, September 18, 2011 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

There will be a ceremony to honor our "Vietnam Hero's" at 1:00 p.m. themed Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans

**Vietnam Veterans who want to participate in this event contact: SGT Timothy Krouth: (320) 616-2714*



September 23, Lao-Hmong American Veterans Coalition (LHAVC) of Minnesota cordially request the honor of the Midwest All Airborne presence at this years Lao-Hmong American Coalition Fundraiser 9-23-2011 from 6:00PM to Midnight at Downtown Lav-52, 3030 South Lawn Drive, Maplewood, MN. **A table of 10** will be reserved in our name upon confirmation (under the name of Jack Running 173rd Airborne Brigade Asc) Please confirm your reservation with Chue VU at 651-283-7090 or cvue@unitedlegalassociates.com

November 11 Veteran's Day at the State Capitol. Guest speaker to be announced

November 13 The All Airborne Ball-Hanger Dance is scheduled for November 13th, 2011 at the Richfield American Legion. The Legion is also making it one of their activity's which will increase support and attendance while remaining a fund raising activity for the Airborne Circle.

December 3 SFA Chapter 20 Annual Christmas Dinner At Ft Snelling Officers Club \$35 P/P. More info to follow.

Come on out, you owe it to yourself.

OLD BUSINESS

POW/MIA

Jerry Carlson spoke briefly about the need to keep HR 111 on the debate list and not allow it to be tabled or die in some unknown committee. There apparently was a move to try to stand down DPMO and remove the funding but the motion was defeated.

MISCELLANEOUS

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2011/09/15/lightsquared-did-white-house-pressure-general-shelton-to-help-donor.html>

GOOD AND WELFARE

Restore DADT.....

Sky Soldiers, The 173d M-4 Program is open again. Please go to www.SkySoldiers.com and click on the link that reads "Breaking News". Also the 8th of November Memorial Run will be running again in Bamberg, Germany on 8 November 2011. This year we are asking if any members from the Vietnam era, would like to form a team to run/walk in the race? If interested, please contact James Bradley 727-376-2576 after 4:30 PM EST ASAP. All cost is on your own. We plan to offer the 173d Football Jerseys again, once they arrive. We will send out a notice and they will be available on the Sky Soldier Store www.SkySoldierStore.com Please consider donating to our Foundation to support our Scholarships & Wounded Warrior programs. Donate at www.skysoldiers.com/foundation.htm

AIRBORNE

MAY GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS!!!!!!

Other Airborne Organizations

CHAPTER 20 SF

Meets at the Glockenspiel located on west 7th st. in St Paul—same time . First Tuesday of each month come early and enjoy a great meal. Contact Mat Mitlyng 763-208-6487

Screaming Eagles Minnesota contact is Collin Day he can be reached by email or the more conventional telephone method –call 952-448-4933.

Midwest All Airborne Alliance (MWAAA) usually holds their meetings at the Richfield American Legion Post (66th and Portland Ave So) the 3rd Thursday of each Month. Any airborne members are welcome—1800 hrs. Check out the new MWAAA website at

www.midwestallairborne.com

MARKET PLACE

Looking for an Inspirational Speaker?

Contact: Gold Star Mother Jill Stephenson

Some Gave All, All Gave Some. Freedom Is Not Free

Call: 612.868.7446

e-mail: iambenkoppsmother@gmail.com

Guldens Restaurant

2999 North Highway 61
Maplewood, MN 55109-1019
(651) 482-0384

Force Options is offering several MN Concealed Carry Permit classes.

Monday Evenings and Saturday Classes are available.

If you are interested, please register by contacting

Rollin Goldsberry at 763-238-2033

If you need some snow plowing done in St Paul area

Call Dan @ 651-776-0434. (Dan is a chapter member)

BOOK AVAILABLE "Blood in our Boots"

Written by Chapter 15 member, Ed Haider. Most of the stick were dead, the C-47 was on fire and going down when he Jumped into the night sky over Sicily with "X" Bn. 505. Ed reveals the torture and mistreatment he endured as a POW. **Call 651-488-9797.**

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Call John Staads (chapter XV 173rd & SF chapter XX member) **507-220-4015**

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(John does incredible work, this editor purchased a piece made to order a couple of years ago)