



MUSEUM MUSINGS



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“To Honor, Support, Protect, and Remember the Heritage”

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Bill Palmer

The Museum Association now has a scholarship fund! The members of the association approved changes to the by-laws to establish the scholarship fund. There were 305 ballots returned of which 300 approved and 5 against. The Association has received \$21,000 in donations to honor M/Sgt Jimmy Dean. This money will be used to establish the **JIMMY DEAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND**. The Museum Board appointed the following people to oversee the scholarship fund: Joe Kilgore, Joe Lupyak, Jerry Levee, Bart Brown, and "Bear" Martin. **Scholarship Applications are on our website: www.jfkwebstore.com.** 

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND SUGGESTIONS!!

De Oppresso Liber

THE SECRETARY'S SECTION

By George Heib

Thanks to several of our members we had now adopted all of our departed comrades from the GWOT on IMO plates. This list now includes those who died in training accidents. (See chart below).


BRANCH	NUMBER KIA OR DNH	IMO PLATES ADOPTED	NUMBER LEFT
CIVIL AFFAIRS	37	37	0
PSYOPS	13	13	0
RANGER	29	29	0
SF	112	112	0
SOAR	35	35	0
TOTALS	226	226	0

On another note: We now have 208 names sponsored from the 889 SF guys, (and Australian Army Training Team soldiers attached to SF) who were KIA or DNH (died non-hostile) in VN. We have one member who is working hard to get all of these guys sponsored with a plate on the IMO Board. If you wish to join him and sponsor one of these soldiers, but don't have a name, don't let that stop you. **All you have to do is send in a check for at least \$50.00 per name and ask us to pick a name for you. We will then send you a letter with the name of the soldier that you have sponsored.**

BTW: We occasionally make mistakes. Our original SF KIA list was sent to us years ago by one of the SF Chapters that put it out in the form of a calendar. One of the names on the list was **WO II KEITH PAYNE**, Australian ATT (Victoria Cross). Thanks to Life Member Col (R) Linc German and his contacts in Australia, we were informed that WO II Payne is alive and well. We have changed his plate on the IMO board to a green "In Honor of Plate". We are now in the process of obtaining a more accurate and official list, so these figures may change. (Our thanks to Museum Advisory Board member **John Hazlett** for help in editing our final list.)

Bill Palmer, the President of our Association, is looking into obtaining at least one Kiosk to be placed in the Museum lobby. This came about because of a discussion at the last meeting when it was determined that we were running out of room for our boards on which we display IMO plates and donor plates. After much study, it was determined that we would use a kiosk in which all donor names, and IMO names would be displayed along with other information. We would also still have IMO plates in the entrance alcove as well. When all this work is completed we will provide photos and more information. We want to assure you that every

donor will continue to be recognized. As I understand it we can add all sorts of information in the kiosk and continue to expand as we get new ideas. Those of you who have visited Washington, DC, may have used the kiosks at the various war memorials. At the last Board meeting we also passed the Jimmy Dean Scholarship and even have our first application. The normal date for applications to be submitted is 15 April. This year we have set the deadline at 15 July. Please go to our website (www.jfkwebstore.com) to get full information on this scholarship. As stated above by Bill Palmer we have received just under \$21,000.00 in donations IMO Jimmy Dean (from 158 donors). We plan to place these funds in a separate AG Edwards account and add to it any further donations received for this purpose. The Scholarship Committee is meeting as this is being written. They have been tasked to come up with a complete recommendation as to how large the scholarship will be and how many will be awarded each year.

On the last page on this Musing, you will find information on the **Special Forces Online Message Service**. This information was provided by its webmaster: Paul Campbell, who is a longtime Life Member, and big supporter of the Museum Association. He has on many occasions put out information on our projects and needs, never asking for anything in return. This is our way of saying thanks for his support, and help in our mutual endeavors to **"To Honor, Support, Protect, and Remember the Heritage"**. 

De Oppresso Liber!


George D. Heit

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 08-1			
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	\$ LEVEL	MUSINGS-07-1	CURRENT MEMBERSHIP
ANNUAL	\$ 10.00	18	11
DONOR	\$ 10.00	40	47
LIFE	\$ 100.00	432	432
CENTURY	\$ 100.00	194	194
CENTURY & LIFE	\$ 200.00	215	218
BENEFACTORS	\$ 1,000.00	39	45
PATRONS	\$ 2,000.00	14	8
LEADERSHIP MEMBERS	\$ 5,000.00	11	13
HONOR MEMBERS	\$ 10,000.00	3	3
DISTINGUISHED DONORS	\$ 20,000.00	1	1
PACESETTERS	\$ 50,000.00	0	0
SPECIAL DONORS	\$ 100,000.00	1	1
** HONORARY MEMBERS	-0-	81	79
SUB TOTAL (ACTIVE MEMBERS)		1049	1052
LOST ADDRESSES		264	264
	TOTAL	1313	1316

* Widows, SOF Organizations, MOH recipients, some SFA Chapters, SOF Commanders and CSM's.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

Bennie Pokemire

As you can see by reading the lists below, most of our contributions are from a small dedicated group of members, along with a very few new joiners and some members, who are upgrading their membership status. 

THANKS - YOU ARE SPECIAL !!

De Oppresso Liber

Bennie

THE TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF MARCH 2008	
TOTAL ENDING CASH ASSETS	\$ 333,625.15
A. G. EDWARDS ACCOUNTS	\$ 331,627.59
PLUS APPROXIMATELY IN STOCK/MERCHANDISE FOR GIFT SHOP/BOOK STORE	\$ 93,000.00
PLUS A CARGO VAN VALUED AT	\$ 14,475.00
TOTAL CASH, STOCK, AND OTHER ASSETS	\$ 499,750.08

CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE LAST MUSINGS

NEW LEADERSHIP MEMBERS (\$5,000.00 PLUS)

SGM (R) VLADIMIR (JAKE) JAKOVENKO (SEVEN DONATIONS) # 22

MSG (R) AUBREY & JOANN GADDIS (SIX DONATIONS) # 23

OTHER DONATIONS

LTC JOSEPH D. CELESKI (LIFE & CENTURY MBR)	DAVID A. "BEAR" MARTIN (NEW LIFE MEMBER)
DOT DEAN (LIFE & CENTURY MBR)	MRS MARGARET McLAUGHLIN (LIFE & CENTURY MBR)
MAJ (R) DREW DIX (CENTURY MEMBER)	MSG (R) LARRY S McMILLIN (LEADERSHIP MEMBER)
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AUBREY AN JOAN GADDIS (TWO DONATIONS) (PATRONS)	JAMES M. O'CONNOR (CENTURY MEMBER)
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CPT (R) JAMES R. HUNTER (ANNUAL MEMBER)	SSG (R) FRANK W. ROBERTS (NEW CENTURY AND LIFE MEMBER)
MSG (R) R MICHAEL KARR (LEADERSHIP MEMBER)	MSG (R) MILFORD J. ROGERS (1 DONATIONS) (LIFE & CENTURY MBR)
ROY KUNIMURA (CENTURY AND LIFE)	MARGUERITE E.SAYRE (CENTURY AND LIFE MEMBER)
SGM (R) JAMES W. LEWIS (TWO DONATIONS) (LEADERSHIP MEMBER)	JOHN A. STAFFORD (NEW LIFE MEMBER)
RICHARD W "ROCKY" LEWIS (ANNUAL MEMBER)	LTC DREW M. VARGO ((TWO DONATIONS)(LIFE & CENTURY MBR)

The numbers of donations listed above are those that have been received since the last Musings.

CONTRIBUTIONS MADE IN MEMORY OF

These contributions were made in the memory of departed comrades, friends, or relatives.

PERSON MEMORIALIZED (OR HONORED)	NAME OF DONOR
SFC ELMER R. L.ABLES, JR. KIA RVN 10-26-67	SFA D-843-L
SGT WAYNE M. ANDERSON (MACV/SOG) KIA RVN 12-3-69	USARA-L-773
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SGT WILLIAM C. BAER (MACV/SOG) KIA RVN 5-20-68	USARA-L-773
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SFC RICHARD D. BENZEL KIA RVN, 12-6-62	VARGO LTC (R) DREW
SGT THEODORE J.BERLETT KIA RVN 1-28-62	VARGO LTC (R) DREW
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SP4 RONALD E. BLAKE MIA RVN 6-10-65	MAJ (R) DREW DIX
SFC CHARLES F.BOOKOUT ((MACV/SOG), KIA RVN 7-4-70	USARA-L-773
SFC JOHN A.BORONSKI ((MACV/SOG) KIA RVN 3-24-70	USARA-L-773
SFC CHARLES D.BOYER ((MACV/SOG) KIA RVN 6-21-68	USARA-L-773
SFC WILLIAM BOYLE ((MACV/SOG), KIA RVN 2-28-70	USARA-L-773
MAJ EUSTACE M. BUNN USAF, 1ST SOW, A-1E "PEACH 4" PILOT, SON TAY ATTACK GROUP	ANONYMOUS
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MSGT GARY T. IGO, USAF FLIGHT ENGINEER EC-121 "FROG ONE" COLLEGE EYE CREW MEMBER	ANONYMOUS
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SP5 JOHN J. KEDENBURG (MOH), KIA RVN, 6-14-68	USARA-L-773
CPT DONALD W. KILGUS, USAF, 388 TH TFW, F-150 "FIREBIRD 5" ,SON TAY WILD WEASEL DECOY GROUP	ANONYMOUS
SGT ADAM L. KNOX, 346TH PSYOPS CO KIA IRAQ 9-17-06	SFA D-843-L
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MSG CHARLES W.LINDEWALD JR. (SS) KIA RVN 2-7-68	MAJ (R) DREW DIX
SGT JOHN F.LINK (DSC) KIA RVN 3-30-68	USARA-L-773

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SSG BALFOUR O. LYTTON, SR. (DSC) KIA RVN 3-25-68	USARA-L-773
SFC LINWOOD MARTIN (DSC) KIA RVN 3-22-68	USARA-L-773
SSG JOHN E. McCARTHY (DSC) KIA RVN, 2-20-67	USARA-L-773
1LT JOHN J. McHUGH (DSC) KIA RVN 1-31-68	USARA-L-773
SSG RYAN, D. MASETH, 5 TH SFG (A) KIA IRAQ 1-2-08	SFA D-843-L
CPT CHARLES P. McNEFF, USAF H-130P 'LIME 1' NAVIGATOR SON TAY ASSAULT FORCE	ANONYMOUS
SFC CARLO METH, 7 TH SFG (A) KILLED IN HALO JUMP, 1-16-08	SFA D-843-L
SSG ROBERT J. MILLER, 3 RD SFG(A), KIA AFGHANISTAN, 1-25-08	SFA D-843-L
SFC LAWRENCE E. MORRISON USACA/ & PSYOPS CMD 9-19-05 IRAQ	SFA D-843-L
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SGT JAMES "PAT" PATTERSON, KIA VN 5-24-67	AUBREY & JOANN GADDIS
MSG ROBERT D. PLATO (DSC) KIA RVN 5-20-68	MSG (R) JOHN A. GOMES
SGT NICHOLAS A. ROBERTSON, 3 RD SFG (A) DOW FROM AFGHANISTAN 4-3-08	KAELE & JIM FLYNN
MSG THOMAS J. SANCHEZ (DSC) KIA RVN 3-6-67	USARA-L-773
SP5 PAUL R. SEVERSON (DSC) KIA RVN 8-25-68	USARA-L-773
WOII ANTHONY P. SIGGERS, AUSTRALIAN ARMY TRAINING TEAM KIA RVN 8-21-67	USARA-L-773
1LT GEORGE SISLER (MOH) KIA RVN 2-7-67	USARA-L-773
MAJ RICHARD S. SKEELS USAF, 1ST SOW, A-1E "PEACH 3" PILOT, SON TAY ATTACK GROUP	ANONYMOUS
SP5 PHILLIP T. STAHL (DSC) KIA RVN 3-9-66	USARA-L-773
LTC WILLIAM J. STARKEY, USAF, 388 TH TFW, F-150 "FIREBIRD 3", SON TAY WILD WEASEL DECOY GROUP	ANONYMOUS
SP5 FORESTAL A. STEVENS (DSC) KIA RVN 8-25-68	USARA-L-773
CWO JOHN V. STRYKER	JAMES M. O'CONNOR
SGT MICHAEL R. STURDIVANT, 431 ST CA BN KIA IRAQ, 1-22-08	USARA-L-773
1LT THOMAS F. SWANN, JR. (DSC) KIA RVN 5-10-68	USARA-L-773
SGT RICHARD P. TEEVENS (DSC) KIA RVN 11-17-67	USARA-L-773
SSG RONALD T. TERRY (DSC) KIA RVN 1-29-66	USARA-L-773
CPT BENJAMIN D. TIFFNER, 5 TH SFG (A) KIA, IRAQ, 11-7-07	USARA-L-773
SSG HUBERT C. VAN POLL (DSC) KIA RVN 6-15-67	USARA-L-773
CSM (R) LEO J. VIOLETTE	AUBREY AN JOAN GADDIS
CSM (R) LEO J. VIOLETTE	MSG (R) JOHN A. GOMES
CSM (R) LEO J. VIOLETTE	LTC (R) GEORGE D. HEIB
SFC PAUL H. VILLAROSA (DSC) KIA RVN 1-4-68	USARA-L-773
SGT JACKIE L. WAYMIRE (DSC) KIA RVN 1-9-67	USARA-L-773
SFC LEROY N. (WRIGHT DSC) KIA RVN 5-2-68	USARA-L-773
SGT GORDON YNTEMA, (MOH), KIA, RVN 1-18-68	USARA-L-773
LTC HERBERT R. ZEHNDER, USAF ARRTC, HH-3 "BANNANA 1" CO-PILOT, SON TAY ASSAULT FORCE	ANONYMOUS

THE CURATOR'S CORNER

By Roxanne Merritt

The Special Forces Regimental Hall of Fame opened at the first of this month nestled in the corridor behind the Wall of Heroes in COL Aaron Bank Hall (formerly known as the SOAF). The Museum was responsible for mounting the exhibits of the members as well as some of its history. The idea for a Hall of Fame was first suggested by MG Boykin back in 2000, but it wasn't until last year that the idea resurfaced and was made a reality. The Regiment, however, actual dates back to the late 1950s and was part of the Army's efforts to maintain a lineage during a time of Army downsizing. At that time, the 1st Special Forces Regiment was established as one of 61 regiments under the Combat Army Regimental System (CARS). A formula was established to compound combat time as well as the overall lifespan of a unit to form a regiment. For Special Forces, lineage was pulled from the First Special Service Force and the Ranger battalions of World War II to come up with the requisite number required. (The Office of Strategic Services lineage wasn't included due to its hybrid nature which precluded standard military unit composition, with a few exceptions, of battalions, regiments, etc.) All Special Forces Groups were then placed under the umbrella of the 1st Special Forces [Regiment]. Remember, that at this time, SF was an "unassigned unit" which was unique – some would say peculiar – to the Army. One of the results was the teal blue and yellow shoulder patch replacing the various installation, state or the old Airborne Command patches being worn by SF soldiers around the world at the time. The other gift of CARS was the SF "De Oppresso Liber" insignia, approved by Institute of Heraldry in 1959 and adopted in 1960. In the middle 1980s, CARS was revamped and the Army Regimental System (ARS) was instituted. Special Forces lost its lineage to the World War II Ranger battalions to the newly revitalized 75th Ranger Regiment. A parallel action of establishing Special Forces as a branch also occurred during this time. ARS mission was the same as CARS of promoting "esprit de corps," introducing the element of an Honorary Command and the tool to designate and induct Distinguished and Honorary Members into the Regiment. CSM Calvin Thomas, then the president of the Special Forces Association, was the first Sergeant Major of the Regiment and COL Bank was designated as the first Colonel of the Regiment. Although the Special Forces Warrant Officer program actually pre-dates the activation of the Special Forces branch by a year, they did not designate WO4 Harry Rider as the first Honorary Warrant Officer until several years later. The current Honorary Command is composed of COL Roger H.C. Donlon (USA Ret), CSM Joseph Dennison (USA Ret) and WO5 Thomas Edinger (USA Ret).

The creation of the Special Forces Regimental Hall of Fame capped a very busy quarter. In January, we were inspected by the US Army Center of Military History's recertification team headed by Steve Allie of the Frontier Army Museum at Fort

Leavenworth. This inspection occurs every five years and ensures that the museum's operation meets minimum standards as outlined by AR 870-20 US Army Museums, Historical Properties and Art. COL Newton, the Assistant Commandant of USAJFKSWCS and our new boss prepared the team with a great in-brief, emphasizing how integral the museum is to the school house as well as everything we do for the community. This is very important and ensures our independence. Part of the inspection includes the team generating a list of objects from our 7000 plus artifacts which we have to "pull." All 100 items were located within 5 minutes and either shown to the inspectors or, the artifact on hand receipt to one of the off-site units such as 5th SFG(A) at Fort Campbell was verified. The benchmark is usually 10 minutes. Now, at the time, our computers in the warehouse had still not been hooked up due to the ongoing renovation, so Gene, Ben and Len were working at a disadvantage, but were able to triumph all the same. We are still awaiting the results of the inspection. Simultaneous to the inspection, and as a bit of synchronicity tying into COL Newton's in-brief, in the Museum itself, we had been taken over for two days as the venue for a shoot by CBS *60 Minutes* who were doing a story on 7th SFG(A). We do not have an air date for the broadcast of the story, but as soon as we know, we will pass it on.

We get a lot of queries from donors on what we use the material that they donated. Jim Sylva from California came out to see. He, and three of his friends, were in the 10th and 77th SFG (A) in 1952 and 1953. They had gone through their photo albums and files, finding old manifests, certificates, photos and TDY orders which they sent on to us. We were able to show Jim the various products such as graphic displays where images of the items are integrated. So, he saw Arlina create a door display on the history of the beret and its wear by SF where a photograph of Jim and his buddies standing at Pope AFB waiting to jump wearing their "berets" fashioned from reformed wool garrison caps which had been dyed green, were included. He also visited Special Forces Command's Retention Center doing a new campaign emphasizing the importance of the team – "the one on your right and the one on your left." Most of the historic photos such as those of Jim and his buddies have been integrated into this campaign. This provides a perfect segue into a request for team photos from Long Thanh in Vietnam. We only have photos of the camp, not of any of the teams. If you have any photos or know of someone who may have photos of this camp, please let us know. We also have requests for photos and information on the 41st CA Company in Vietnam as well as the 550th Military Police Company assigned to 8th SFG(A) in Panama. Although we found some material in the Archives, any assistance on either of these units would be greatly appreciated.

Other donors to the museum have included a Legation from the French VFW in southern France. Most of these men were in their eighties and had served either with the US Army or in the Resistance in World War II. The youngest – a spry 78 – was 14 during the war, but helped his Dad rescue downed Allied pilots, an activity that landed both he and his father in jail by the Gestapo. The trip was sponsored by BG Ed Thomas of the First Special Service Force and strong supporter of the museum. Other visitors included members of each of the North Carolina Visitor Centers who came to see the various Fayetteville/Fort Bragg museums and places of interest so that they can better direct visitors to us from I-95, I-40, I-85 and I-70. 1st PSYOP Bn used the Museum to celebrate COL McClure and the founding of Special Warfare earlier this month. A recurring monthly event, the unit is using COL McClure as a vehicle to better inform their soldiers of the history of PSYOP in general, and their unit, in particular. Last week, the International Military Student Office held its International Military Student reception at the Museum for the second time. Hosted by BG Pagan, the reception was well attended by students, their sponsors and the Command of USASOC, USASFC and USAJFKSWCS.

As a sidebar, the VA offers A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC), signed by the current President, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased veterans. The program, originally established by President Kennedy, is being revitalized. Separate from the grave markers, the certificates must be requested. Forms are available on the VA website under the tab Burials and Memorials or can be obtained from a regional VA office. Please pass this information on to anyone you know may benefit or military fraternal organizations which you may belong.



Roxanne

MEMBER TAPS

SMA (R) George W. Dunaway died of a heart attack. February 6, 2008, in Las Vegas, Nevada. George Dunaway, the 2nd Sergeant Major of the Army, was sworn in on September of 1968 and served until his tour end in September of 1970. He was born in Richmond, Virginia, on July 24, 1922. After attending the Airborne Course in August 1943, Sergeant Major Dunaway remained at Fort Benning as an Airborne School Instructor until January 1945 when he joined the 517th Combat Team in France as a Platoon Sergeant. He returned to Fort Benning in December 1945 with assignment to the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment where he served as First Sergeant of Company "A". In March 1948, Sergeant Major Dunaway was reassigned to the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. There he



Members of the "Old Guard" conduct the SMA Dunaway funeral at Arlington

became a member of the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment as Operations Sergeant, ascending to the Regimental Sergeant Major position in 1952. In early 1954 he transferred to the 187th Regimental Combat Team as the Combat Team Sergeant Major. He continued in that position for seven years during which he saw the Airborne Regimental Combat Team renamed as the 187th Infantry, when the 101st Airborne Division was reactivated on 21 September 1956, at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Departing Fort Campbell in 1961, he took the reins of the 1st Special Forces Group in Okinawa. In 1966 he moved to Vietnam as Sergeant Major of the 5th Special Forces Group where he remained until 1967. Returning to the United States,

he re-joined the 101st Airborne Division as it prepared to move to Vietnam in the largest unit deployment by air in the history of the Vietnam War. Sergeant Major Dunaway arrived in Vietnam with the Commanding General's Command Group on 13 December 1967. In February 1968 he moved to Camp Eagle in the I Corps Tactical Zone with the Division where he remained until July 1968 when he was selected as the 2nd Sergeant Major of the Army.

Sergeant Major Dunaway's awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (with "V" Device), Purple Heart, Air Medal (with "V"

Device), Army Commendation Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Good Conduct Medal, European African Middle-Eastern Campaign Medal, WWII Victory Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnamese Armed Forces Honor Medal, Second Class, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry (with silver star), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Combat Infantry Badge with Star.

In 2002 Sergeant Major Dunaway joined a select group of Infantrymen chosen for their lifetime contributions to the profession to receive the annual Doughboy Award presented at Fort Benning by the Chief of Infantry.

Joyce Lutz friend, mother and widow of **General Joe Lutz**, passed away 26 February, at 9 PM in the arms of her daughters, **Karla, Krista** and **Joannie**. **Joyce** was a tremendous lady who, for the last three years, had been battling a crippling neuromuscular disease with incredible strength and courage. Throughout this fight, she continued to attend all SFA Chapter LX functions as one of their senior and most charming representatives. She shall be missed by all of her family and many, many friends. Tentative funeral arrangements were: Sunday, March 2nd – Funeral Service and Burial followed by Celebration of Life at her home.

Robert Lowell Moore Jr., AKA Robin Moore, who was born on Halloween Night (October 31) 1925 in Boston, Massachusetts, always wanted to be a writer. True to his Halloween birth date, Robin's choice of topics have frequently leaned toward the supernatural and macabre. At the time of his death, Onon 21 February 2008 he was residing in Hopkinsville, Kentucky (home to Fort Campbell and the 5th Special Forces Group) where he was working on his memoirs as well as three other books.

Robin was raised in Concord, Massachusetts and attended Middlesex School and Belmont Hill School. After graduating from Belmont Hill, he joined the armed forces and flew a tour of combat missions over Germany during the closing days of World War II. He graduated from Harvard College in 1949 and went to New York to produce television shows. In 1952 he returned to Boston to work for the Sheraton Hotel Company co-founded by his father, Robert Lowell Moore senior. But, what Robin really wanted to do was write.

His first novel, "Pitchman", was about the burgeoning TV business. He continued to work for Sheraton and as a result of trying to establish Sheraton hotels in the Caribbean in the late 50s he ran across Fidel Castro which led to his chronicling the Cuban communist dictator's guerrilla campaign in a non-fiction book, "The Devil To Pay". A third novel about Robin's family business, Hotel Tomayne, brought about the end of his career in hotel management and was the start of his full-time writing career.

In 1963 his Harvard classmate, Robert Kennedy, President John F. Kennedy's brother, made it possible for Robin to join the US Army Special Forces as a civilian. Robin went through almost a year of training and then went to Vietnam with the Special Forces and wrote his definitive novel of the Vietnam War. The Green Berets which was published in May of 1965. "The French Connection" followed this first success when Robin joined the New York police department in one of their most spectacular drug busts. Robin continued to write and his next big hit was, "The Happy Hooker" with Xaviera Hollander, the story of the most controversial madam in New York City.

Robin then went on to write many more novels about international intrigue and adventure. He often traveled internationally to gather background material for his books.

Robin returned to Southeast Asia to write The Country Team about American diplomacy and Green Beret operations in Asia. The Khaki Mafia was next, chronicling the adventures of a beautiful, blond Australian girl's adventures as an entertainer and talent booker to US Army posts throughout Vietnam.

A stint as a treasure hunter in the Caribbean led to The Treasure Hunter. In the 70s Robin spent a year in Iran and the middle east researching his next novel, "Dubai", an epic of gold smuggling, oil exploration, and political subversion in the Arab world. Two novels of gambling followed. The first was the story of a great con game, The Big Paddle and the other was the heartbreaking tale of a compulsive gambler, "Compulsion". Robin returned to his hotel background in The Fifth Estate.

One of his more recent novels, "The White Tribe", was the result of three years spent in Africa observing American and European mercenaries fighting communist terrorism. After Africa Robin traveled to Russia where he did extensive research leading to "The Moscow Connection", the story of the sale of Russian nuclear weapons to rouge nations. His latest book, "The Sparrowhook Curse", a paranormal tale of love and family revenge, was the result of many years summering at his parents island home on Cuttyhunk Island.

MAJ (R) Robert Thomas Sullivan, 83, passed away Thursday, March 6, 2008, in Pinehurst while a patient at First Health Moore Regional Hospital. **Robert** was born in Dunkirk, N.Y., on July 24, 1924, to **Eugene and Florence Sullivan** and was the youngest of two children, preceded in death by his older sister, **Jean Sullivan Hession**. Bob, affectionately nicknamed "Sass" by his closest hometown friends, was raised in Dunkirk during the Great Depression, attended St. Mary's Academy, and being a gifted athlete and swimmer, served as a lifeguard on Lake Erie. Upon graduating from high school in 1943, he joined the U.S. Navy and served in the South and Central Pacific battle campaigns of World War II, attaining the rating of (Aviation) Armament Ordnanceman 3rd Class. Honorably discharged in March 1946, he attended college at St. Bonaventure in Olean, N.Y., obtaining a bachelor's degree in history in 1951, and for a short time attended Washington & Lee College for pre-law studies in Lexington, Va.

In 1952, during the Korean War, **Robert** joined the U.S. Army and was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant and was stationed at Camp Indiantown Gap, Pa. Here he met a vivacious and brilliant graduate of West Virginia University, **Mary Alice Varlas** of Moundsville,

W.Va., who was serving as a camp librarian. **Bob** and **Mary Alice** were married Jan. 24, 1953, and over the course of the next 16 years, their family grew to 11 children. Robert's U.S. Army service and stationing included numerous overseas tours of duty: Iceland (1953-54), Italy (1957-60, captain and company commander, SEATO Vicenza — Caserma Pasaloaquo), Germany (1963-66, major — provost marshal, Frankfurt/Fliegerhorst AAF and the 83rd Artillery as battalion executive officer, Büdingen), and Korea (1967-68, battalion executive officer); while his U.S. assignments included Fort Bragg (1954-55, first lieutenant, 18th Airborne Corp.), Fort Sill (Artillery & Missile School/1955-57, captain, 159th Artillery), Fort Sill (1960 Artillery School), Fort Bragg (7th Special Forces Group, Special Warfare School/1961-63, major and 1966-67, SFWS Log Cmd.), retiring in 1969.

He maintained memberships with the Military Officers Association of America (Sandhills Chapter), Special Forces Association, and retained his N.C. real estate license.

Despite the hectic travels of Army life, **Robert** and **Mary Alice** came to call Fayetteville their home and joined St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church in 1961. **Mary Alice** served as the school librarian at St. Patrick's until she succumbed to cancer in June of 1980 after an 11-year struggle.

After retiring from the Army, **Robert** became an independent businessman until joining the U.S. Post Office from 1976 to 1988, after which he moved to the quiet beauty of a mountain retreat near Lake Lure in 1988. However, he eventually resettled near Pinehurst in the hamlet of West End in 1992 in order to be closer to his children. Robert had a philanthropic spirit giving easily to a wide range of church, Indian, and health charities. He was a lifelong hobbyist and collector of stamps and coins, and always an avid reader of many types of books with a blazing knowledge of U.S. and world history and ancestral heritage.

Robert is survived by his 11 children and 19 grandchildren: son, **Patrick** and wife **Diane Sullivan** and children Army Capt. **Ian**, **Christopher** and **Nicole** of Winchester, Va.; daughter, **Mary Kathleen** and husband **Alan Hayes**, and son **Joshua** West of Salemburg; daughter, **Elizabeth Roberts** and children **Rachel** and **David** of Apex; daughter, **Susan Barkley** and children **Mary Elizabeth** and **Thomas** of West End; daughter, **Barbara Jean** of Raleigh; son, **Thomas** and wife **Kelly Sullivan** and children **Jason**, **Alex**, **Katie**, **Nick** and **Kerry Ann** of Wake Forest; daughter, **Patricia Ann** and husband **Doug Blackwell** of Raleigh; son, **Michael** and wife **Bonnie Sullivan** and daughter **Carlyle** of Houma, La.; son, **John** and wife **Marie Sullivan** and children **Jack** and **Joey** of St. Mary's, Ga.; son, **Kevin** and wife **Connie Sullivan** and children **Megan** and **Mary Cole** of Raleigh; and son, **Robert Anthony** and wife **April Sullivan** and daughter **Mary Alice** of Wake Forest. Other surviving kin are his much loved niece, **Ann Hession**, and his only nephew, **William Hession**, both of Tonawanda, N.Y.

On Monday, March 10, 2008, a funeral Mass was conducted at St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church, 160 E. Vermont Ave., Southern Pines, at 10 a.m. Services will be administered by longtime family friend and priest, Monsignor **Jeffery Ingham**. a graveside service was held at Halcyon Hills Memorial Park, after which Robert Thomas was be interred and reunited with **Mary Alice**.

CSM (R) Leo J. Violette, 75, of Fayetteville, died Sunday, Jan. 27, 2008, in his home. Leo was a veteran of the Korean War and the Vietnam War. During his military service of 28 years, he was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, ARCOM 3rd OLC, UN. Service Medal, Combat Medic Badge and numerous other medals and citations. Highlights of his career included serving in Special Forces, 82nd Airborne training, and as a field medic. He attended the first class of the Sergeant Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas. He served his last tour as the command sergeant major for Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center on Fort Gordon, Ga.

Upon retirement from the military, he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in social work from Methodist College. He worked with the Cumberland County Department of Social Services for 10 years.

Over his lifetime, he was a Little League coach, Boy Scout leader (Troop 787), former member of Knights of Columbus, avid fisherman and nature lover. He was also a member of the VFW in Supply, a member of the Special Forces Association, Chapter I-XVIII (D-912), and was a Donor to the Museum Association.

Leo will be remembered for his strong commitment to family, community and country.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, **Rachel Violette**, "the girl next door," of the home; three sons, **Leo J. Violette Jr. (Tina)** of Sudbury, Canada, **Cal Violette** (Allison) of Fayetteville, and **John Violette (Nikki)** of Florence, S.C.; two daughters, **Terry Jones** of Clayton and **Gale Greene (Mike)** of Angier; and six grandchildren. He is also survived by four brothers, **Roland**, **Claude**, **Rodney** and **Lloyd**; and three sisters, **Irene**, **Rachel** and **Norma**. (Another brother T/Sgt, USAF, Retired, **Clarence E. Violette**, passed away on 3 February 2008.)

The family received friends at Jernigan-Warren Funeral Home in Fayetteville on January 29, 2008. Funeral services were held at, January 30, 2008, at JFK Memorial Chapel on Fort Bragg. Graveside services, with full military honors, followed immediately at Cumberland Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The CARE Clinic, 239 Robeson St., Fayetteville, NC 28301; or to a preferred charity.

MESSAGE FROM THE GIFT SHOP

By Betty Amaker

Thank you for your continued support to help keep the Gift Shop open. During this time of raising prices, we unfortunately will have to increase some of our prices to continue to stay in this competitive market. We understand that there are other sources to choose from, but as a non-profit Museum Association Gift Store, we can only survive through your continued support. Many factors determine price increases, gasoline prices being the biggest challenges for us all. The shipping charges have gone up tremendously,

so we have to raise our prices accordingly to our dear customers. The Gift Shop staff is grateful every time you make your purchases from us. You have our commitment to do our best to earn your business and be assured we will not take your support for granted. To ensure your continued support, we will strive to improve our services, products, and quality of the merchandise we carry in our Gift Store. The Gift Shop staff wishes you a happy and warm summer. Come visit the Museum and our store. We will be pleasantly surprise with some of changes and improvement we have made.



Thanks for your support! *Betty*

SCENES FROM THE APRIL BOARD MEETING, AND THE GIFT SHOP



President Bill Palmer swears in L-R, Bart Brown as Assistant Treasurer and Hawk Holloway and Joe Kilgore as Advisory Council members for 2008-2010.



Bill Palmer also presented a Life Membership certificate to Advisory Council member "Bear" Martin.



Hawk Holloway and Joe Kilgore listen attentively in foreground while in the background: LTC Rick Springett, and Ernie Sirvas, represented Col Curt Boyd and Col Ferdinand Irizarry, who had other duties, listen in to all the proceedings.



Betty and Mary Ann working hard to get everything ready for customers just prior to opening the Gift Shop.

THE MAILING SESSION WITH THE LICKER STICKERS

On Saturday, 2 February we again had a great crew of well trained Licker-Stickers who managed to stuff the envelopes with both the Musings, and a ballot and then applied the labels. We had to wait until Monday to take them to the Post office. And on Tuesday I heard from one member who had already received his Musings, and wanted to become a life member.



BETTY AMAKER	JB AMAKER	ROY BRADFORD	BART BROWN	SPENSER GAY	BOB GILSTRAP
JIM HARGRAVES	GEORGE HEIB	NORM HEIB	JERRY LEVEE	RALPH LOFF	WES McKELVEY
CLIFF SEAGO	MIKE SIMPSON				




The February Licker Sticker Gang, who managed to stuff almost 1100 envelopes in less than one hour, while sipping some great coffee (made by Mike Simpson) and munching on assorted refreshments donated by Betty Amaker. We might add that Betty had done this for quite a while and refuses to be reimbursed. Of course she is now a Century Member. (When we got done we found that we were missing one banana and one blueberry muffin. If it arrived in your envelope consider it a one-time free prize.) L-R: Wes, Norm, JB (waving envelopes), Mike, Spenser, Cliff, Betty, Bart (seated), Roy, Ralph, Jerry (seated), Bob, and Jim

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

By George Heib

We have lost a lot of good friends and members of the Museum Association since our last issue. Having served with and known most of them, they will always be in our hearts and memories. They are bid a fond farewell until we meet again. It seems that our membership rolls are shrinking, but we still have a few new members coming into the fold. As you know, we have received just under \$21,000.00 in donations IMO Jimmy Dean (from 158 donors). We will place these funds in a separate AG Edwards account and add to it any further donations received for this purpose.

Below you will find the information on the Special Forces Online Message Service. This information was provided by its webmaster: Paul Campbell, who is a longtime Life Member, and big supporter of the Museum Association. He has on many occasions put out information on our projects and needs, never asking for anything in return. This is our way of saying thanks for his support, and help in our mutual endeavors to **“To Honor, Support, Protect, and Remember the Heritage”**. 



The Editor

Museum Musings is the official publication of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare / Special Forces Branch Historical and Museum Association. The opinions expressed by the writers and editor are entirely their own and are not to be considered as official expression of the JFK Special Warfare/Special Forces Branch Museum or the Department of the Army. It is normally published four times a year. Submissions may be sent to the Editor prior to 20 January, 20 April, 20 August, and 20 October.

Annual Memberships are \$10.00 per year and expire on 31 December. Life or Century Memberships are \$100.00.

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1st NAME: (Unit, Position, Rank, Last, First, MI, Email Address)

2nd NAME: (Unit, Position, Rank, Last, First, MI, Email Address)

Additional information request and verification efforts may be requested, as needed, by the Net Controller to verify your application.

As a present or former Special Forces soldier your membership in a Special Forces Association Chapter is invited and encouraged, but not required.

The information requested and furnished above is restricted to the use of the SF ONLINE MESSAGE SERVICE, Net Controller and will only be utilized for the purpose of verifying your application for membership and in sending you messages.

Paul F. Campbell, Net Controller ASFBAcsi@aol.com Special Forces Online Message Service Center

IF YOU ARE ALREADY A SF ONLINE MESSAGE SERVICE MEMBER PLEASE PASS THIS FORM ON TO OTHER QUALIFIED SF FRIENDS.