



## WILLIAM R. CARD MEMORIAL CHAPTER

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION

**QUIET RELIABLE**  
◆ PAST ◆ PRESENT ◆



**PROFESSIONAL**  
◆ FUTURE ◆ ALWAYS ◆



—TAPS—

### Dr. Smith provided care, compassion to Vietnam

By Christine Clarridge  
Seattle Times staff reporter

In the late 1950s, Dr. Patricia Smith, a Seattle native and University of Washington Medical School Graduate, moved to the central mountain region of Vietnam and opened a hospital that was staffed mostly by Europeans and volunteers.

Her work affected people all over the world, not only those she treated but also the caretakers and physicians she inspired to follow her path, said her son Wir Smith, who, along with his older brother, Det, were adopted by Dr. Smith before she left Vietnam at the end of the war there.

Dr. Smith died Dec. 26 in Providence St. Peter Hospital in Olympia at age 78.

“She was an amazing person,” said Wir Smith, a Seattle musician. “She was really a little like Mother Teresa.”

In the wake of Dr. Smith’s death, he said, the family received hundreds of messages from people about her impact on their lives.

After graduating from medical school and completing her residency, Dr. Smith felt incomplete, her son said. She read about an opportunity to work with lepers in Vietnam for two years, and she jumped at it.

“She said it was the most rewarding thing in the world,” Smith said. “She fell in love with the place.”

Dr. Smith had gone to Vietnam’s Kontum region, according to an article in Vietnam magazine, and opened a hospital with funds from International Catholic Relief and the Society of Friends.

Initially, she was greeted with skepticism, the article said. The people had long relied on their own village leaders for healing. But their attitudes changed after she cured the daughter of one elder, and in time she became trusted and loved.

Sick villagers were said to walk more than 100 kilometers, entire families in tow, to come to “Dr. Pat’s” hospital.

Dr. Smith and her work have been chronicled in numerous articles, and she was the subject of a CBS television documentary. There even are pictures of her in the White House with President Nixon.

“But she didn’t pay attention to it,” her son said of the publicity “She didn’t like to be in the spotlight.”

Wir Smith said his mother had always wanted to have children and first adopted his brother, now a Navy dentist, and then him. Their biological mother had been killed by shrapnel when Wir was an infant.

“My father asked her to adopt me,” Wir Smith said. “He wanted me to have a better life.”

Dr. Smith and her boys returned to Seattle when South Vietnam fell.

She settled in Bellevue and worked for Group Health Cooperative for 20 years, retiring in 1997 and moving to Lake Cushman near Hoodspport, Mason County. There, she found time to indulge her love of murder mysteries and crossword puzzles.

Dr. Smith is survived by her sons and her sister, Christine Smith, of Bellevue.  
(Reprinted with permission.)

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**CHAPLIAN JAKE'S  
CORNER**

**TRUTH**

Four high school boys couldn't resist the temptation to skip classes. The next day they told their teacher that they had missed school because their car had a flat tire. They were relieved that she just smiled and said, "Well, you missed a quiz yesterday, so take your seats and get out a pencil and paper." She waited as they sat down and got ready for the quiz. Then she said, "First Question: Which tire was flat?"

No one can get away with lying. In Acts 5, and the story of Ananias and Sapphira their lies brought about death. They thought they were lying only to Peter and the other believers, but the Apostle Peter said to Ananias.. "You have not lied to men but to God."

Truth is an attribute to God. When we lie, we offend Him. And sooner or later He will uncover falsehood — if not in this life, then the judgment. (So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God — Romans 14:12).

We live in a highly competitive world, and sometime we may be strongly tempted to shade the truth to get ahead. But the short-term gains from lying are worth little compared with the long-term benefits of telling the truth.

If you have deceived someone, confess it to that person and to the Lord. It may be humbling, but it is the first step to restore integrity in your life.

**Vietnam Memorial Day  
members who attended the Vietnam Memorial Day on last November  
20-2004  
See attachment for detail.**

- Thuy Van Nguyen
- Anh Mai
- Hoa Chinh Dieu
- Hom Van Deo
- Choi Van Ly
- Hoa Van Lo
- Hoan Cong Pham
- Mike Karr
- Eutemio Ohno & Khampho (wife)
- Kiet Nguyen & Thuy (wife)

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**To Major Eutemio Ohno and his wife Khampho, from Chapter XVI, on the birth of there baby girl, Grace.**

## FUTURE EVENTS

### “JK” Wright

#### Memorial Breakfast

**Day:** Feb. 5 & first Sat of each month

**Time:** 09:00 hours

**Place:** Happy Days Dinner  
11521 Bridgeport Way S W  
Lakewood

Off I-5 McChord Exit 125

This breakfast is held in memory of all our comrades who have jumped to the big DZ in the sky. All members of the SF family are invited to join with their comrades for these remembrances.

#### Dinosaurs' Luncheon

**Day:** Jan. 28 & last Fri of each month

**Time:** 11:30 hours

**Place:** Fort Lewis. Golf Course.

I-5 South of Fort Lewis, Take exit 116 (Mounds Rd.) Golf Course is on west side of I-5

#### Membership Meeting

**Day:** Feb. 12 & the second Sat of each even numbered month.

**Time:** 10:00 hours

**Place:** Team house

#### Party & Pot-Luck Dinner

**Day:** Feb. 12

**Time:** 12:00 hours

**Place:** Team house  
17650 SE 295th Street  
Kent WA

**Directions to Team house:** From I-5 traveling north toward Seattle take Exit 142 A on to State Highway 18. Traveling south on I-5 toward Tacoma take Exit 142 B and turn left onto State Highway 18. Go approximately 11 miles on Hwy 18 to the 272nd Street SE/Hwy 516 Exit. Turn right onto 272nd St SE and go east about one-half mile to SE Wax Road (there will be a McDonalds on your right) turn right onto SE Wax Road. At the end of Wax Road, turn left onto SE Covington-Sawyer Road. Follow Covington-Sawyer for about a mile to a sign on the right that reads 179th PL SE/AIRPORT. Turn right and then bear right at the Y ahead. Continue on 288th Ave SE. Bear left and proceed to SE 295th Street and turn left again. 295th ends in a cul-de-sac. To the left is the Team house. Lost?

## DINOSAURS LUNCHEON IN ATTENDANCE WERE

## J.K. WRIGHT MEMORIAL BREAKFAST IN ATTENDANCE WERE

## Chapter XVI 2005 Dues

**Annual Dues time again. Dues are to be paid by December 31st, 2004 for year 2005. Dues are \$25.00 for members in good standing, Reinstatements or Lost Souls must pay \$30.00, \$25.00 dues and \$5.00 reinstatement/late fee. Grace period for 2005 dues is to January 31, 2005 after which time the \$5.00 late fee will also have to be paid. Members desiring to have the Chapter newsletter mailed to them can send their \$10.00 also. The newsletter can also be viewed on the Chapter website. Dues and newsletter fee can be sent to the following address:**

**Wayne Karvonen**

**9342 4th Ave NE**

**Olympia, WA 98516-6611**

**or the Chapter mailbox on Fort Lewis. Please make checks out to Chapter 16, SFA from the Chapter Treasurer, Wayne Karvonen**

## Chapter 16, SFA Dues for 2005

**Mot lan nua SFA. Chapter 16 an can nhac nho cung qui ban hay dong neun liem (Dues 2005) va tien le phi cua La Thu Tin (Newsletter) han thang cua Chapter 16 ngay tu bay gio cho den ngay 31 thang 12 nam 2004 Nien liem trong name 2005: \$25.00 Tien le phi cua la thu tin hang thang cua Chapter 16: \$10.00 Nhung ban nao dong sau ngay 31 thang 01 2005 sse la: \$30.00 Xin qui ban hay bien chi phieu ve dia chi sau:**

**To: Wayne Karvonen**

**9342 4th Ave NE**

**Olympia, WA 98516-6611**

**To: Chapter 16, SFA**

**P.O.Box 33577**

**Fort Lewis, WA 98433-0577**

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## Where are You ?

*By Bill Smith*

For the past year or so I too have been among the missing. Today I broke my long absents and attended a regular membership meeting at the Chapter XVI Teamhouse. It was a lively gathering with numerous topics discussed but you can read the minutes to learn about that. We are only interested on one topic here. Why don't we see more of our brothers more often?

It seems there are routinely the same 20 to 25 members attending the meetings and the potluck dinners that follow. They are wondering how the other 300 plus chapter members can be persuaded to drop by and join in the democratic process of steering the chapter in the direction wanted by the majority of members.

If that sounds troublesome and tiring, the meetings generally last about an hour, seldom ever more than an hour and a half. No one gets too seriously carried away so the discussions can really be a lot of fun. When the meetings end, the real fun begins. The potlucks always supply more than enough delicious, sometimes exotics dishes that can satisfy the palate of even the most discriminating of connoisseurs. And when did SF ever produce anyone to fit that description? There are plenty of suds on tap to wash it all down. Ah yes – now we have something our warriors can judge expertly.

The welcome mat is out. Come share your jump stories, war stories, or whatever kind of tall tells that suit your fancy. Bet ya some ole crusty, snake eatin, sneaky pete can top the best ya got. So come on out. Challenge em.

We know many of our old team mates are not currently receiving the newsletters. If you are reading this and know someone who is not, please pass the invitation on. There are plans afoot to try to make the newsletter less expensive –like free and/or to mail individual letter invitations to as many of those folks not receiving the newsletter as possible.

Next February 26<sup>th</sup> will be Chapter XVI's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. We want input from every member on what kind of wing ding should be planed to celebrate this momentous occasion. Let us hear from you, in person preferably. For those of you on the other side of the planet, send a note or an e-mail. Let us know what we can do to ease your burden a bit and maybe aid you in your mission.

### Warning Order

**May 19 and 20, 2005...You are invited to celebrate Rocky Nesom and Hugh Hubbard's combined 152<sup>nd</sup> Birthday at Maple Falls, WA. Hugh will be there on Friday for the golf tournament giving away a few of his golf secrets and to hawk his latest book,"Golfing With Hugh"**

### **The Callaway Scoring System**

The Callaway Scoring System is utilized for players without a verifiable handicap. A player's net score is determined after each round by deducting the worst individual holes during the first 16 holes, holes 17 and 18 may not be considered as worst holes. And no hole may be scored at more than twice its par. The table below (tables will be shown in the next newsletter.) shows the number of "worst holes" allowed by the player's gross score and the adjustment to be made based on the gross score. As example, if a player's gross score is 90, the player's 3 worst holes are deducted. Let's say a 7, 8, & 9 for a deduction of 24. In addition the player's adjustment to the deduction is a -2 for a 22 total. Therefore, the player's net score would be 68.

Ties are awarded to lowest handicap.

Secretary notes (Chapter 16 meeting, November 11, 2004)

Call to Order: 10:15 am, November 11, 2004 by President 'Cpt' Ron Rismon following the playing of the "Ballad of the Green Beret", recital of the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer led by Chaplain Jake Robinson.

New Guests/Wives: Terry Rismon, Debbie Perry, Yoko Karvonen and Bun family members.

Secretary Report: No report presented.

QM Sales Report: Gave members status on purchasing and sales of items. Had some new items available, e.g. vest and windbreaker.

Treasury Report: Wayne Karvonen (Treasurer) presented the financial status of the Chapter as of the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2004. Motion to accept and seconded, passed by voice vote.

Old Business:

Coffee Stop: Bill Smith has setup for the Chapter to cover the coffee stop at the truck stop near Seatac, exact location will be disseminated in later newsletter. The dates for this coverage is 14 – 17 Dec 2005 and must be manned 12 hours minimum weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. Some locations require applications 1 year in advance others 2 years in advance. Bill Smith will also submit application for the coffee stop at the Maytown rest area south of Tumwater, which requires 2 years advance application. Mike Karr volunteered to coordinate the gathering of donations of coffee and members can contact him if they have donations or know of any possible donations. Solicitation of coffee donations are to begin after the June 2006 meeting, at which more detail of what will be needed as far as amount of coffee, supplies, and personnel will be discussed.

Police Call: V.P. Bill Gates stated that the paperwork for the Chapter police call area (section along Lake Holm Road) has been submitted and we are waiting for the authorization. No time line given for receiving this authorization. It was discussed that the police call to be done quarterly on Saturday morning from 7 to 9 am. Safety vests and trash bags are provided and city/county will pick up trash from designated location.

Care packages to Iraq: It was stated that the postal system is been overwhelmed by the volume of packages being sent. This is degrading their ability to get other mail, e.g. letters and cards from family members; to the troops in a timely manner. Please refrain from over loading the system and delaying letters and such from the troops families. Although these packages are greatly appreciated, letters from loved ones understandably have a higher priority. It was also stated that when care packages are sent that some thought be put into what items are put into the package as some of the items just cannot be used.

Phone cards for Troops: Eulis Presley offered the information that Walter Reed has stated that they now have enough phone cards for the troops until about April 2005. Please do not send any more to Walter Reed, they are extremely grateful to those that may have sent phone cards or donations. Since the meeting there has been email traffic from National stating that Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii has a need for phone cards at this time. So anyone desiring to donate can send them to the following address:

Tripler Army Medical Center PAO

ATTN.: MCHK-IO

1 Jarrett White Road

Honolulu, HI 96859

New Business:

Newsletter on Internet: Ted Wicorek stated that the last couple of newsletter have not been posted to the Chapter web site due to Bart H. being unavailable. Dan Perry stated that he could/would resume this task until further notice or another plan is put in place. Thank you Dan.

Lost Commandos: The subject of our former allies from Vietnam and current Chapter members and also non-members are not afforded medical benefits due to them not possessing DD 214's. Pres. Ron stated that he would contact Col. Roger Donlon on the subject and see what may be able to be done to rectify this. Al Hill stated that the Phillippine Scouts have recently been given recognition by the federal government. He also stated that some of the other veteran organizations may be of assistance in getting recognition for our Lost Commandos.

Fort Lewis registration: Jerry Hampton and Bill Smith have submitted the required paperwork to Fort Lewis so that the Chapter is recognized as an organization that can hold events on the reservation. Some suggestions made were for bake sales, picnics, pancake breakfast, etc. This of course would require submission of paperwork and coordination with the reservation authorities.

Teamhouse parking: Pres. Ron stated that the airfield has instituted new regulations/fees, related to homeland security, about parking along the side of the airfield. In the future the Chapter must pay a \$25.00 daily fee for parking along the side of the airfield when we use this option. It was suggested that for meetings that we park out along the street as there is a smaller volume during regular meetings.

Good of the Order

Col 'Skip' Sadler: Ted W. stated that Col. Sadler is back in town and enjoys the visits from Chapter members. It was suggested that people first call or contact Ted W. prior to making a visit as the Col.'s health is an issue.

Bagpipers: Jake Robinson was able to enlist the talents of two wonderful bagpipers for some music at the November meeting. The music was great and enjoyed by all present. I regret to say that I failed to get the names of the pipers though. Thank you, Jake.

Donation: Al Hill graciously donated an encyclopedia on the Vietnam War to the Chapter. Thank you, Al.

Member Recognized: A Chapter member, Kiet Nguyen, was officially recognized by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 75<sup>th</sup> Rgr Regt. Association. I believe a copy of the article was given to the Chapter by Al Hill. Again Thank you, Al.

Meeting adjourned: 11:15 am November 11, 2004 by President 'Cpt' Ron Rismon and a closing prayer was given by Chaplain Jake Robinson.

**ANNIVERSARIES  
JAN.**

**HAPPY JAN. BIRTHDAY  
MEMBERS**

**HAPPY JAN. BIRTHDAY  
SPOUSES**

Gladys & Dick Arnold	15th	James Bailes	9th	Melissa Barcelona	12th
Dave & Christina Barnes	12th	Mike Cassidy	31st	Robin Conti	11th
Richard & Page Blue	6th	Glen Craig	18th	Tec Tong Deo	1st
Paul & Ruth Brumbaugh	5th	Milton DeGraw	16th	Nongluk Dixon	18th
Steve & Sharon Epperson	5th	Hoa Dieu	20th	Gina Fernandez	4th
James & Marilyn Hanson	8th	Ron Doran	2nd	Marilyn Forster	21st
Ronald & Merry Anne Harrison	18th	Ann Ellis	21st	Opel Greene	18th
Eric & Lorene Hill	12th	David Ezzell	25th	Candiya Grey	20th
Guy & Tomiko Johnson	20th	Augustin Fabian	15th	Anne Handler	18th
Sai & Hom Lo Leo	4th	Craig Forster	23rd	Winnie Hutchinson	9th
Manual & Rita Makalena	7th	Dave Fridovich	16th	Iize Kalnins	27th
John & Deborah Maraia	19th	Bill Gates	19th	Phanee Karlman	31st
Stanley & Eileen McEtchin	3rd	Steve Gough	19th	Terri Libert	10th
Jody & Shelly Nacy	9th	Donald Hampton	10th	Lien Thi Nguyen Lo	1st
Joseph & Yen-Nguyen To Phan	6th	K'Phi Kreckler	31st	Reiko Marvais	13th
Dave & Nipon Shell	13th	Lun Lo	1st	Donna Melby	14th
Tom & Anita Thurber	1st	Nick Marvais	7th	Chonghui Miller	25th
Tommy & Kristin Woodrow	11th	Mac McLean	25th	Robertta Patterson	5th
		Phil Popp	3rd	Yen-Nguyen To Phan	20th
		Robert Pryor	31st	Diane Regan	14th
		Tom Regan	6th	Nina Reilley	15th
		Phill Robbins	31st	Coral Ryan-Taylor	27th
		Butch Saner	27th	Erline Saner	23rd
		John Smythe	1st	Poyon Thompson	17th
		Chuck Snyder	28th	Vermadene Vasey	16th
		Michael Wardle	24th	Connie Wekell	4th
		James Yates	7th	Lori Wilson	5th
		James Yu-B	1st	Kristin Woodrow	27th

**TREASURY REPORT**

**“NOTES”**

**Chapter XVI President Capt. Ron Rismon is looking for a V42 fighting knife, if you have one you wish to sell call Capt. Ron at 1(253) 630-0570.**

Support our Montagnard Americans. Join Save the Montagnard People (STMP) and receive a quarterly newsletter about the progress of our allies and their families. Contact Eulis Presley at ([eulispresl@comcast.net](mailto:eulispresl@comcast.net)) for an application to join this outstanding organization that promotes the future of our over all Montagnard family.

**Donation for the Gen. Fund**

Gregory Dreps \$15.00  
 Y-Jut Buonto \$15.00  
 Neal Beard \$15.00  
 Herbert Morris \$5.00  
 Leslie Shigley \$55.00 (And \$50.00 donation to US army SF Monument)  
 Stan McEtchin \$5.00

December 2004

Checking Account	
Begin Balance	\$1,087.41
Deposits	\$2,498.00
Disburses	\$2,145.08
End Balance	\$1,440.33
Savings Account	
Begin Balance	\$ 58.41
Interest	\$ .03
End Balance	\$ 58.44
CD Account	
Begin Balance	\$1,242.12
Interest	\$ 1.85
End Balance	\$1,243.97
QM Account	
Begin Balance	\$ 256.12
Deposits	\$ 477.10
Bank Charges	\$ 4.00
End Balance	\$ 729.22
Total Bank Accounts	\$3,471.96
Physical Assets	\$5,595.00
Total Net Worth	\$9,066.96



**1st Special Forces Group (Airborne)  
Special Activities Association  
First In Asia Fund**



15 September 2004

First Special Forces Group First In Asia Up Date

Thanks to every one who donated to the memorial wall. As every one knows we are completed through phase 4. Phase 5 will be the addition of electricity and lights around the entire site. Phase 6 will be to resurface the old stone and engraving the names of our Canadian counterparts from PPCLI and other supporting units.

The project is funded through the completion of phase 4. We are continuing to sell engraved bricks (\$125) until all necessary funds are raised. The long-term intent is to have every brick in the walkway and patio engraved. We still have prints of the Jim Dietz painting "Free The Oppressed" for \$100. The board has also elected to sell a brick and a print for \$200.

Tax deductible donations can be sent to FIA, PO Box 33944, Ft. Lewis, WA 98433. Points of contact are SFC Kevin Patton at kevinpatton@comcast.net or cell at 253-208-8388, CSM Mike Sherlock at 967-8719 or CSM Perry Davis at 967-8600.

Sincerely,

Kevin Patton  
First in Asia