



# EXCHANGE

EXCHANGE CLUB OF KIAWAH-SEABROOK, SC

Box PMB-J 130 Gardener's Circle Johns Island, SC 29455

## **Member Meeting 8/6/25 @Seabrook Island Club**

Chris called the meeting to order at 6:25PM and opened with prayer

Introduction of Guests see attendance list

New Members Brian Bolling

Chris Stephenson honored The Fallen Hero Chief Warrant Officer Jason G. Defrenn

Chris made the following announcements about volunteering and grant requests due August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Chris displayed the events for the rest of the year.

Kevin Boyle announced Charleston Symphony Orchestra trip Friday January 23<sup>rd</sup>

After dinner, Rick McDonald introduced the speaker Captain Howlett Cochick from the United States Air Force.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

### **Next Meeting:**

8/20/25 @Seabrook Island Club

Speaker John Rhoden Director Sea Island Habitat for Humanity

### **Addendums:**

Attendance

Fallen Hero

Speaker Bio

**Minutes submitted 8/8/25 by Phyllis Barber**

# ATTENDANCE

Attended?	Member	Attended?	Guests	Status	PMT
Yes	Victor Agusta	Yes	Carol Agusta	Spouse	CHK
Yes	Bill Bane				
Yes	James Bannister				
Yes	Mfarlisa Bannister				
Yes	Phyllis Barber				
No Show	Joe Bauer	No Show	Captain CR Ralph	Prospect?	None
Yes	Tom Berghausen				
Yes	Wayne Billian				
Yes	Bryan Bolling	Yes	Bee Florees	Prospect?	
Yes	Rich Boss	No Show (Late) Yes	John Ellsworth	Prospect?	
			Doug Kuhnlein	Prospect?	
Yes	Lon Bouknight	Yes	Deborah Bouknight	Spouse	Invoice
Yes	Kevin Boyle				
Yes	Ed Brett				
Yes	Art Dougherty				
Yes	Bob Driscoll				
Yes	Joe Foti (added)				
Yes	Bill Good				
No Show	Edward Heskamp				
Yes	Ray Hoover				
Yes	Ed Hughes				
Yes	Maurice Isaac				
Yes	Ed Leary				
Yes	Bob Leggett				
No Show	Bruce Ludwin				
Yes	Alan Madison				
No Show	Bob Mason	No Show	Sherrie Mason	At Large	
Yes	Lisa McDonald				
Yes	Rick McDonald	Yes	Howlett Cohick	Speaker	None
Yes	Jay Miller				
Yes	Bill Nelson	Yes	David Cruse	Guest	
Yes	Dustin Plunkett	Yes	Victoria Pullium	Guest	
Yes	Joel Pondelik				
Yes	Russ Preston				
Yes	Robert Quagliato				
Yes	Allan Reed				
Yes	John Reock				
Yes	Charles Riehl				
Yes	Ed Rigtrup				
No Show	Shirley Salvo				
Yes	Charlie Septer				
Yes	John Sesody				
Yes	Bob Simpson				
Yes	Roger Steel				
Yes	Chris Stephenson				
Yes	Marj Stephenson				
Yes	Joe Thompson				
Yes	Dick Trent				
Yes	Stan Ullner				

Attended?	Member	Attended?	Guests	Status	PMT
Yes	Bruce Van Voorhis				
Yes	Pat Welch				
Yes	Bill Wick	Yes	Carrie Wick	Spouse	
Yes	Jack Wilson				
Yes	John Woychick				
		Yes	Sarkis Ohannessian	Exchange	
		Yes	Kathy Johnson	Exchange	

#### Monday

Count 50-55

Registered Members 47

Guests 9

Total. 56

#### Wednesday Dinner

##### Members

Attended 49

No Show 4

##### Guests

Attended. 10 (Includes visiting Exchange leaders)

No Show 3

##### Totals

Attended 59

No Show 7

## TRIBUTE TO SC FALLEN HERO

### Fallen hero and pledge

Tonight, we pay tribute to \* Chief Warrant Officer Jason G. DeFrenn.

The early adult years of Chief Warrant Officer Jason G. DeFrenn stand as a complex interplay of personal ambition, risk-taking, relationships, and service that defined his life's path. Born and raised in Barnwell, South Carolina, DeFrenn spent his youth with a reckless lack of fear, a boundless appetite for adventure, and a drive to live life intensely, regardless of danger or consequences.

After graduating high school, DeFrenn spent several years performing a succession of civilian jobs, which led him to his future wife Jenny. He joined the Army in 1997 and was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, where he became a respected AH-64 Apache pilot.

Between 2001 and 2006, DeFrenn was deployed several times to both Afghanistan and Iraq. His first tour of duty in Iraq at the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom was characterized by high risks missions, with increasing enemy sophistication in the use of anti-aircraft weapons. Returning for his second Iraq tour amidst ongoing insurgency, DeFrenn was by now a seasoned aviator and combat veteran. The risks intensified. Reports indicate that within only a few weeks in early 2007, several U.S. helicopters—including Apaches, Blackhawks, and contractor aircraft—had been shot down, making the environment more perilous than ever.

On February 2, 2007, while flying a reconnaissance combat mission north of Taji, Iraq, Chief Warrant Officer Jason G. DeFrenn and his copilot, encountered heavy enemy fire. Instead of retreating to safety, DeFrenn and his copilot maneuvered their AH-64 Apache to shield another aircraft and engaged the enemy to protect their formation. Despite sustaining significant damage—including malfunctioning weapons and hydraulic systems—they persisted in the fight. \*Ultimately, their helicopter could not sustain altitude and crashed in a hail of gunfire, killing both pilots. DeFrenn was 34 years old.

The heroism displayed in DeFrenn's final moments is underscored by both official and personal accounts. His actions are widely acknowledged as having saved the lives of others. Only four days after the crash, Jenny DeFrenn, gave birth to their son, Christopher Andrew. The emotional intensity of those events was described by family members as both devastating and strangely redemptive.

As an indication of our respect for Chief Warrant Officer Jason G. DeFrenn and others who gave their lives for our country, this \*Exchange Club places U.S. flags around our community several times a year. Each flag bears a yellow ribbon with the name of a South Carolina fallen hero.

Chief Warrant Officer Jason G. DeFrenn, we salute you and your sacrifice on our behalf.

Please stand as you are able and join me in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.



Captain Howlett Cohick serves as the Deputy Formal Training Unit (FTU) Director for the 437th Special Operations Squadron and is an instructor pilot in the C-17A Globemaster III. He is a 2017 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Management.

Over the course of more than eight years of service, Captain Cohick has accumulated over 1,800 flying hours, including 250 combat hours. In 2020, he deployed to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, supporting critical airlift operations in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. In 2021, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his role in Operation Allies Refuge, the historic air evacuation mission from Afghanistan.

Captain Cohick's operational experience, leadership, and commitment to excellence continues to shape the next generation of C-17 aircrew and advance the mission of Air Mobility Command. Originally born and raised in Texas, he has spent the last 6 years in Charleston where he enjoys playing golf, tennis, and going to the beach.

