

The Sapper Association

"In the Breach" Quarterly Newsletter

Dedicated to all those who support our mission at home and abroad!





2026 Sapper Rendezvous

Make A Difference!



Congratulations to the 75th Ranger Regiment, Team 22, 1LT Barrett and 1LT Sullenger, 2026 LTG (R) Robert B. Flowers Best Sapper Competition Winner's.

Visit our Website and Join!

Building the Future, Honoring the Regiment

A Message from the President

The Sapper Association continues to serve as a first-class supporting effort to the Sapper Leader Course and Engineer Regiment in the execution of **The LTG (R) Robert B. Flowers Best Sapper Competition (BSC)**. Thanks to the unwavering commitment of our all-volunteer board members, members, donors, and partners, we continue to strengthen the bonds within our regiment and support the leaders of tomorrow. Together we can and are Making A Difference! **SLTW!! Essayons!!!**

2026 Sapper Rendezvous: A Resounding Success

The 2026 Sapper Rendezvous concluded with incredible energy, bringing together **over 200 Sappers, Leaders, and family members**. Special thanks to DJ Steve Guillory for dedicating his time and providing the entertainment for the 2026 Rendezvous. This year's gathering featured our **first-ever raffle for two weapon systems**, generously donated by **Jeremy Jones**, owner of **Archangel Arms** in North Carolina. Thank you to everyone who participated and made this inaugural raffle a major highlight of the weekend.

We also send a huge shout out to **Jeremy Cole** and **Siegfried Jay Tiegs** for being our Guest Speakers, sharing their stories and the impacts of attending the Sapper Leader Course has shaped their careers and decision making!

2026 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony: Honoring Our Legacy and Future

We had the honor of inducting three excellent leaders into the Sapper Association Hall of Fame. Individuals selected go through an extreme vetting process and those selected have earned their place to be honored through exceptional leadership, performance and service contributions of our Nation's most extraordinary Sappers. Join me in congratulating the following Sapper's.

- **1SG (R) Daniel F. Ochoa**
- **CSM (R) Jon R. Stanley**
- **CSM (R) Harold A. Reynolds Jr.**

Congratulations to the 2026 Sapper Hall Of Fame Inductees! If you would like to nominate a Sapper, please visit <https://www.sappersfirst.org/sapper-hall-of-fame> or email sapperassoc@gmail.com for more information.

2026 Essayon's Scholarship Recipients: Investing in Education and Community

Congratulations to our latest **Sapper Association Scholarship Recipients!** We are proud to invest in the education of our outstanding community members and their families as they build bright futures.

- ***Sean E. Arriola, son of MSG Varela, 75th Ranger Regiment, Red Card Member***
- ***Kadyn A. Cole, son of 1SG (R) Jeremy Cole, Black Card Member***

Honoring Excellence: Best Sapper Competition Rewards

Through the incredible generosity of our corporate partners, the Sapper Association proudly provided top-tier weapon systems to the **top three finishing teams** of the 2026

provided top tier weapon systems to the top three finishing teams of the 2025 Best Sapper Competition:

- **1st Place Winners:** Took home custom-made, handcrafted **AR-15s** built by Jeremy Jones at Archangel Arms.
- **2nd Place Winners:** Were awarded Mossberg breaching shotguns, donated by Springfield Armory, Springfield Missouri.
- **3rd Place Team & Instructor Awards:** A special shout-out to **Glock** and **Justin Sanders** for providing **four Pistol Donation Letters (PDLs)**. Two letters went to the 3rd place finishers, and two were awarded to **two outstanding Sapper Instructors**, chosen by their peers and leadership for excellence in training.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our premier partners—**Glock, Springfield Armory, and Archangel Arms**—for making these awards possible.

Grow the Sapper Association: Recruit a Fellow Sapper!

Our strength lies in our numbers and the shared bond of our unique community. To continue hosting premier events and supporting the Best Sapper Competition, **we need your buy-in and assistance to grow the organization.**

We challenge every current member to **actively recruit at least one fellow Sapper** to join the Sapper Association this month. Reach out to your units, peers, and veteran networks. Share the impact we are making, and bring them into the fold so we can expand our support for the regiment.

👉 Click Here to Join Today <https://www.sappersfirst.org/join-now>

Gear Up: Official Sapper Merchandise Now Available

Show your pride and support the regiment with our official Sapper gear! We have two convenient ways for you to purchase merchandise under the guidance of our new Merchandise Director, Daniel Jaime:

- **Shop Online Globally:** Browse our full inventory online through our international partner, **Game-One**. They offer worldwide shipping so you can get your Sapper gear anywhere.
- **Shop Locally:** For those currently attending or supporting the **Sapper Leader Course at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri**, official merchandise is available directly on-site through the Association.

Leadership Updates 2026

We are thrilled to welcome two new dedicated members to our leadership team. Please join us in welcoming our newest Board Members:

- **Joe Toth** - Vice President | Treasurer
- **Kevin Padilla** – Partnership Director
- **Daniel Jaime** – Merchandise Director

Both bring vital skills that will help expand our network and better serve our community.

Accountability & Financial Health

To maintain absolute transparency with our members and donors, the Association recently conducted comprehensive **internal and external audits** of our finances and operational processes.

Following the audit findings, the Association has instituted strict new **policies, procedures, and processes**. These updates are designed to significantly improve how we track, record, and report financial data to our community.

Because of these proactive measures, **the Association is in a strong financial position** to host the **2027 Rendezvous** and expand our support to award the **top 10 teams** of the next Best Sapper Competition.

Looking Ahead: Save the Date for 2027

We have successfully **strengthened our relationship with the Army Engineer Association (AEA)**. We are incredibly excited to collaborate closely with them on joint events, celebrations, and initiatives throughout 2027.

- **Save the Date: 2027 Sapper Rendezvous**
- **Date:** To Be Determined
- **Time:** To Be Determined

Stay tuned for official scheduling announcements in the coming months!
SLTW!

The Sapper Association Website

Get in Touch



Follow the link below to get in touch with a Board Member and share your recommendations and provide feedback.
Together we can Make A Difference!

[Contact Us](#)

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The Sapper Association

Join us on our members app to stay updated and keep in touch.

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