



Weekly Speaker Please Welcome Kirby Wedekind, US Navy Seal, Protective Security Advisor

By Mike Shewey on Saturday, July 18, 2020

Kirby Wedekind serves as the Department of Homeland Security's Protective Security Advisor in northeast Florida. Based in Jacksonville, his duties include serving as a liaison from the Department to local government agencies and private industry during steady state, special events, and incident response; fostering community awareness on security topics ranging from cybersecurity to active shooter preparedness; conducting vulnerability assessments of critical infrastructure; and sharing security-related information with communities of interest across north.

Mr. Wedekind joined the Department of Homeland Security in 2013 as a planner supporting the efforts of Protective Security Advisors. While in this role, his portfolio included strategic planning for special events and Soft Target ♦ Crowded Places, including as one of the leaders for the creation of the Department's Soft Target ♦ Crowded Places Security Plan that seeks to enhance the security of the inherent vulnerabilities of unprotected places across the United States. For his efforts, Mr. Wedekind received the Infrastructure Security Division's Assistant Director Medal in 2018.

Mr. Wedekind previously served for ten years in the US Marines, reaching the rank of Major with combat deployments to Iraq (2009), Afghanistan (2011-2012), and with the 22d Marine Expeditionary Unit (2016). As a combat engineer officer, Mr. Wedekind led a route clearance platoon in Iraq and served as the executive officer for a route clearance company partnered with the 1st Kandak, 215th Corps of the Afghan National Army in Afghanistan. While on active duty, he held command at the company level with Marine Wing Support Squadron 271 (MCAS Cherry Point) and 3d Combat Engineer Battalion (MCAGCC 29 Palms) and served as the operations officer for the Security Cooperation Amphibious Task Force Southern Partnership Station 2011 embarked upon the USS GUNSTON HALL while deployed in the SOUTHCOM area of responsibility. Mr. Wedekind also led a mobile training team to the Republic of Georgia in 2010 that provided instruction on obstacle and fortification construction for the Georgian Army Engineer Corps. In 2016, he mobilized from the US Marine Corps Reserves to serve as the Civil Affairs Officer for the 22d Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) that executed Operation ODYSSEY LIGHTNING, which eliminated the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant in Libya and its foothold in the town of Sirte. While deployed with the 22 MEU and in support of ODYSSEY LIGHTNING, Mr. Wedekind served as a liaison to Commander, Naval Forces Europe-Africa/Commander, U.S. 6th Fleet (CNE-CNA/C6F) and as the Deputy Assistant Operations Officer and Senior Watch Officer for the MEU.

A native of Jacksonville, FL, he holds a BA in English from Wake Forest University, an Executive Master's degree in Emergency and Disaster Management from Georgetown University, and is pursuing a doctorate in International Security & Resilience from Cranfield University in the United Kingdom.

Club Meeting

South Jacksonville
Meets via Zoom Social time begins
at 12:00 PM

Meeting Time: Tues at 12:30 PM

Events

July 21st
[Zoom Meeting- Kirby
Wedekind](#)

July 28th
[Zoom Meeting- Drs. Dan
Robie and Bruce Maddern -
Covid 19 update](#)

Birthdays



PP [Dean Scott](#)
July 19th



Hon Lenny [B. Curry](#)
July 19th



[Amanda Watson](#)
July 22nd



PP Bea [Fore](#)
July 27th



[Lynn Bauman](#)
July 30th

[Tyrle W. Boyer](#)
August 2nd

This Week in History

By Mike Shewey on Saturday, July 18, 2020

The first Battle of Bull Run - July 21, 1861

In the first major land battle of the Civil War, a large Union force under General Irvin McDowell is routed by a Confederate army under General Pierre G.T. Beauregard.

Three months after the Civil War erupted at Fort Sumpter, Union military command still believed that



PP [Robert M. Harris](#)
August 9th



[Parker Shields](#)
August 10th



[Michelle Kalil](#)
August 13th



PP [Gary L. Wilkinson](#)
August 16th



the Confederacy could be crushed quickly and with little loss of life. In July, this overconfidence led to a premature offensive into northern Virginia by General McDowell. Searching out the Confederate forces, McDowell led 34,000 troops—mostly inexperienced and poorly trained militiamen—toward the railroad junction of Manassas, located just 30 miles from Washington, D.C. Alerted to the Union advance, General Beauregard massed some 20,000 troops there and was soon joined by General Joseph Johnston, who brought some 9,000 more troops by railroad.

On the morning of July 21, hearing of the proximity of the two opposing forces, hundreds of civilians—men, women, and children—turned out to watch the first major battle of the Civil War. The fighting commenced with three Union divisions crossing the Bull Run stream, and the Confederate flank was driven back to Henry House Hill. However, at this strategic location, Beauregard had fashioned a strong defensive line anchored by a brigade of Virginia infantry under General Thomas J. Jackson. Firing from a concealed slope, Jackson's men repulsed a series of Federal charges, winning Jackson his famous nickname—Stonewall.

SEC Football Update

By Mike Shewey on Saturday, July 18, 2020

On Monday, the 14 SEC athletic directors met at the conference office in Birmingham to discuss the 2020 fall schedule and other topics. This did not lead to any changes to the fall schedule—yet—with Sankey saying a decision on the 2020 season would come later this month.

While the conference has not yet ruled out a 12-game schedule, three alternatives emerged as fall options— an eight-game conference-only schedule and a nine or 10-game plan that would preserve at least one scheduled matchup with a Power 5 conference program.

While Alabama-USC and Texas A&M-Colorado have been canceled by the Pac-12's decision to go conference-only, the SEC still has 13 Power 5 games currently scheduled with opponents from the ACC and Big 12 along with independents BYU and Notre Dame. Those games could be potentially kept intact by 9-10 game models with eight conference games. While this plan is popular with the conference ADs, the SI report notes that varying COVID-19 testing protocols among the conferences could be an issue.

Club Anniversaries

[Downtown Deland](#)
July 1st

Ocala Brick City
July 31st

Years of Service



[Edward M. Booth Jr.](#)
07-07-1987
33 Years



[Ricardo Morales III](#)
07-31-1990
30 Years



[R. Dean Scott](#)
07-07-1998
22 Years

Wedding Anniversaries



[William Langley](#)
July 21st



[Mike Shewey](#)
July 29th



[Thomas Signorello](#)
August 3rd



[William M Traer, III](#)
August 3rd



[Ryan Maloney](#)
August 9th

Club Leaders



[Tom A. Ranney, Jr.](#)
President



[Greg Anderson](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Bill Langley](#)
Membership Chair
Past President



[Richard Dow](#)
President-Elect



[Bea Fore](#)
iPast President



[Janet Reagor](#)
Assistant Governor



[Charlie G Cofer](#)
Secretary/Treasurer



[Crystal Broughan](#)
Rotary Foundation
Chair