

JIM DEFELICE

Patricia DeLeo *883-5181* pattide2@optonline.net

With great enthusiasm, the AAUW Tea Committee would like to introduce you to noted author Jim DeFelice, our featured speaker at the Writers' Tea & Auction on Sunday, April 2. **Jim's works have appeared and debuted on the NY Times Best Seller List fifteen times.** In addition to penning over fifty fiction and non-fiction books, Jim is a distinguished screenwriter and video game developer.

Jim's most famous work, ***AMERICAN SNIPER***, detailed the life and service of Navy SEAL Chris Kyle and was the number one best-selling non-fiction title in America during much of 2012 and 2013. The movie, based on his book, was nominated for **six Academy Awards and smashed box office records.**

His newer work, ***AMERICAN WIFE***, explores the female perspective of military life and service. Written with **Taya Kyle, the widow of "American Sniper" Chris Kyle**, shares their private story. It is an unforgettable testament to the power of love and faith in the face of war and unimaginable loss--and a moving tribute to a man whose true heroism ran even deeper than the legend. In early 2013, Taya Kyle and her husband Chris were the happiest they ever had been. Their decade-long marriage had survived years of war that took Chris, a U.S. Navy SEAL, away from Taya and their two children for agonizingly long stretches while he put his life on the line in many major battles of the Iraq War. After struggling to readjust to life out of the military, Chris had found new purpose in redirecting his lifelong dedication to service and to supporting veterans and their families. Their love had deepened, and, most special of all, their family was finally whole.

Taya Kyle acknowledged Jim in her book. *"To Jim DeFelice: What a tremendous blessing to have had your skill, your humility, your compassion, and grit with "American Sniper," "American Gun," and now "American Wife." With Chris and me both, you have been friend, writer, and counselor who has laughed with us through the tears. You have taken on more work for less money and recognition than anyone probably should ... I am honored to know you and to work with you. I look forward to our next literary adventure."*

Jim's new book, ***FIGHTING BLIND***, tells of a remarkable soldier's courage after the battle that blinded him and nearly ended his life. Emphasizing his NO-LIMITS philosophy, Major Ivan Castro's memoir is an exhilarating look at the human spirit through one man's attempt to defy physical limits and live life to the fullest.

Jim is currently working on a number of screenplays for possible future projects, based on *American Wife* and *Fighting Blind*. **His next book, *West Like Lightning*, a popular history on the Pony Express and American enterprise**, will be published by William Morrow/Harper Collins in June, 2017.



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<http://www.jimdefelice.com>

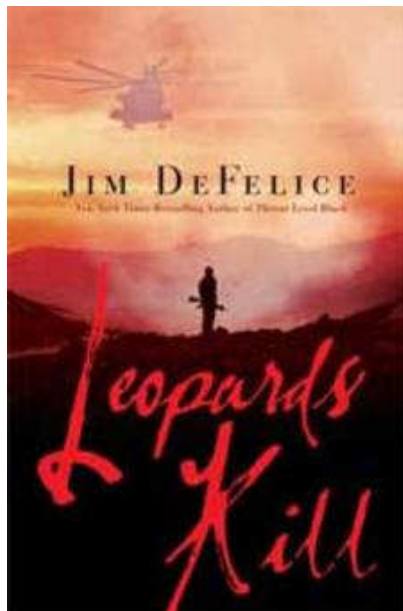
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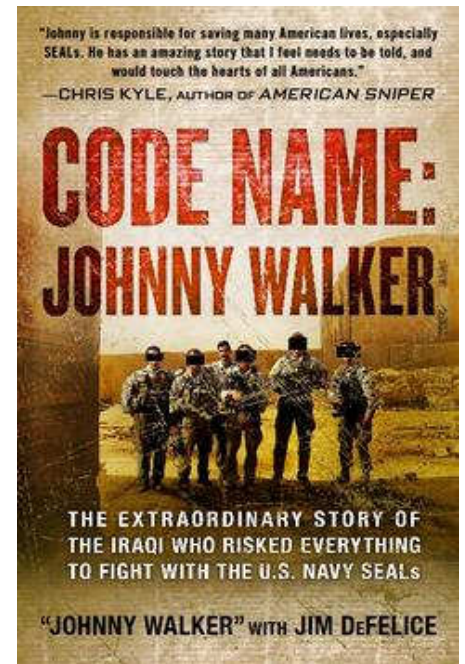
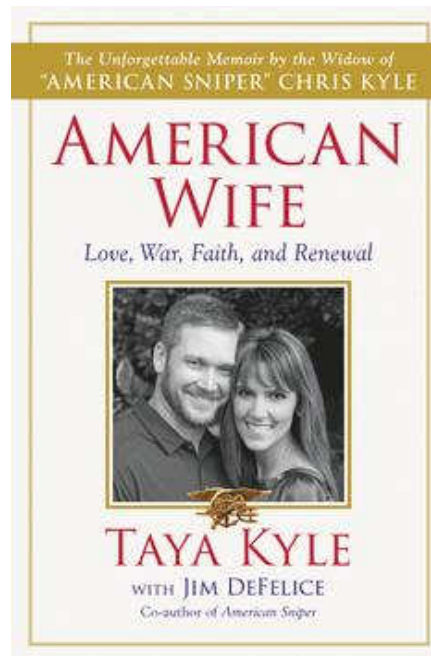
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Selected Works



<http://nebula.wsimg.com/d1b2b1b38f507a4b2731148a742015f38?AccessKeyId=74D14D192EFD4A2C5795&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>



From war novels like *Leopard's Kill* to inspiring biographies like *Omar Bradley*, best-selling author Jim DeFelice has explored the many facets of contemporary heroism. In [*American Sniper*](#), an international blockbuster, Jim helped Chris Kyle explore the mindset of the modern

warrior, his sacrifices and those of his family. More recently, he worked with Chris's widow Taya to tell her remarkable story in [American Wife](#).

The author of over fifty books, Jim manages to be both entertaining and illuminating. Critically acclaimed, he never forgets he is writing for and about "regular" people.

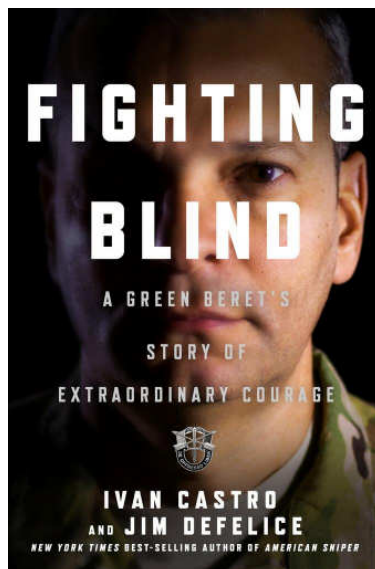
A first-rank collaborator on fiction and non-fiction, Jim worked with SEAL Team 6 "daddy" Richard Marcinko on the best-selling [Rogue Warrior](#) series. He created and wrote [Dreamland](#) with Dale Brown, currently the longest-running military action-adventure mass market series. He has also collaborated with Stephen King, Larry Bond and Tom Clancy.

Best-known as the collaborator and writer who brought American Sniper to life, he worked with Iraqi interpreter Johnny Walker to create the best-selling [Code Name: Johnny Walker](#). He has also written memoirs with a number of celebrities, including Dave Bautista (writing as Jeremy Roberts).

Jim's stand-alone novels include [Leopard's Kill](#), described as Heart of Darkness meets the Inferno in Afghanistan. The comic espionage thriller, [The Helios Conspiracy](#), drew a starred review from trade critics as one of the best books of the year.

As an historian, DeFelice wrote the first book-length story of the birth of the U.S. Army Rangers in the crucible of World War II's most infamous battle, [Rangers at Dieppe](#). And his biography of [Omar Bradley: General at War](#), remains the only critical book-length biography of America's last five-star general.

Air war fans will find Jim's early series, [Hogs](#), now available as ebooks.



Number 1 best-selling Iraq memoir debut in Fall 2016

- Amazon.com

Jim:

"I first met Ivan shortly after American Sniper was published. I knew from the moment he walked into the room that his story had to be told, and it's been my privilege to help him tell it.

American Sniper is a story about courage in battle; this is a story about courage after battle. It will inspire us all."

Fighting Blind is the inspiring story of Major Ivan Castro, who after being permanently blinded and nearly killed in battle, fought back against his wounds and became one of America's first blind marathon runners.

Castro has run in over fifty marathons, including Boston (three times), biked across the U.S. and western Europe, and journeyed to the South Pole. Perhaps most incredibly of all, he continued to serve his country despite his blindness, winning promotions from second lieutenant to major in the Special Forces.

How has he done it? And more importantly, why?

Ivan asks himself those same questions in the book. His answers, and his story of faith, amazing courage, and sheer determination are lessons and inspirations for everyone.