



GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

The Alamo Chapter

P.O. BOX 33782 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78265-3782

SPECIAL EDITION

July 2025

President: Jeff Dahlby
Vice-President: Tom Tannahill
Secretary: Fred Solis
Asst. Secretary: Sergio Venegas
Treasurer: Merrill Hall
Sgt at Arms: Raul de la Garza
Asst. Sgt at Arms: Gordon Lee
Chaplain: Steve Rindahl

Visit us at our Home Page:

www.sfa-xv.org



Committee Chairs

Nominations: Bob Walker
Membership: Sergio Venegas
JROTC Awards: John Lopez
Scholarships: Pat Connolly
Christmas Banquet: Fred Solis
Budget Committee: Merrill Hall
Chapter Memorial SVC: Jeff Dahlby
Fiesta Medals: Gordon Lee/Steve Damon
Fundraising: Harold McBride/John Armezzani/Bob Walker/ Paul Coleman
Cotulla: Mike Brown
Picnic: Mark Goode

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



July 12

Chapter XV Monthly Meeting

VFW Post 8541, 2222 Austin Highway

- 1100— Board Meeting
- 1200— Lunch
- 1300— Membership Meeting



DON'T FORGET



- Sick call at 1300 every Sunday at VFW Post 8541. POC is Bill Beall.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Sends:

Greetings SFA Chapter XV members, family and friends,

As we begin July by celebrating our Declaration of Independence on 4 July 1776, also remember other significant events that include the formation of the predecessor to modern U.S. Army Special Forces, the First Special Service Force at Fort William Henry Harrison, Montana on 5 July 1942 and the disbandment of OSS Detachment 101, which organized thousands of native troops to fight the Japanese in Burma. Detachment 101's unconventional warfare tactics influenced the formation of U.S. Army Special Forces in 1952. Be thankful for the country that you live in and to have served our nation so honorably as a Green Beret whose traditions are rich in history and accomplishments.



Our June meeting was marked by a festive celebration of the Army Birthday, Flag Day and former Chapter President Ron Burkett's birthday. The Chapter awarded two \$3,500 scholarships to Seth London*, who will be attending Sam Houston State University of Medicine, and Mia Vasquez, who will be attending Texas A&M San Antonio*, thanks to Chapter fundraising and a yearly generous donation by nonprofit San Antonio Youth Foundation CEO and Chapter member MG(R) Alfred Valenzuela. A delicious lunch of Mexican cuisine was provided by Dave & Rhonda Marshall.

Former Chapter President and nonprofit Flat, Dumb and Happy CEO Bill Smith hosted a celebration of Texas Special Forces Day at LongTab Brewing Co on 28 June. Many Chapter and family members were present to commemorate this auspicious day. Bill recognized his service with U.S. Army Special Forces and San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) and SAPD military veterans present.

Please join us on Saturday, July 12, 2025, for our monthly meeting where we plan to kick off our "in memory of Edgar Morales" gun raffle. A catered BBQ lunch, courtesy of Ron Burkett and Pat Connolly, will begin at 12:00 PM, followed by the meeting commencing promptly at 1:00 PM.

Our 2nd Annual SFA Chapter XV Golf tournament fundraiser will be held on Sep 15, 2025, from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM at the Olympia Hills Golf & Conference Center, Universal City, TX and we would be honored to have you join us for this exciting event! A no host mixer will be held at LongTab Brewing Co on Sep 14, 2025, from 2:00 - 7:00 PM. Please come out and support the event as golfers, sponsors, or helping run the tournament <https://events.golfstatus.com/event/2nd-annual-special-forces-association-alamo-chapter-xv-golf-tournament/packages?view=sponsor>

Regrettably, Sherry Lynn Neuiszer passed away after a long bout with cancer on 1 June and was interred in Fort Sam Houston National Ceremony on 30 June. Chapter Vice President Tom Tannahill pulled his meniscus during the last chapter meeting, Sergeant-at-Arms Raul de la Garza had probes inserted in his back, and Toby Todd has dementia and does not go out of his home anymore. Please continue to keep all our members and families in your prayers, as many are dealing with health issues due to aging, the physical demands of our military profession and exposure they endured while serving our nation.

DOL,
Jeffrey D. Dahlby
President SFA Chapter XV

*Spelling and university correction from the previous newsletter.

JUNE MEETING MINUTES - 06/14/25

Board members present:

President Jeff Dahlby
Vice President Tom Tannahill
Secretary Fred Solis
Treasurer Merrill Hall
Sergeant at Arms Raul De La Garza
Assistant Sergeant at Arms Gordon Lee
Membership Chair Sergio Venegas

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Dahlby at 1300 hours followed by V.P. Tom Tannahill leading the Pledge of Allegiance, Chaplain Steve Rindahl led the invocation and a moment of silence for our fallen.

WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS/VISITORS/WIVES

The usual crowd was joined by Pete Lee and his wife Elsa, Steve Stevenson, Arnulfo Vasquez, his daughter-in-law Jackie and granddaughter Mia. Thanks to Dave and Rhonda Marshall for the noon meal of Mexican food and to the wives for their continued support.

In addition, President Dahlby proclaimed "Today is Flag Day commemorating the adoption of the U.S. Flag in 1777 and marks the establishment of the U.S. Army in 1775. Happy 250th birthday. Thank you to those who demonstrated their patriotism by dressing in red, white and blue." It was also Ron Burkett's Birthday this week so please join me in singing happy birthday to Ron! Make sure everyone gets a piece of cake.

MEMBER'S SICK OR IN DISTRESS

- Chapter member Henry Jimenez is still not doing well after a fall and head injury several months ago.
- Sim Trombitas has recovered from back surgery and is present today and walking without a cane!
- Fred Balderrama passed away on 8 May 2025 Jeff and Raul attended his funeral in La Coste, TX on 30 May. He appeared in the John Wayne film The Green Berets, where he earned the nickname "Baldo".
- Bill Neuiszer's wife Sherry Rhody Neuiszer passed away on 1 June.
- General Valenzuela and his wife Ester are still recovering after repeated bouts with the flu and COVID.
- John Dominguez had a ruptured appendix and he is recovering. Jeff also had his removed.
- On 24 June, Raul will have back surgery.
- Marlys Burkett is recovering from shoulder surgery.
- Pat Connolly just returned from burying his brother and Marsha Scott buried her sister.

MEETING AGENDA

OLD BUSINESS

1. TREASURER'S UPDATE: Treasurer Hall read the April and May 2025 reports which were approved as presented.
2. MINUTES APPROVAL: April 2025 meeting minutes, published in the May newsletter, were approved as written.

JUNE MEETING MINUTES (06/14/25) CONT...

3. **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:** Asst Secretary & Membership Chair Sergio Venegas provided an updated roster with 260 members .

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Harold McBride, Paul Colman, Fred Solis, Bob Walker, Mark Goode, John Armezzani.

a. Raffle Ticket sales. The raffle “in memory of Edgar Morales” is a Sig Sauer 938 pistol. The winner will be announced at the December banquet. 1,000 tickets will be printed “In memory of Edgar Morales” on the ticket. Please help in selling tickets.

b. A Spartan knife donated via John Armerzzani was raffled for \$200 to Paul Coleman.

c. Golf Tournament website is live and we have the tournament sponsor “The Warrior’s Journey”, pin sponsor “Vighter”, Green Sponsor “Patty’s Sewing”, “Closest to the Pin”, “Long Drive” and some individual hole sponsors identified. Please assist the Chapter in obtaining additional sponsors. I am also in discussions with Levi Rodgers Group and Longtab.

CHRISTMAS BANQUET: Fred Solis (Chair), Tom Tannahill, Chuck Rose, Santiago Sanchez, and Sim Trombitas. 6 December 2025 confirmed by the hotel for this year’s event. Requested guest speaker ideas and if members wanted to change the DJ or bartenders.

PICNIC: Mark Goode (Chair), John Armezzani (out of town visiting sick relative) Ossie Pockrus Seapride Seafood owner donated shrimp for a shrimp boil (Brendan Cooper, Dante Seymore and John Armezzani cooks), Art Medina and Paul Coleman. Discuss the picnic (circa 40-50 in attendance over entire weekend). The hall is rented again next year for the third week of May 15-17, 2026.

SCHOLARSHIP: Eight Scholarship packets were received this year and the two \$3,500 Scholarships (\$2,500 Chapter XV and \$1,000 Gen Valenzuela non-profit San Antonio Youth Foundation) were awarded to Seth London, who will be attending Sam Houston State University of Medicine and Mia Vasquez, who will be attending Texas A&M San Antonio.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery morning was held on 12 April 2025 and officiated by John Lopez and Merrill Hall since I was out of town. Thanks to those who attended and assisted with the distribution of roses.

JROTC AWARDS: John Lopez was not present. Joe Cavallero, Alex Chavez, Paul Coleman, John Lopez, Art Medina, Santiago Sanchez, and Steve Stevenson attended High awards. Supported 20 JROTC high school programs and two universities.

FIESTA MEDALS: 300 medals were purchased. Medals were not to provided to the Fiesta Medal Store on Broadway due to cost and requirements presented.

(5) T-Shirts and hats. Convention/Events. Jeremy Calvert helped set up the Pi information on Printful.com for the Chapter to sell merchandise. We have the credit card that needs to be added to make the site go live.

(6) The Chapter XV and Martha Raye ceiling tiles have been replaced.

JUNE MEETING MINUTES (06/14/25) CONT...

Lunch donors for 2025:

- June – Dave Marshall
- July – Ron Burkett and Pat Connolly BBQ
- August – Sergio Venegas and Bob Walker
- September – Harold McBride and Santiago Sanchez
- October – Bill Neuiszer and Mark Goode
- November – John Armezanni and Joel Ornellas

NEW BUSINESS

- (1) New Chapter XV member LTC Jason Martinez is retiring on Saturday, 28 June @ 1700 hours at Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center, 309 Railroad St, Port Isabel, TX. RSVP to Maggie Martins @ 972-821-7624
- (2) Former Chapter XV President and nonprofit Flat, Dumb & Happy Director Bill Smith will host food and drinks at Longtab Brewing Company on Saturday, 28 June to celebrate Texas Special Forces Day.

OPEN DISCUSSION

CALENDAR:

15 June 2025 Father's Day. VFW will have a brunch from 1300-1500

20 June SF Ranger Brunch at Rock & Brews, SFBMC Open House

28 June Jason Martinez retirement

28 June Special Forces Day at LongTab

4 July 2025 Independence Day

12 July Next Meeting

18-22 August 2025 1st SFG Reunion in Helena, MT

20-27 September 2025 5th SFG 64th Reunion in Clarksville, TN

14-17 October 2025 SFA/SOA National Convention in Las Vegas, NV

6 December 2025 Chapter XV Banquet

50/50 Raffle - \$70 was won by Sergio Vanegas who donated to the scholarship fund.

A MOTION TO CLOSE MEETING WAS MADE AND SECONDED WITH CHAPTER MEMBERS APPROVING UNANIMOUSLY at 1350 hrs.

Respectfully submitted:
Fred Solis, Chapter Secretary

Chapter XV June 2025 Meeting



The Marshall family together with Sim and Kellie Trombitas

Chapter XV June 2025 Meeting



Bill Neuiszer, Isabela & Joel Ornelas and Paul Coleman.



Linda Tannahill, Sharon and Buddy Gee.

Chapter XV June 2025 Meeting



L-R Jimmy Garza, Steve Stevenson, Simeon Trombitas, Ron Burkett, Bob Walker, and Pete Lee

Chapter XV June 2025 Meeting



Raul de la Garza, Sergio Venegas & Steve Damon



Ben and Marsha Scott and Jeremy Calvert

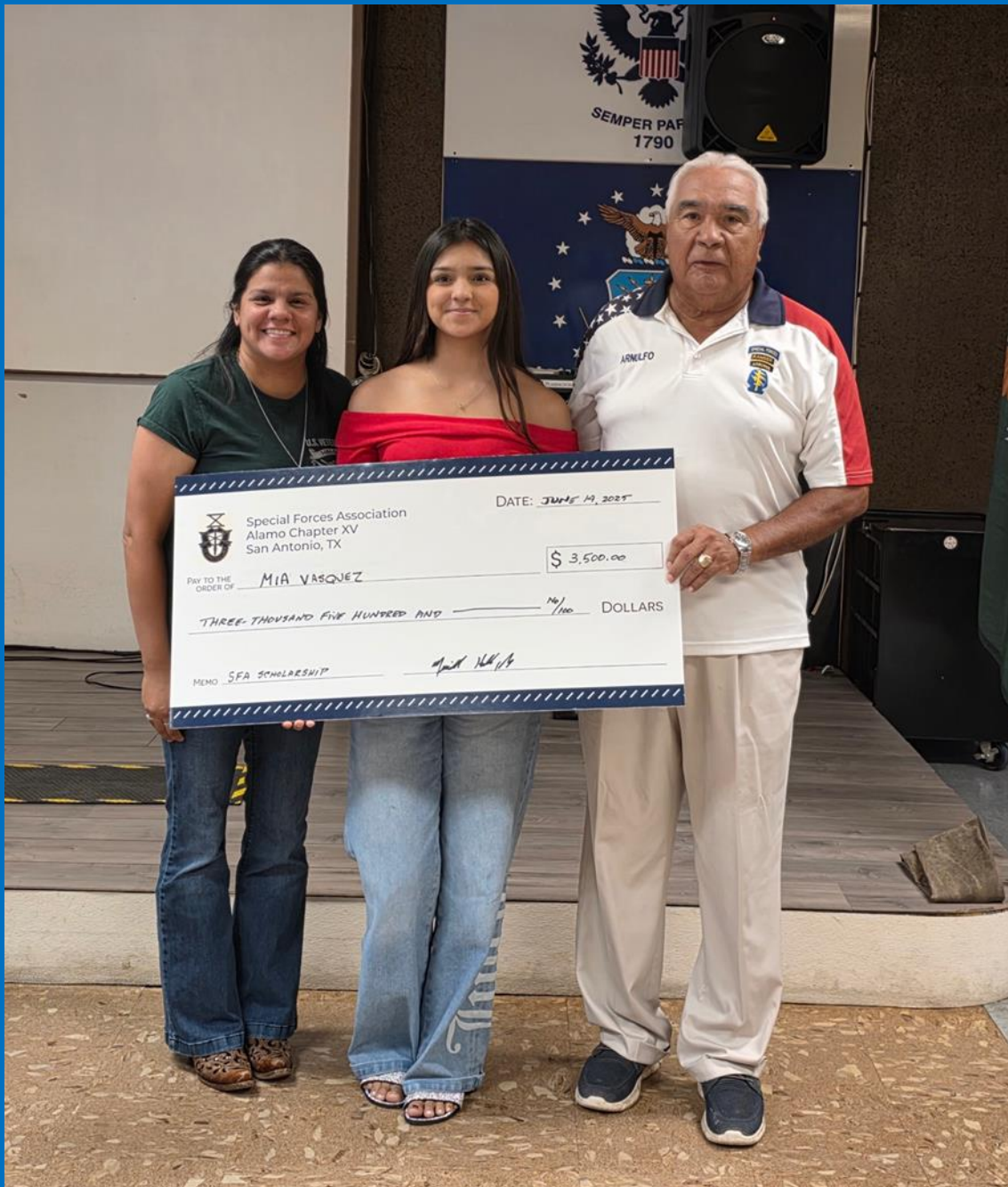


Fred Solis and Chaplain Steven Rindahl.



Sim Trombitas receiving an overdue plaque.

Scholarship Winners



Scholarship recipient Mia Vasquez (center) with mother Jackie Vasquez and Grandfather Arnulfo Vasquez.

Scholarship Winners



Scholarship recipient Seth London (center) with Scholarship Committee Chair Pat Connolly, Jeff Dahlby, Rhonda & Dave Marshall and Ruth Carreon.

Texas Special Forces Day at LongTab Brewing Co



L-R Tanya Smith, Tim Powell, Paul Coleman, Pat Connolly, Scott & Chris Coleman, Jeffrey Dahlby, Monica Dahlby, Luchi Powell, Buddy & Sharon Gee and Rhonda Marshall.

Texas Special Forces Day at LongTab Brewing Co



L-R Rob Carey, Bobby Moreno, William Smith, Jesse Day, Bill Smith and Leo Martinez



John Armezzani and Dave Holland.

Texas Special Forces Day at LongTab Brewing Co



L-R Paul Coleman, Mario Guerra, Pat Moffert, Jeff Dahlby, Sergio Venegas, and Pat Connolly

Texas Special Forces Day at LongTab Brewing Co



L-R Eddie Paniagua, Mario Guerra, Pat Moffert, Dave Marshall, Tim Powell, Jeff Dahlby, Sergio Venegas, Pat Connolly (behind Bill) and Bill Smith.

REST IN PEACE



Sherry Lynn Neuiszer, May 18, 1954 - June 1, 2025, may she rest in eternal peace among the others who have served our great nation.

REST IN PEACE



Sherry Lynn Neuiszer through photographs and memorabilia.

SOA AND SFACON ARE HOSTING CONCURRENT REUNIONS OCTOBER 2025

For the first time in our history the Special Operations Association and the Special Forces Association will host concurrent reunions.

Representatives from both organizations serve on the SOA/SFACON 2025 Reunion Committee and have compiled an impressive array of events and symposiums for an unforgettable week of camaraderie, learning and remembrance.

SOAR XLIX REUNION FEE REGISTRATION

**FULL – \$285 per person or
DAILY – \$100 per day per person**

Daily includes:

Monday – Hospitality

Tuesday – Hospitality

Wednesday – Hospitality + Luncheon

Thursday – Hospitality + Banquet

VENDOR TABLES – \$150 (must be pre-approved)

[CLICK TO PAY SOAR XLIX REUNION FEES](#)

INDIVIDUAL EVENT REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Individual Event registration is not included in the SOAR XLIX reunion fees and require a separate registration form and fee.

- SOA Prayer Breakfast - \$45 pp
- Entertainment Event - David Copperfield - \$125 pp
- CCS Southern Brotherhood Breakfast - \$45 pp
- Bowling for the Foundation - \$25 pp

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR INDIVIDUAL EVENTS](#)

Check both organizations websites, newsletters and social media for updated information.

SOAR XLIX - **SPECIALOPERATIONS.ORG/SOA/SOAR-XLIX/**
SFACON - **[SFACON 2025 - Special Forces Association](#)**

GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

2025 CALENDAR

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JANUARY</u></p> <p>7 Fund Raiser Fish City Grill</p> <p>11 Board Meeting 1100</p> <p>11 Membership Meeting 1300</p> <p>20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FEBRUARY</u></p> <p>8 Board Meeting 1100</p> <p>8 Membership Meeting 1300</p> <p>14 Valentines Day</p> <p>15 Drop Input Due</p> <p>17 President's Day</p> <p>26 Chapter Anniversary (1977)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MARCH</u></p> <p>1 Scholarship Apps Open</p> <p>7-9 Cotulla Wild Hog Cookoff</p> <p>16 American Legion Birthday</p> <p>17 St. Patrick's Day</p> <p>* No Chapter Meeting</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>APRIL</u></p> <p>12 Chapter Memorial Svc 1000</p> <p>12 Board Meeting 1100</p> <p>12 Membership Meeting 1300</p> <p>24 to May 4 Fiesta Festival 2025</p> <p>30 Scholarship Apps Close</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MAY</u></p> <p>2-4 Annual SFA Chapter Picnic</p> <p>11 Mothers' Day</p> <p>15 Drop Input Due</p> <p>26 Memorial Day</p> <p>* No Chapter Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JUNE</u></p> <p>14 Board Meeting 1100</p> <p>14 Membership Meeting 1300</p> <p>14 Flag Day & Army Birthday</p> <p>15 Father's Day</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JULY</u></p> <p>4 Independence Day</p> <p>12 Board Meeting 1100</p> <p>12 Membership Meeting 1300</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AUGUST</u></p> <p>9 Board Meeting 1100</p> <p>9 Membership Meeting 1300</p> <p>9 Drop Input Due</p> <p>18-22 1st SFG Reunion in Helena, MT</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SEPTEMBER</u></p> <p>1 Labor Day</p> <p>13 Board Meeting 1100</p> <p>13 Membership Meeting 1300</p> <p>19 POW/MIA Day</p> <p>20-27 5th SFG 64th Reunion Clarksville, TN</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OCTOBER</u></p> <p>11 Board Meeting 1100</p> <p>11 Membership Meeting 1300</p> <p>13 Columbus Day</p> <p>14-17 SFA National Convention Las Vegas, NV</p> <p>31 Halloween</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> <p>8 Board Meeting 1100</p> <p>8 Membership Meeting 1300</p> <p>11 Veterans Day</p> <p>15 Drop Input Due</p> <p>27 Thanksgiving</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DECEMBER</u></p> <p>6 Christmas Banquet</p> <p>7 Pearl Harbor Day</p> <p>25 Christmas</p> <p>* No Chapter Meeting</p>

All Chapter Meetings, unless announced otherwise, will be held at VFW Post 8541. Membership Meetings begin at 1300 hrs on the second Saturday of the month (unless otherwise noted in the calendar.) A lunch meal will be served from 1200 to 1300 hours prior to each Meeting.



**This page is dedicated to
our brothers, who paid
the ultimate sacrifice
& their families.**



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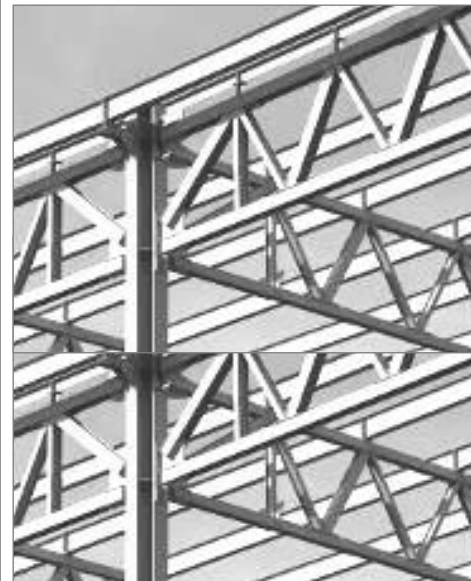
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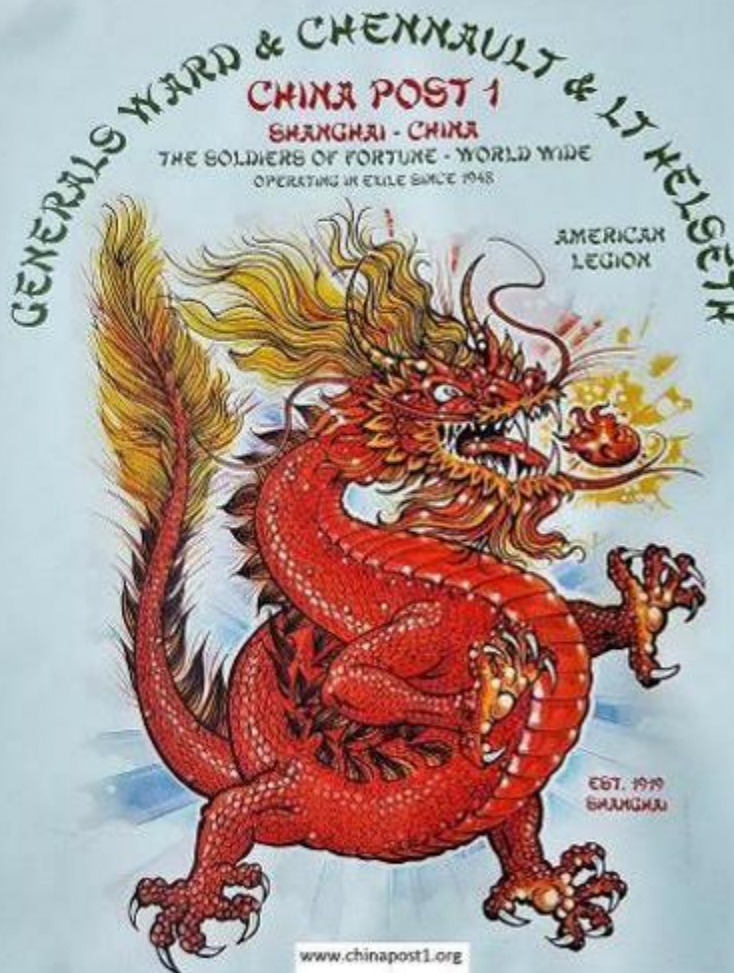
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De oppresso liber
Motto of the United States Army Special Forces
Green Beret Motto: "De Oppresso Liber"

Translated from Latin, this motto means "To Free the Oppressed".




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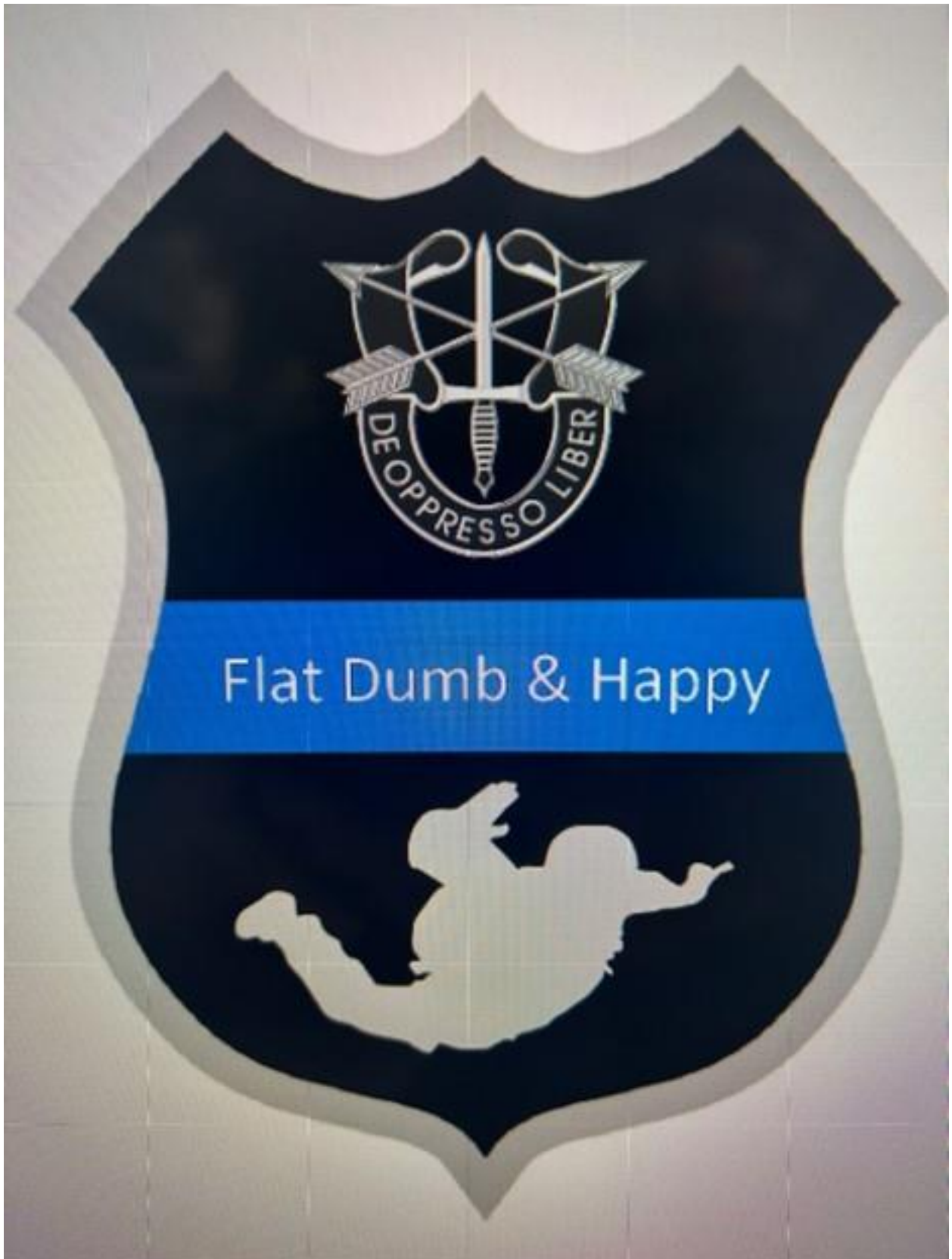
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RECUERDO (REMEMBRANCE)

**I sing of one who would remain unsung,
whose name would fade like tracks upon the
sand. For him no bells were ordered to be
rung; no banners lowered by a grieving
land. No bugles blew the moment that he
expired; no clock was stopped to fix the final
hour; no doors were draped in black, no
cannons fired. These are the rites of men of
rank and power.**

**But still I sing of him with mounting pride,
who seized the challenge with uncommon
heart then ran the course with firm
unfaltering stride to reach the mark
determined from the start.**

**The measure of a man who runs the race —
lies in his distance from the starting place.**

Anonymous



Special Forces Creed

*I am an American Special Forces Soldier. A professional!
I will do all that my nation requires of me.
I am a volunteer, knowing well the hazards of my profession.
I serve with the memory of those who have gone before me:
Roger's Rangers, Francis Marion, Mosby's Rangers,
the 1st Special Service Force, the Jedburghs, Detachment 101,
and the Special Forces Soldiers of the Vietnam War,
Who were awarded 17 Medals of Honor and 90 Distinguished Service Crosses.
I pledge to uphold the honor and integrity of all these,
In all That I am, all I do.
I am a professional soldier.
I will teach and fight whatever my nation requires,
To liberate the oppressed.
I will strive always, to excel in every art and artifice of war.
I know that I will be called upon to perform tasks in isolation
Far from familiar faces and voices.
With the help and guidance of my God,
I will conquer my fears and succeed.
I will keep my mind and body clean, alert and strong, for this is my debt
to those who depend upon me.
I will not fail those with whom I serve, I will not bring shame upon myself or the
Forces. I will maintain myself, my arms, and my equipment
In an immaculate state as befits a Special Forces Soldier.
My goal is to succeed in any mission—and live to succeed again.
I may not be found wanting, that I will not fail in this sacred trust*

Special Forces Poem

By P.M. White

*I've lifted my glass and drank my fill, Of the wine that's known as pride.
I've walked among some gallant men,
And watched them stride for stride. I've crammed my head with devious ways
To defeat the enemy's goal. And kept inside for loyalty's sake,
The tales that can't be told. The need is gone for my service now,
I'll hang up my green beret and sip no more the wine of pride,
Till called again someday.
The strength and character of an organization are measured by its members.
Bob and Vicki Walker*

Pictures provided by Jeff Dahlby.

When submitting articles or photos for the newsletter please enter "SFA newsletter input" in the subject line of your email. Please submit articles and pictures for the newsletter to editor@sfa-xv.org, or mail them to Chapter President at SFA Chapter XV, P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio TX 78265.

John and Amy Lopez

The Editors

Helpful Links:

[Chapter XV Website](#)

[SFA National Website](#)



“Carry on!”