



# GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

*The Alamo Chapter*

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

Issue # 12-15

December, 2014

**President:** Chuck Rose  
**Vice-President:** Bill Smith  
**Treasurer:** Mario Guerra  
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**Sgt at Arms:** Pat Connolly  
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**Chaplains:** R. Johnson & A. Flores

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[www.sfa-xv.org](http://www.sfa-xv.org)**



**Committee Chairs**  
**By-Laws:** Bill Smith  
**Nominations:** Bobby Walker  
**Oktober Fest VFW:** Rudy Johnson  
**Tellers:** Lenny Czarnecki  
**Motorcycle Challenge:** Gordon Lee  
**JROTC Awards:** Dan Hopgood  
**Scholarships:** Alex Flores  
**Wounded Warriors:** JW Martin  
**FSH Cemetery Events:** JW Martin  
**Canyon Lake Picnic:** Bob Hand  
**Dick's Fund Raiser:** Fred Solis  
**Christmas Banquet:** Chuck Rose & Mario Guerra

## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### December

**4 Dec Board Meeting 1300**  
**6 Christmas Banquet 1730**  
**& Installation of Officers**  
**NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**AS ALWAYS, OUR ANNUAL CALENDAR  
FOR THE YEAR 2015 WILL APPEAR IN  
THE JANUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER.**



## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Happy Holiday to each and every one of you! What a great year it has been for Chapter XV. If you missed the Christmas Banquet, you missed a great event. There were over a 100 in attendance. General Trombitas was our keynote speaker, and received a standing ovation following his presentation. Ike Camacho was our Guest of Honor. He was the first American to escape from a Viet Cong POW Camp after almost 2 years in captivity. The Chapter presented \$500.00 scholarships to Chris Novello, Justin Hopgood, Monica Medina and Sonora Dial. Again this year, the Valenzuela Foundation has agreed to match each of the scholarships, which will end up giving each of the recipients a total of \$1,000. General Trombitas presented our new Chapter President, CSM Bill Smith, with the Legion of Merit for his retirement from the U.S. Army after twenty-one years of service. Bill's mother and sister were present for the ceremony, along with Bill's new bride of one day. Following the Award Ceremony, General Trombitas gave the Oath of Office to the Chapter Officers for 2015. After the banquet, the membership descended on the Hospitality Room, where everyone continued to enjoy themselves, listen to live music, and dance until the wee hours of the morning. I want to personally thank Jerrie Lebleu for all her support and hard work, managing the ticket sales for this event and setting up the hospitality room. Also, thanks are due to Mario Guerra, for serving as co-chair for the event, running around days before, purchasing items for the Hospitality Room, coordinating with the hotel staff, scheduling the Mariachis, and the Joe Posado Band. There were a lot of other people that also pitched in moving items to and from the VFW and hotel, getting the Hospitality and Banquet Rooms ready for the event, etc. I want to personally thank each and every one of them for all their support.

January's Chapter Meeting will be held on the second Saturday, on January 10<sup>th</sup>. I hope you can make the meeting,

On Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, at 0900 hours, MG Wendt, Commanding General of US Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, Fort Bragg, NC, will induct MOH recipient MSG Jose Rodela as a Distinguished Member of the Regiment (DMOR). The ceremony will take place at the VFW, and the entire chapter is invited to attend. A small reception will be held after the ceremony. Again, I hope you can find time to attend.

This is my last chapter newsletter input. It has been an honor and a pleasure serving as your Chapter President for the past two years. Thank you for all your support throughout my presidency. I have no doubt that the new board directors, under Bill Smith's guidance and leadership, will continue making this one of the best Chapters in the Special Forces Association.

**"SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND YOURS!"**

Chuck Rose  
Outgoing President  
SFA Chapter XV



# Special Notice:

Our Next Chapter

Meeting is at the

VFW on

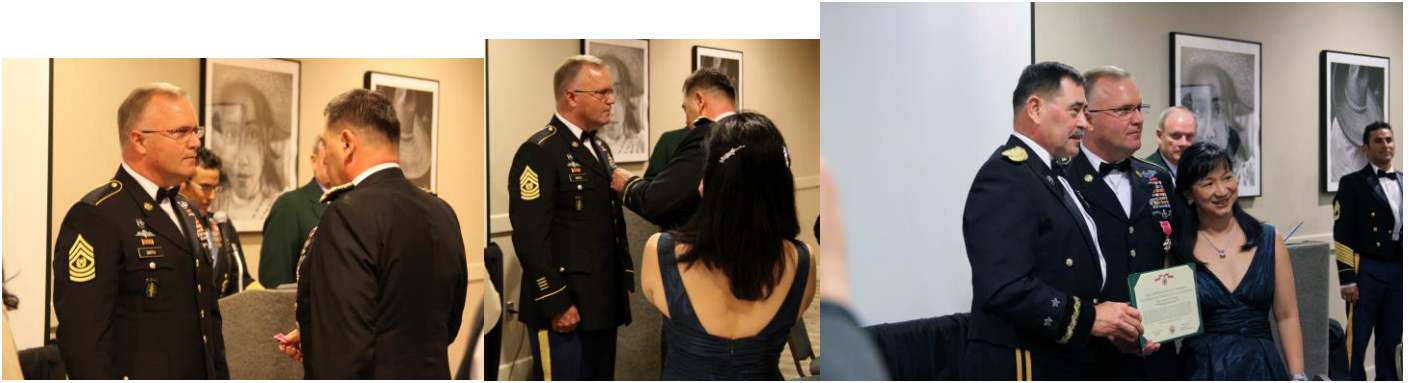
January 10<sup>th</sup>

At 1300 Hours!



# 2014 SFA Chapter XV Christmas Banquet





### **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 matched 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*



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## Alamo Silver Wings Airborne Association

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Fernandez  
"Helping Others Today for Their Tomorrows"



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## USA Boxing Gulf Association

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Attention: Juan Moya

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**Special thanks to our unofficial photographers who continue to provide us with numerous photographs of Chapter XV events: David Benavides, Henry Jimenez, Dan Hopgood and Marti and Ben Scott. Selecting which ones to use is always a difficult decision, but we try to include everyone possible.**

**The Editor**

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 (copies only) for the newsletter to Editor Mike Maloy at [Chinook501@aol.com](mailto:Chinook501@aol.com), or mail them to Chapter President Chuck Rose at SFA Chapter XV, P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio, TX 78265.



**"Carry on!"**

