



GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

The Alamo Chapter

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

Issue # 10-18

October 2018

President: Bill Smith
Vice-President: Juan Lopez
Secretary: J.W. Martin
Asst. Secretary: David Marshall
Treasurer: Buddy Gee
Asst. Treasurer: Mike Pagel
Sgt at Arms: Raul de la Garza
Asst. Sgt at Arms: Gordon Lee
Membership Secy: Marti Scott
Past President: Chuck Rose
Editors: Buddy & Sharon Gee
Webmaster: Steve Wolverton
VGSA Rep: Raul de la Garza
Chaplains: R. Johnson & S. Rindahl

Visit us at our Home Page:
www.sfa-xv.org



Committee Chairs

By-Laws: Bill Smith
Nominations: Chuck Rose
JROTC Awards: Juan Lopez
Scholarships: Pat Connolly
Wounded Warriors: J.W. Martin
FSH Cemetery Events: Raul de la Garza
Canyon Lake Picnic: Raul de la Garza
Dick's Fund Raiser: Fred Solis
Christmas Banquet: Bill Smith
Budget Committee: Buddy Gee
Chapter Memorial Svc: J.W. Martin

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



October 4 — Board meeting

1400 - VFW Post 8541, 2222 Austin Highway

October 6 — Membership Meeting

1200 - Lunch served (Schnitzel)

1300 – Business Meeting

October 16 — Chapter Fundraiser at Dick's Last Resort



DON'T FORGET



- Scholarship applications are now being accepted by the Scholarship Selection Committee. Details on Page 11.
- Pay period for annual dues begins 1 October. All renewals received between then and end of year will be for 2019.

- Get your tickets for annual Chapter fundraiser at Dick's Last Resort. Only \$30 per person. See Page 5.
- Tickets for the Christmas Banquet will be on sale at membership meetings for \$55 per person. Special rate on hotel rooms, Page 5.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Sends:

I hope everyone had a great month and are doing well.

Our Board meeting is set for 4 October at 1400 hrs. Our membership meeting will be on Saturday 6 October with lunch being served at noon and the meeting starting at 1300 hrs. I hope to see you all there.

Dick's Last Resort is still set for the 16th of October. We need people to help sell tickets for the event. We are also in need of some items to auction off at the event. I know some of you will be at SOAR and you will be missed. Remember, Dick's Last Resort is in their new location and there is street side access.

Christmas banquet tickets are still on sale. I will have them at the meeting. I sent an email out with the hotel link to book rooms. (Also on Page 5 of this newsletter.) You can also call and let them know it is for Special Forces.

I want to thank Karen again for setting up our 2nd Annual Cruise. Many people have reserved spots. I spoke with Karen and some cabins are being held for a while longer. If you would like to book get with Karen sooner than later.

Mike has done an outstanding job with the trailer. If you get a chance to go by the VFW go out back and check it out.

Until our meeting, be safe.

William Smith
Chapter XV President
presidentchapterxv@gmail.com



\$\$\$ DOLLARS AND CENTS

Treasurer's Report, September 2018

The Income for September was low to moderate. We tip our berets to Ramiro Daniel and John Rodden for their monthly contribution via automatic bank transfer.

Congratulations to Chaplain Steve Walsh who joined Chapter XV and signed up for life membership at the September meeting. Application for new member Huong Le (Robbie) is pending and is expected to be approved by SFA National soon.

Income from door prize drawing was \$120. Mike Pagel and Raul de la Garza donated trailer flooring material valued at \$392 and Buddy Gee donated a new Schumacher 700 watt rechargeable power supply with retail value of \$799 for the trailer.

Chapter expenditures: Checks and bank card debits were made for payments to Save The Montagnard People Foundation, the September meeting meal, ticket printing for Dick's Last Resort and a retainer for the upcoming Carnival Cruise Line cruise.

The budget committee will hold its second meeting at noon Thursday, 4 October at VFW Post 8541. This is the meeting for 2019 budget formulation (revenue and expenses will be guestimated.)

Please see "trailer master" Mike Pagel to make a donation and help finish out the new cargo trailer and overhaul the War Wagon.

Buddy Gee
Chapter XV Treasurer
sgmgee@aol.com

Minutes of September Meeting

Chapter Meeting Date: 08 September 2018

The meeting was called to order by President William Smith at 1300 hrs. This was followed by the pledge of allegiance. Chaplain Steve Walsh gave the invocation. A moment of silence for fallen comrades and POW's was held.

President Smith welcomed new members and guests to the Chapter:

Fred Solis's mother in law passed away.

Welcome back Alex Flores.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. **Budget and Treasurer's Report:** Buddy Gee presented the monthly budget report and it was accepted as read. The budget committee held its first meeting and will present the 2019 Budget at the November meeting.

b. **Marti Scott** stated that we presently have 200 members with several applications pending. 36 members attended the meeting.

c. **Minutes Approval:** Minutes were accepted as read.

d. **Dick's Last Resort** — our annual fundraiser will be held on 16 Oct. Tickets are now on sale and there is free parking in city lots on that date. Dick's is now on Losoya St.

e. **Cruise:** Karen Hermann said that our 2nd annual cruise will be 28 Apr to 5 May 2019, and we have

43 people signed up. Registration will be extended for a couple of weeks. Any questions contact Karen.

f. **SF Trailer:** Mike Pagel hopes to have the decals put on in the next couple of weeks He will try to have the flooring and painting finished by the next meeting.

g. **Christmas Banquet** is set for Saturday 8 December at the El Tropicano Hotel and there are a few tickets left.

h. **Fiesta Medals:** Gordon Lee stated that 1,000 medals will be ordered with the option to order more if needed. Should be available soon.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. **Scholarship:** Pat Connolly is the point of contact and applications are due by 15 Nov. The amount of the Scholarship will be based on the number of applicants.

b. **Canyon Lake SOD-A** water jump and picnic was success as a recruiting effort. Bill expects numerous new members to our organization.

c. **Open Discussion:** CH XV door prize drawing was conduct by Raul De L Garza.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
JW Martin, D2041L
SFA Chapter XV Secretary



FASHION SHOW?

Members pose with their new Chapter XV logo shirts, designed and purchased by John Tippy for warm-weather events. The fabric is wash & wear and the price is \$30. Left to right, the "models" are Raul de la Garza, Juan Lopez, JW Martin, "Shirt master" Tippy, Bill Smith, Buddy Gee and Steve Hermann.

2nd ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CRUISE



Special Forces Association Chapter XV

2nd Annual Fellowship & FUN-draising Cruise



7 NIGHT WESTERN CARIBBEAN

Aboard Carnival Cruises amazing Carnival Vista

Departing Sunday, April 28, 2019

Sailing round-trip from Galveston, Texas to: Cozumel, Mexico, Belize, and Mahogany Bay, Roatan

- Chapter donation of \$210 per cabin
- Private Cocktail Party
- Optional SF Excursion

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Interior from	*Oceanview from	Balcony from	Suite from
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Rates are per person and do not include: gratuities, insurance transportation or personal expenses. *Oceanview cabins on request only, rates not guaranteed. Deposit Amount: \$250 p/p | Insurance Cost: TBA | Book by Sept. 4, 2018 call to book after that date.

Oh, what to do first?

Along with sun-kissed ports, you can call the adult-only Serenity Retreat, complete with hammocks, breezes and a near by bar or Guy's Burger Joint, munching on signature road-side style burgers your special spot for the week! This Fun-Ship comes fully loaded cool activities like the Skyride and great restaurants and venues to surpass your vacation expectations! Lift a pint with your SF buddies at the Red Frog Brewery (yep there's a craft brewery right on board and you can even do a tour) For your "date night" may I suggest you take a seat at Playlist Productions, a show that takes tunes you know and presents them like you've never experienced before — past favorites become full-blown musical productions. It's all this and more on the Carnival Vista!

Group Webpage: <http://sgreen.dreamvacationsgroups.com/#/groups/9290180>

Karen Hermann TEL: 210-372-5122

khermann@wth.com

Agency- Sheri Green & Associates, Austin, TX

Agency Phone: (512) 796-8428



Terms & Conditions: Prices are shown in U. S. Dollars. Prices are per person, cruise only, based on double occupancy, specified stateroom category, in USD, include non-commissionable fares and are subject to availability. Governmental departure taxes and fees are included. Certain restrictions may apply. Prices and promotional offers apply to new individual bookings and vary by departure date and city, sailing, ship, and stateroom category and are subject to availability, may change without notice, are capacity controlled, may not be combinable with other offers, and may be changed or withdrawn at any time. All reservations must be made in U.S. dollars and restrictions may apply for non-U.S. residents. Cancellation penalties, blackout dates, and other restrictions may also apply. Best Price Guarantee restrictions and instructions apply; see our Best Price Guarantee Policy. Ships Registry: Greece, Norway, Bahamas, Liberia, Panama, Marshall Islands, Great Britain, Bermuda, Wallis & Futun, Malta, the Netherlands and Italy. CA 2006278-40, FLST 35829, IA 655, WA 601896884, NV 2006-0073. © Dream Vacations 2018

Chapter XV News

Almost time to eat, drink, laugh with Dick

Chapter XV's 14th annual fundraiser at Dick's Last Resort will begin at 6 p.m. on 16 October. While raising funds for the Chapter's many charitable causes, we'll also have a ton of fun!

Tickets are \$30 each for this great evening at Dick's new location on the River Walk, 223 Losoya St. The ticket covers Dick's



delicious all-you-can-eat buffet, open bar with draft beer, wine and well drinks, door prizes, music and silent auction. So invite your friends, buy your tickets and take some tickets to sell.

Chairman Fred Solis still needs quality items for the silent auction. Please bring donations to the October meeting, or contact Fred to have them picked up.

Many thanks to Dick's corporate office and local staff for their continuing support.

Houston celebration will honor MSG Roy Benavidez



SFA Chapter 39 in Houston invites us to a celebration on Nov. 3 honoring the Benavidez family and the 50th anniversary of MSG Roy P. Benavidez' actions earning him the Medal of Honor.

On February 24, 1981, President Ronald Reagan presented Benavidez with the Medal of Honor for his extremely valorous actions in the face of overwhelming odds during combat operations near Loc Ninh, Vietnam, on May 2, 1968. After the award, Reagan turned to the press and said, "If the story of his heroism were a movie script, you would not believe it."

Roy was a member of Chapter XV when he received the medal and remained a member until his death in 1998.

When: November 3, 2018, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Where: 1833 Max Road, Pearland, TX 77581

What: Lunch will be served

Dress is casual or business casual

SFA members, blazers or duty uniforms with berets

SFBMC members, group colors and berets

Please RSVP by Oct. 12 with number of guests attending.

Email Denny Smith at desmithphd82@gmail.com /or text (612) 516-1910.



Ron and Marlys Burkett at China Post 1 International Reunion with the guest speaker, military novelist Bill Butterworth IV.

And more to celebrate

...**Ron and Marlys Burkett** have had a lot to celebrate recently. First, Ron's son Robert W. "Win" Burkett was appointed to be Deputy Commanding General (Maneuver) for the 36th Infantry Division, Texas National Guard. ...Second, as Commander of China Post 1 of the American Legion, Ron hosted the post's International Reunion in San Antonio last month. He says turnout was good, with about 130 members attending the banquet at El Tropicano Hotel, including several members of Chapter XV. Just before that, Ron and Marlys attended the American Legion's 100th National Convention in Minneapolis... Busy people!

...**Gordon Lee** says the Chapter's first Fiesta medals are in production. We should be able to see and sell them soon!

...**Rooms at El Tropicano** Hotel are available at a special rate of \$109 per night for the weekend of the Chapter Christmas banquet. These are standard rooms featuring free Internet, mini-fridge, flat-screen TV and work desk. The banquet is Saturday, Dec. 8, but the Special Forces rate is available Friday through Sunday, Dec. 7-9. Here is the link for online reservations: [Hotel](#)



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Call or click at:

vbsn@ttuhsc.edu | 806.743.9294 | 1.800.493.3954

www.ttuhsc.edu/nursing/undergraduate/vbsn



Chapter News: Trailer Update

By MIKE PAGEL



Everyone knows we have been working to customize our new 16-foot Interstate trailer, purchased 100% through donations. And, that we raised \$1,700+ in additional donations at the August meeting to purchase emblems and other items.

Getting the emblems fabricated and shipped to us from Fayetteville, N.C.

took a little effort. The hard part turned out to be getting those emblems on the trailer, in the rain, but we did it! Instead of taking 2-3 hours, it took 2-3 weeks and the rain was no help at all! Most of the work was completed in the rain, all by our brother Brent Davis. Thank you, Brent!

Anyway, the trailer looks great. There are a few little spots that must be tweaked with a heat gun that Brent uses to shrink the emblems down around the hundreds of rivets that are on the trailer — a super pain in the butt, but Brent will take care of them when he is settled back from his fishing vacation in Alaska.

Needless to say; the rain has put a dent in our efforts to continue the work. We almost got stuck returning the trailer back to the VFW yard, and the rain has not allowed for any real time to paint the inside and install the flooring. That will all be completed in the coming weeks.

The emblems only cost \$1,500 and our members have donated several hundred dollars for other items, including purchase of the flooring and other things we feel are necessary to complete the customization. One such item is an adjustable trailer hitch.



This trailer hitch was necessary because of the low-profile body of the trailer, which is ideal for us entering and exiting the trailer during our future events. But a low-profile trailer does not hook up well to a non-adjustable hitch. This adjustable hitch offsets that low-profile problem and properly aligns the trailer on its two axles.

The hitch is adjustable up to 6 inches up or down and will fit any standard receiver on other vehicles. It is fully secured with locking pins within



the height adjustment apparatus, as well as to the vehicle pulling the trailer. It's a tough hitch! It will remain in the trailer for any vehicle that may tow the trailer in the future.

This trailer will be a platform that represents our Chapter to the public and be our center of operations, wherever we take it. It's a great trailer and will represent us well.

I will update the GoFundMe account soon with the new pictures of the trailer. Then I will send the link out on Facebook and add it to our Chapter website. Hopefully we will begin collecting donations from this account soon. We will all need to pass this GoFundMe account information around to help with the advertisement.

Thank you all "again" for the assistance, support, and donations thus far!

"De Oppresso Liber"

5th SF Group Reunion



The annual 5th Group Reunion at Fort Campbell was awesome, as usual. I was pleased to meet MOH Bennie Adkins (at left) and the 5th Group leaders, at right.

Troops and vans were assigned to take us to the various events, from HALO exercise to lunch in the Oasis dining hall, and from the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville to the high-rise studios of Sirius FM Country Music (where we bumped into Grand Ol' Opry star Jeannie Seely.) Speakers included Bernard Kerik, former NYC Police Commissioner during 9/11, and we were hosted for lunch by none other than country superstar Charlie Daniels.

Chapter 38 and 5th Group are always terrific hosts for us veterans. You shoulda been there!
—Buddy Gee



From left, 5th Group DCO Col. John Dyke, CSM David Lance, Buddy Gee, CO Col. Jay Powers.





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12/2017



Warriors on the Way

FR. STEVE RINDAHL sent these snaps from Spain during the 17-day pilgrimage he arranged for combat veterans. In left photo, trekkers stop at the foot of stairs going into Portomarin. At right, they catch a roadside breakfast. Steve's column will return next month, and we look forward to hearing all the details of this September pilgrimage along the Way of St. James.



FOR SALE

1986 Chevrolet Corvette Indy Pace Car
Like New White Top, Red Leather Interior
Contact Buddy Gee (210) 778-7004



Scholarship Applications Due

Pat Connolly, Scholarship Committee Chairman, reminds that applications are being accepted from now until 15 November. Here are the scholarship guidelines:



Special Forces Chapter XV Education Grant

The Special Forces Chapter XV Education Grant is designed to provide a one-time education grant of a minimum of five hundred dollars (\$500.) The number and amount of grants are determined by the Chapter Scholarship Selection Committee with the approval of the Chapter president. Recipients will be announced at the annual Installation of Officers/ Christmas Banquet.

Eligibility:

1. Applicant must be a SFA member or legal dependent or grandchild of a Chapter member in good standing.
2. A high school student anticipating graduation during the school year of application.
3. Grant must be used to attend an accredited college, university or vocational institution.
4. Eligible applicants must submit the following:
 - a. A personal letter detailing the applicant's education plans, career aspirations, school they plan to attend, and planned use for the grant.
 - b. Copies of the most recent academic transcripts, SAT scores and other scholastic achievements, and a recent photograph.
 - c. Two letters of reference from a teacher, school counselor or principal.
 - d. A summary of extracurricular activities, non-academic achievements and hobbies.
 - e. A copy of the application to the school or the acceptance letter.

Applications must be received by the Scholarship Committee no later than 15 November. Send to

President William Smith, SFA Chapter XV

Attn: Scholarship Committee

P. O. Box 33782 - San Antonio TX 78265-3782

SF medic awarded Medal of Honor for Afghanistan heroism

By HOPE HODGE SECK
military.com

An Army medic who braved enemy rocket-propelled grenades and sniper fire in Afghanistan to treat wounded soldiers will receive the military's highest honor.

Ronald J. Shurer II was to receive the Medal of Honor, an upgrade to the Silver Star he had been previously awarded for his actions in April 2008. The medal was to be presented at an Oct. 1 ceremony, according to a White House announcement.

Shurer, then a senior medical sergeant with Special Forces Operational Detachment Alpha 3336, within Special Operations Task Force-33, had been deployed to Afghanistan's Shok Valley in Nuristan province.

According to an Army release, his task as a medic was to support operators who were hunting high-value targets of the Hezb-e Islami Gulbuddin, a militia group with ties to al-Qaida and the Taliban. The militants had a foothold in the Shok valley.

"As the team navigated through the valley [April 6, 2008], a firefight quickly erupted, and a series of insurgent sniper fire, rocket-propelled grenades, and small arms and machine gun fire forced the unit into a defensive fighting position," Army officials said in a release.

Shurer had heard that a forward element was also trapped by enemy fire, with multiple soldiers reported wounded.

"With disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Shurer took off through a hail of bullets and began scaling the rock face to get to the casualties," his Silver Star citation states. "During initial movement to the base of the mountain, he treated a teammate wounded by shrapnel to his neck from an RPG blast that blew him off his feet."

After that soldier had been treated, Shurer continued to fight his way to the pinned-down forward troops, killing multiple insurgents in combat that lasted for more than an hour. Eventually, he got to the location where wounded soldiers were trapped under enemy fire.

"Under intense insurgent fire, Sergeant Shurer reached the pinned-down element of his ODA and immediately rendered aid to four critically wounded U.S. and 10 injured commandos," the citation reads. "He treated multiple life-threatening gunshot wounds until additional teammates arrived."



Shurer himself was not unscathed in the conflict. He was hit by sniper fire in the helmet and arm while dashing 15 meters through enemy fire to reach his team sergeant, who was badly wounded. He'd repeat the deadly journey to reach another teammate whose leg had been severed by heavy enemy fire.

"Sergeant Shurer rendered life-saving aid to four critically wounded casualties for more than five and a half hours," the citation reads. "As the lone medic at the besieged location, and almost overrun and fighting against nearly 200 insurgent fighters, Sergeant Shurer's bravery and poise under fire saved the lives of all wounded casualties under his care."

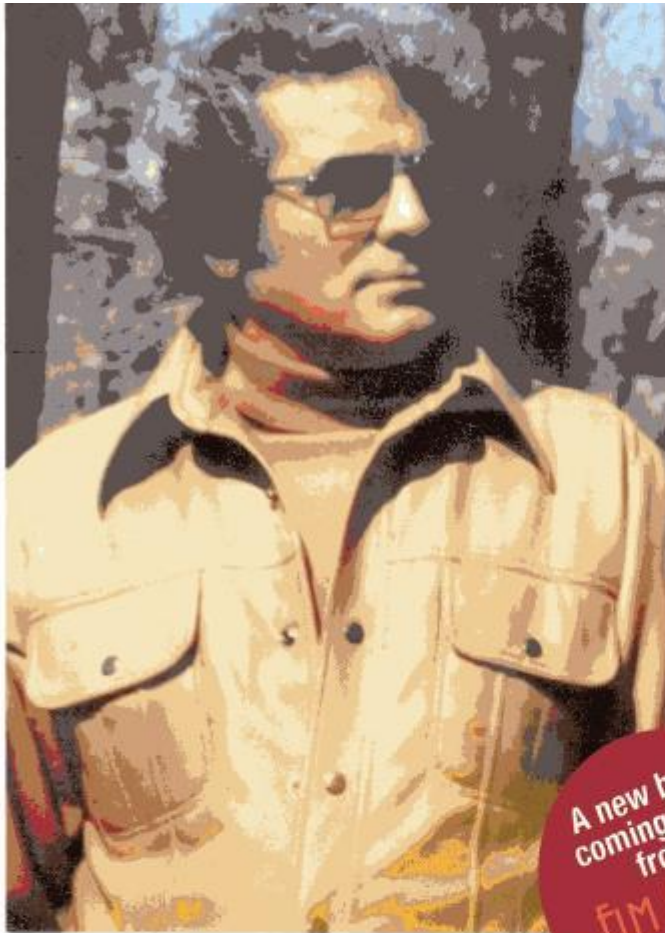
Before the day was over, Shurer had evacuated three critically wounded soldiers down a "near-vertical" 60-foot cliff, using a rig of nylon webbing he designed himself and shielding the wounded from falling rocks with his own body.

Shurer, who enlisted in the Army in September 2002, was honorably discharged as a staff sergeant in May 2009. He is now a special agent in the Secret Service, where he currently serves in the Special Operations Division within the Secret Service's Counter-Assault Team, according to the White House announcement.

He lives in Burke, Virginia, near Washington, D.C., with his wife Miranda and two sons, 10 and 7.

Shurer is the 11th soldier to receive the Medal of Honor for heroism in Afghanistan.

-- Hope Hodge Seck can be reached
at hope.seck@military.com



In World War II he fought with the armies of three different countries.

After that things *really* start to get complicated.

Soldier, resistance fighter, secret agent, inventor and American patriot.

This is his true life story.

CELLINI

FREEDOM FIGHTER

BIOGRAPHY of an AMERICAN PATRIOT
MICK J. PRODGER with TUTUC CELLINI

A new book
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Born in New York and raised in Italy, Vito "Tutuc" Cellini went from street gangster to soldier to resistance fighter to secret agent – all before he was twenty-one years of age.

Drafted into the fascist Italian army against his will and sent to the front line, he deserted and joined Tito's Yugoslavian Partisans fighting the Nazis, returning to Italy to join the Allies amid one of the biggest cover-ups of the European war.

He ended the war working covertly with the American OSS (forerunner of the CIA) hunting down criminals and undesirables.

Sailing home to New York in 1948 with a forged Italian passport and just 12 cents in his pocket, he was arrested at Ellis Island. Since then, Cellini's inventiveness, reputation and irrepressible sense of adventure have taken him all over the world, often putting his life in great peril.

Respected by the New York Mafia, Cellini later negotiated with some of the most feared organized crime syndicates in Italy. Nicaragua's President Somoza sought his advice on guerilla warfare and weapons tactics, and while in Nicaragua he was embroiled in the assassination of a high profile journalist and had

to flee for his life.

Cellini has kept Federal Agents informed of credible plots to assassinate known enemies of the United States. He even served for a short time, albeit inadvertently, as bodyguard for a notorious drug lord in Mexico.

He has never been afraid of taking the law into his own hands because, he says, sometimes that is the only way to survive.

His inventions, including the *Cellini Muzzle Brake*, have earned him 19 patents and the undying respect and gratitude of members of the U.S. Special Forces and Law Enforcement. He has been privileged to count some of America's most revered and decorated military heroes among his closest friends.

Cellini is, more than anything, a patriot; a man who puts honor above all. And while some of his adventures make fictional spies and secret agents pale by comparison, unlike his fictitious counterparts, Cellini always remained faithful to one woman.

Now at the age of 94, he finally feels comfortable talking about his life, and he isn't pulling any punches.

The good. The bad. The ugly. The truth.



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Cellini: Freedom Fighter

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PLANNING FOR 2019 CONVENTION

2019 SFA International Convention Charleston, WV 13-18 August, 2019



President Gary Koenitzer and SFA Membership:

Chapter LXVIII is pleased to host the 2019 SFA International Convention in Charleston, WV from 13-18 August, 2019. We would like to thank the SFA Board of Officers for this opportunity and are busy planning a spectacular event in the Capitol City of the Mountain State. Our thanks and appreciation to SFA Chapter IX, Isaac Camacho Chapter, for hosting a great 2018 SFA International Convention in El Paso, TX. We are following a great convention and will be using many of their successes when planning next year's convention.

We were chosen for the host state after the conclusion of this year's convention so we are a little behind on getting information out, but here is an overview of the 2019 SFA International Convention. The host hotel will be the Charleston Marriott Town Center with some sessions located in the Embassy Suites by Hilton Charleston. Our newly renovated Charleston Civic Center will be the location of the SFA Banquet held on Saturday 17 August, 2019. We are currently getting contracts with several hotels that are within 1-2 blocks of the Charleston Civic Center and host hotels. I will send updates on room prices and reservation codes to all Chapter Presidents since we do not have them available prior to the submission of The Drop advertisement. All rooms will be within the Government Per Diem rate of \$107.00 or below.

Our planning is in overdrive but some things that you can expect when you come to Charleston, WV. The theme will be 'A Tribute to Gold Star Families' and we have asked each chapter to host a Gold Star Family member(s) to attend all or part of the convention and banquet. We will host one event at our Capitol Complex with tours of the Capitol, Governor's Mansion, State Museum along with food and drink. Another event will be at the 130th Air Wing with 160th SOAR aircraft, Air Force cargo and fast movers, USASOC mobility and equipment, band, picnic, as well as, our Annual Gold Star Motorcycle ride will end at this location that typically draws over 250 riders. Attendees will also be given tokens that allow them to visit one of several downtown restaurants and redeem them for an entrée and drink, giving you many options of local cuisine. Other attractions are the Mardi Gras Casino and Dog Track, white water rafting, ATV/UTV trails, River Boat Dinner cruises, minor league baseball, Bike Night and Live on the Levee with live music and food.

More to follow, and we look forward to seeing you in August 2019.

Kevin L. Harry

President/Chairman
divemedic@yahoo.com

Bob Luther

Vice President
bob.luther@gmail.com

Robert 'Bob' Polcyn

Treasurer
Robert.palcyn@att.net

Tom Workman

Secretary
workmanwt@aol.com

Chapter XV Christmas Banquet

Rooms at El Tropicano Hotel are available at a special rate of \$109 per night for the weekend of the Chapter's Christmas banquet. These are standard rooms featuring free Internet, mini-fridge, flat-screen TV and work desk.

The banquet is Saturday, Dec. 8, but the Special Forces rate is available Friday through Sunday, Dec. 7-9. Here is the link for online reservations: [Hotel](#)

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9/19

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7/7/18



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Fr Steven G Rindahl, DMin
SFA Life Member – ASWAA Life Member

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www.StFrancis.Church



8/4/18

GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV 2018 CALENDAR

<p><u>JANUARY</u></p> <p>4 Board Meeting 1400 6 Membership Meeting 1100</p>	<p><u>FEBRUARY</u></p> <p>1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 1100 15 Drop Input Due</p>	<p><u>MARCH</u></p> <p>1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 1100 9-11 Cotulla Wild Hog Cookoff</p>
<p><u>APRIL</u></p> <p>5 Board Meeting 1400 7 Chapter Memorial Service 0900 7 Membership Meeting 1030 15-22 Ch. XV Cruise/fundraiser TBD JROTC Presentations</p>	<p><u>MAY</u></p> <p>3 Board Meeting 1400 NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING 15 Drop Input Due 18-20 Canyon Lake Picnic 28 Memorial Day Serv 0930 TBD - JROTC Presentations 31 June Board Meeting 1400</p>	<p><u>JUNE</u></p> <p>2 Membership Meeting 1100 12-16 National SFA Conference TBD JROTC Presentations</p>
<p><u>JULY</u></p> <p>4 Fourth of July Parade TBD 5 Board Meeting 1400 7 Membership Meeting 1100 14 SOD-A Water Jump 0900</p>	<p><u>AUGUST</u></p> <p>2 Board Meeting 1400 4 Membership Meeting 1300 15 Drop Input Due</p>	<p><u>SEPTEMBER</u></p> <p>6 Budget Committee meeting 1230 6 Board Meeting 1400 8 Membership Meeting 1300 Scholarship Applications</p>
<p><u>OCTOBER</u></p> <p>4 Board Meeting 1400 6 Membership Meeting 1300</p>	<p><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> <p>1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 1300 (Budget Approval) 11 Veterans Day Cerem 1000 15 Drop Input Due 28 Scholarship Results</p>	<p><u>DECEMBER</u></p> <p>6 Board Meeting 1400 8 Christmas Banquet 2018 NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING</p>

All Chapter Meetings, unless announced otherwise, will be held at VFW Post 8541. Membership Meetings begin at 1300 hrs on the first Saturday of the month (unless otherwise noted in the calendar.) A lunch meal will be served from 1200 to 1300 hrs prior to each Membership Meeting. Board Meetings will be held the Thursday prior to the Membership Meeting at 1400 hours unless announced otherwise.

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.A. 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*

Notice to members and friends of SFA Chapter XV, The Alamo Chapter:

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Chapter XV, Special Forces Association

P.O. Box 33782

San Antonio, Texas 78265-3782

President: William E. Smith

presidentchapterxv@gmail.com



Calendar of Significant Special Forces Events

- 12-14 OCT 2018 SF Medic Class 2-82 reunion at Fort Bragg, NC.
POC: SGM John Roberts, (601) 454-7221,
Johncurtisroberts@gmail.com.
- 13-18 AUG 2019 SFA International Convention, Charleston, WV.
Charleston Marriott Town Center
POC Kevin Harry, divemedic@yahoo.com.

Thanks to Mike Pagel, Steve Rindahl and Joel Pruitt for photos in this issue.

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 Buddy Gee at sgmgee@aol.com, or mail them to Chapter President Bill Smith at SFA Chapter XV, P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio, TX 78265.

The Editors



"Carry on!"