



GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

The Alamo Chapter

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

Issue #13-11

November, 2013

President: Chuck Rose
Vice-President: Bill Smith
Treasurer: Mario Guerra
Secretary: Bob Hand
Sgt at Arms: Pat Connolly
Asst. Treasurer: Buddy Gee
Membership Secy: Richard Gilliam
Asst. Sgt at Arms: Raul de la Garza
Public Affairs Off.: Buddy Gee
Recruiter: John Tippy
Recruiter: Joe Cavallero
Recruiter: TBD
Tellers Chairman: Len Czarnecki
Canyon Lake Picnic: Bob Hand
Dick's Last Resort: TBD
Nomination Committee: Buddy Gee
Christmas Banquet: Bill Smith

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www.sfa-xv.org**



Editor: Mike Maloy
Web Master: Scott Sutherland
Asst. Secy/Past Pres.: Bill Beall
July 4th Parade: Bill Beall
Oktober Fest VFW: Bill Beall
Chaplain: Adan Flores
Chaplain: Rudy Johnson
SFA Conv. Chmn: Fred Solis
SFA Conv Asst.Chmn: Bob Walker
Memorial To Fallen: Bob Walker
Memorial Day: Bob Walker
JROTC Awards: Dan Hopgood
JROTC Awards: Henry Jimenez
Scholarships: Alex Flores
SFA Motorcycle: John McClinton
Cove Fund Raiser: Mario Guerra

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

02 Committee Leads 1000
02 Membership Meeting 1300
(Election and Scholarship Results)
10 Drop Input Due
11 Veterans Day Ceremony (time TBD)
11 Dick's Fund Raiser (time TBD)

December

05 Board & Committee Leads meeting 1300
07 Christmas Banquet and installation of Officers 1800
NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN DECEMBER



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Veterans Day was a busy time for the Chapter. That morning Lenny Czarnecki, Barry Archer, Dan Hopgood, Delbert Hayes, and Tony Stokely carried the service flags at the Fort Sam Houston Cemetery Ceremony. Bobby Walker, J. W. Martin, Raul de la Garza, Bart Severson, Rudy Johnson, Buddy Gee, Rich Harvey and JR Garza were also in attendance from the Chapter.

Following the ceremony, the group reassembled at the VFW Post 8541 for the Post's Veterans Day Ceremony, where Lenny and JW posted the colors.

That evening, the Chapter conducted its Annual Charity Fund Raising Event at Dick's Last Resort. Both chapter members and their families supported the activities. Fred Solis chaired the event, Pat Connolly coordinated the silent auction, with Alex (Godfather) Flores serving as the security guard. Bobby Walker and Mario Guerra managed the door, selling tickets and taking in funds, while Marti Scott and JW Martin enticed people from the Riverwalk to join the festivities inside. Buddy Gee, Barry Archer, Raul de la Garza, Bob Hand, Tony Stokely and Ben Scott were also in attendance to provide assistance where needed. Dick's Last Resort went all out supporting this event, with a live band and food and beverages. Their staff was superb in making this a fun and profitable event for the Chapter.

Our next event is our annual Christmas Banquet on December 7th at the Tropicano Hotel. The hospitality room will open at 1300 hrs. Mariachis will perform at 1730 hrs and the banquet will begin at 1830 hrs. Following the banquet, the Joe Posada Band will provide music for dancing and entertainment until midnight. There are still a few tickets available. If you have not purchased your tickets and want to attend, contact Chuck Rose at 210-854-4131 to reserve your tickets, and then pay at the door.

I want to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving! Our next Membership meeting is January 4th at 1300 hrs, at VFW Post 8541.

Chuck Rose
President
SFA Chapter XV



SFA Chapter XV General Membership Meeting

November 2, 2013

Meeting was called to order by President Chuck Rose at 1 p.m. Approximately 35 members were in attendance. ... Members sick or in distress: Domingo Lozano is recovering from surgery at Methodist Hospital; Alice Martin is doing well after knee replacement; Adele Salinas fell and broke a collarbone.

OLD BUSINESS

- Approval of October minutes was moved by J.W. Martin, seconded by Lou Colantoni. Approved.
- Chapter Treasurer's Report by Mario Guerra was approved. Chapter now has a credit card reader, but has software problem. Working on it.
- Board approved payment of 4th Quarter charity commitments: \$200 to DAV of San Antonio; \$250 to SA Food Bank; \$250 to Boys & Girls Club. Board also approved a \$100 donation to the Texas Children's Choir to support their travel to France for D-Day event at Normandy.
- Tony Stokely, Adan Flores and their wives have volunteered to prepare lunch meals for meetings. Meals are running about \$125 due to increased attendance. Donations for next year's lunch meals are now in order: Barry Archer will cover January meal and Bob Walker for February.

NEW BUSINESS

- Election Committee. Buddy Gee said ballots are here, and votes must be turned in to Teller Committee before intermission of this meeting.
- Veterans Day Ceremony Nov. 11: J.W. Martin suggested early arrival to get a parking place at FSH Cemetery for 10 a.m. ceremony. Flag bearer detail includes Barry Archer, Delbert Hayes, Raul de la Garza, Bart Severson, Dan Hopgood, J.W. Martin, Bob Walker and Len Czarnecki. J.W. also volunteered to assist Lenny in carrying the colors at VFW ceremony.
- Fund raiser at Dick's Last Resort, Nov. 11, 6 to 9 p.m. Dick's is selling tickets and flags (already turned in \$195.) Free parking for DAV or Purple Heart license plates; we'll have 12 other parking passes for workers. Pat Connolly is collecting silent auction items. Alex Flores will assist Pat at the auction table.
- Scholarship Committee: Alex has received two applications. Deadline Nov. 30.
- Christmas Banquet, Dec. 7 at El Tropicano Hotel: Hospitality room 1 to 5 p.m., dinner (beef and chicken) at 6:30 p.m., music and dancing afterward. Hotel has lowered room rate to \$89 for this event. SFA President Jack Tobin will be guest speaker. Buy tickets now or call Chuck to commit. Tickets \$45. (cost of dinner.)
- JROTC Program: Barry and Dan will visit two schools next week, Schertz and Cibolo, to line up awards for outstanding cadets.
- Winter Drop Input due to Mike Maloy by Nov. 10. Buddy Gee said he will arrange for original Drop article (with extra picture pages on Banquet and VFW Post 76 event) to be emailed to members.

BREAK

- Steve Twining moved to continue General Membership Meetings on the first Saturday of each month at 1300 hours. Seconded by Barry. Approved.
- Chuck will order two sets of 60-year SFA patches from National. Can buy for \$7 each.
- Chuck presented the name of LTG Hugh Cox for honorary Chapter membership. Motion by Barry, seconded by Buddy. Approved.
- Teller Committee (Len Czarnecki, Dan Hoggood, Bob Walker): Len read from constitution that preliminary slate of officers must be announced at least six weeks prior to election. In our case, the nominations closed after only four weeks – two weeks ahead of time. Chuck said the rules should be clarified in next rewriting of the by-laws. Len then reported election results:

President –Chuck Rose, 32 votes; Bill Smith, 1 vote

Vice President – Bill Smith, 34 votes

Treasurer – Mario Guerra, 34 votes

Sgt. At Arms – Pat Connolly, 33 votes

Assistant Secretary – Barry Archer, 34 votes

Assistant Treasurer – Buddy Gee, 34 votes

Assistant Sgt. At Arms – Raul De la Garza, 32 votes

OPEN FORUM

Bill Beall: He and Mike Maloy participated in 47th annual parade in Universal City. Soliciting donations for new flags or repair of flags on “The Chief.”

Bob Walker: Alamo Silver Wings anniversary ball will be held Feb. 15. If enough chapter members are interested, we can reserve a SFA table for 10.

Chapter tee shirts are on sale for \$15.00 or two for \$25.00. See J. W. Martin.

Chuck Rose: Unit going back to Viet Nam next March, inviting participants for 15-day trip. Fee of \$3,500 covers air from Los Angeles to Saigon, visits to Pleiku and every SF camp in I Corps and 2 Corps ... ending in Hanoi and flight back to U.S. Includes all meals and transportation; everything but booze.

J.R. Garza: Veterans Parade Nov. 9, wreath ceremony at the Alamo at 10:30 a.m. and parade at noon. ... Golden Corral offering free meals for vets on Monday, Nov. 11.

Meeting adjourned at 1435.

**Respectfully submitted,
Buddy Gee
Acting Secretary**



Special Forces Chapter XV Educational Grant

The Special Forces Chapter XV Educational Grant is designed to provide a one-time educational 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. Recipient(s) will be announced at the annual Installation of Officers/Christmas Banquet.

Eligibility:

- 1. Applicant must be an SFA member in good member in good standing, a legal dependent, or a grandchild.**
- 2. A high school graduate or a 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 educational plans, career aspirations, and planned use for the grant awarded.**
 - b. Copies of the most recent academic transcripts, SAT scores, and other scholastic achievements.**
 - c. A letter of reference from a teacher, school counselor, or a principal.**
 - d. A summary of extra-curricular activities, non academic achievements, and hobbies.**
 - e. A copy of the acceptance letter from the institution of higher learning the applicant will attend.**
- 5. Above criteria must be received by the scholarship committee no later than 29 November Send to:**

**President Chuck Rose
SFA Chapter XV
Attn: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 33782
San Antonio TX 78265**



Christmas Banquet Schedule of Events

The Chapter Christmas Banquet is a coat & tie affair. Whether you want to wear a uniform; tuxedo; suit & tie; SFA Green Blazer and tie; it's your choice. The sequence of events and timelines are as follows:

DECEMBER 7TH

- **09:00 a.m. - Volunteers loading up at VFW.**
- **10:00 a.m. - Trinidad room (1st Floor) - Volunteers will be setting up hospitality room at El Tropicano.**
- **01:00 - 05:30 p.m. - Trinidad room - Hospitality room will be operational.**
- **05:30 p.m. La Habana room (right across from Trinidad) will open - cash bar (no outside food or beverages).**
- **05:30 - 06:30 p.m. La Habana Room - Mariachi will play.**
- **06:30 - 08:00 p.m. La Habana Room - Banquet Dinner (Plated dinner duet - chicken and beef)**
- **08:00 - 02:00 a.m. Trinidad Room - Hospitality room operational with live band until 12:00 a.m.**

DECEMBER 8th

- **On Sunday Bloody Marys will be served at approx 9 a.m. in the Trinidad room. We will pack up at that time.**



Pictures of Recent Events

(Special thanks to Buddy Gee for providing pictures.)



Buddy Gee presents SFA plaque to widow Barbara Prieser.



Members of SFA Chapter XV pall bearers at the funeral Colonel Dale Prieser at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.



SFA Ch. XV Editor Mike Maloy (black shirt-center, in front of Mike's 1929 Model A Ford) with HEB Grocery employees who donated their time, food, and hard work to provide lunch for us on Vets Day.



SFA Ch. XV presenting the colors in front of the Texas Childrens choir at Ft. Sam Houston Natl. Cemetery on Veterans Day 2013. SFA Ch. XV made a significant donation to the Choir for them to make their trip to France to sing at the USA Cemetery in Normandy.



SFA Ch. XV members presenting the colors at the Veterans Day Ceremonies at Fort Sam Houston, Texas National Cemetery.



Chapter XV Members:

We will have close to 100 people attending the Chapter Christmas Banquet, on December 7th at the Tropicano Hotel. Over 20 hotel rooms have been reserved, and the hotel can only guarantee our special rate for the rooms until this coming Friday. There are only a couple of rooms left, so if you want a room please contact the hotel before Friday. The Hospitality Room will still be in the Trinidad Room, on the first floor, the same room as last year. However, because Fort Hood is conducting an Army Strong Bond Event for the spouses and soldiers who have just returned from Afghanistan on Friday and Saturday nights, at the same hotel, we have been requested to move our banquet to the Romeo & Juliet Room, on the 3rd Floor. This is the same room we used for the banquet two years ago. Because of their number of attendees, compared to ours, they need the larger room. Our chapter has always actively supported our active duty soldiers, and changing the banquet room is not a major issue. If it was any other organization, I would have put up a fight. We just have to take the elevator, near the hospitality room, to the 3 floor. Besides, the Mariachis will continue to entertain individuals waiting for an elevator on the first floor. Jack Tobin, President of the Special Forces Association, will be our keynote speaker at the banquet. Our special guest is Louis Armstrong, the WWII, 101st Airborne paratrooper who jumped into both Normandy and Bastogne, and fought during the Battle of the Bulge. More information about his phenomenal exploits at the banquet. As a reminder, the banquet is a coat-and-tie affair. Some will be in tuxes, others will be in uniform, and some in business suits. Personally, I will be in my green association jacket with tie. After the banquet, ties and jackets can come off and the dancing begins!

For those personnel that have banquet tickets on reserve, please pay for these tickets prior to 1815 hrs, in the Hospitality Room. Both Bob Walker and Mario Guerra will be on hand to accept payment. Either check, cash or credit card. Several soldiers and their spouses from 19th SFA will be joining us again this year, after the banquet, for dancing and festivities in the Hospitality Room.

The hotel has given me until next Monday to give them a final count on meals for the banquet. If you want to attend and do not have tickets on reserve, please call me ASAP, 210-854-4131. Throughout my entire military career, I believed in the philosophy of "work hard and play hard". This chapter has "worked hard" all year long, and now it is time to "play hard". That is exactly what this event is about. There is no doubt that a good time will be had by all! Please come to enjoy yourself and have fun with your family and love ones!

Happy Thanksgiving,

**Chuck Rose
President
SAF Chapter XV
210-854-4131**

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



Drop Zone Cafe & Bar

Hope & Ed Fernandez

Breakfast Tacos,
Lunch Specials,
and Iced Cold Beer

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Fernandez
"Helping Others Today for Their Tomorrows"



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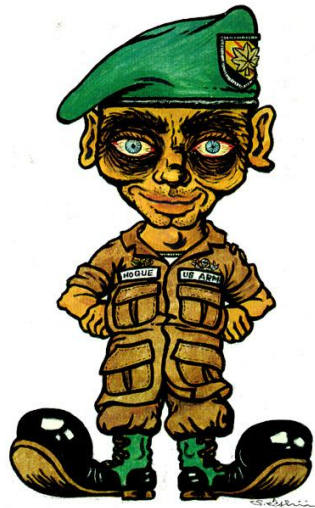
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SERGRANT MAJOR (U.S. ARMY)



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, or mail them to Chapter President Chuck Rose at SFA Chapter XV, P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio, TX 78265.



"Carry on!"

