



GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

The Alamo Chapter

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

Issue # 09-18

September 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
Motorcycle Challenge: Gordon Lee
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



September 6 — Board meeting

1400 - VFW Post 8541, 2222 Austin Highway

September 8 — Membership Meeting

1200 - Lunch served (chicken enchiladas)

1300 – Business Meeting

October 16 — Chapter Fundraiser at Dick's Last Resort



DON'T FORGET



- Our September meeting will NOT be the first Saturday, due to Labor Day Holiday. See you on the 8th!
- Scholarship applications are now being accepted by the Scholarship Selection Committee. Details on Page 10.
- Get your tickets for Dick's Last Resort fundraiser Oct. 16. Only \$30 per person. See Page 8.
- Tickets for the Christmas Banquet will be on sale at membership meetings for \$55 per person.
- [Deadline to sign up](#) for the 2nd annual Chapter Cruise has been extended to Sept. 4. See Page 4

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Sends:

I hope everyone had a great month and are doing well. Our Board meeting is set for 6 September at 1400 hrs. Our membership meeting will be on Saturday 8 September with lunch being served at noon and the meeting starting at 1300 hrs. I hope to see you all there.

Thanks to our members making the SOD-A feel at home and part of the family, we picked up close to 20 new members/associate **members**. I will be working with Buddy and Marti over the next couple of weeks to get them squared away and to bring them into the fold. They are wheels-up in a week, off to fight the good war. Keep them in your prayers for a safe journey and a safe trip home.

Our Dick's Last Resort fundraiser is on, thanks to the hard work of Fred and the staff. Dick's Last Resort is set for Tuesday 16 October. It will be at their new location which has street-level access. Start getting things ready for the silent auction and for a great evening. If you have things for the silent auction, please bring them over the next two meetings. I am sure Fred will brief more at our meeting.

Christmas banquet tickets are still on sale. I have sold 30 as of today and 20 are being donated to the SOD-A and the SF companies out at Bullis. It will be a great time with

great music by Rick Salinas.

The VFW is undergoing some changes. When you go by there you will see the new sign on the front of the building. Inside there will be a large HD TV with surround sound. where we have our meetings. We will have the ability to put programs on the TV and Buddy will be able to brief our 2019 budget in style.



I want to invite everyone for 15 September at the VFW. It is Wayne's famous fish fry and the great music of Rick Salinas. It will be a great opportunity to tip some cold ones together outside of the meeting weekend. Hope to see you all support the VFW, as you always have.

AR is back home and doing well. I did not give out her number or information as per her request.

Until our meeting, be safe and enjoy the HEAT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

William Smith
Chapter XV President
presidentchapterxv@gmail.com

\$\$\$ DOLLARS AND CENTS

Treasurer's Report, August 2018

Income and expenses were both up significantly for this reporting period. We tip our berets to those who stepped up with donations to outfit the Chapter's new cargo trailer. At the August meeting, Mike Pagel made a plea for funding and raised \$1,700 in five minutes!!! Thank you very much to all who donated: **David Benavidez, Vito Cellini, Ramiro Daniel, Alex Flores, Buddy Gee, Richard Harvey, Bill Martin, Bill Neuiszer, Chuck Rose, Ben and Marsha Scott, Irene Sloan, Bill Smith and Bob Walker.** (Please let me know if I missed anybody. That was fast!)

We also received donations from **John Rodden** and **Ramiro Daniel** who have a standing monthly bank transfer. Congratulations to **Mike O'Neill** who is now a life member.

Easy come, easy go. Mike Pagel purchased decals for the trailer (see photos elsewhere in this newsletter) to the tune of \$1,500. Other expenses this month included \$550 in charitable donations to the Blue Knights' back to school campaign and the Boys and Girls Club of San Antonio.

Mike is still accepting donations to finish out the new cargo trailer and to overhaul the War Wagon. And he has set up a [GoFundMe](#) account where we all can help push those donations along.

Budget Committee will meet at 12:30 before the board meeting on Sept. 6 to plan for 2019.

Buddy Gee
Chapter XV Treasurer
sgmgee@aol.com

Minutes of August Meeting

SFA CHAPTER XV MEETING MINUTES

Chapter Meeting Date: 04 August 2018

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

William Smith welcomed new members/associate members and guests to the Chapter:

CDR of Blue Knights Ron Davidson (thanked us for school drive donation)

Antun Tonci Baranovic (Yugoslavian pilot in WWII & friend of **Vito Cellini**)

Chaplain Steve Walsh

John Dominguez (from Washington)

Dave & Rhonda Marshall (recently married)

Pat Meffert and son **Richard**

Chris & Susan Marshall (recently retired)

Ramiro Daniel, Donna, TX

Mike O'Neill

Members Sick or In Distress:

AR (moved to rehab facility, recovering from hernia surgery)

Gay Meyer (back home from hospital)

OLD BUSINESS:

a. **Budget & Treasurer's Report:** **Buddy Gee** presented the monthly and annual budget reports and they were accepted as read. **Budget Committee**

formed which includes: **Buddy Gee, Mike Pagel, Raul de la Garza, and Juan Lopez.**

- b. **Membership report:** **Marti Scott** stated that we currently have 197 members. **Michael O'Neill** is now a lifetime member. **57 members** were present at today's meeting.
- c. **Minutes Approval:** Minutes were accepted as read.
- d. **Veterans Affairs:** **JR Garza** was not present.
- e. **Dick's Last Resort:** **Fred Solis**, 14th annual fundraiser, \$30.00 at the door. Date TBD.
- f. **Cruise:** **Karen Hermann**, will take place from 28 April -5 May 2019.
- g. **Fiesta Medals:** **Gordon Lee**, currently working on 6 designs for fundraiser medals.
- h. **SF Trailer:** **Mike Pagel**, accepting donations for outside stickers, interior lighting/cabinets..
- i. **Christmas Banquet:** Set for Saturday, 8 December, 2018 at El Tropicano Hotel.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Scholarship:** **Pat Connolly**, (2) 2K scholarships will be available.
- b. **VFW Events:** **Rick Salinas** will be playing tonight.
- c. **Canyon Lake SOD-A:** Water jump and picnic went well with no issues.
- d. **Presentation on Fundraiser Dinner**
- e. **Open Discussion:** CH XV door prize drawing was conducted by **Raul De La Garza. Ed Campos** thanked for preparing lunch.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Juan A. Lopez, D-8306
SFA Chapter XV Vice President



Left photo: Edgar Morales and Johnnie Terrazas take a break during August meeting. Center: Karen Hermann signs up another customer (Merrell Hall) for next year's Caribbean Cruise. Right: Vito Cellini signs a copy of his newly published biography, "Cellini: Freedom Fighter," for Gordon Lee.

2nd ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CRUISE



Editor's Note:
Karen says these rates cannot be guaranteed after Sept. 4.



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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\$825	\$925	\$1135	On Request

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

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12/2017

UPDATE ON OUR NEW TRAILER

By MIKE PAGEL



By now most of you know we have been working to customize our new 16-foot Interstate trailer, purchased 100% through donations. We also raised \$1,700 in donations at last month's meeting. After a little bit of work, negotiating and coordinating from San Antonio to Fayetteville, N.C., we have our emblems.

This final design was distilled down from other versions developed from Chapter member input. The goal was to convey an original (-ish) message: one that attempts to represent every Chapter member equally. The USSOCOM emblem was included on the sides, along with all the Group flashes, to give a level of representation to our current and future associate members, who served proudly throughout the USSOCOM.

The emblems have not been placed on the trailer yet. These pictures are a computer rendition of what the trailer will look like once they are placed. They were purchased 21 August, printed, then packed and shipped here from Fayetteville. We will coordinate with Brent Davis, who has volunteered his professional experience to apply our emblems and vinyl wraps.

The emblems cost \$1,500. The work was completed "over \$100 under cost" by one of our SFA Brothers in Fayetteville, **Dean Holzinger**, the President of "**Kings Signs**," with help from Pat Meffert to grease the skids for us prior to making contact. Dean took the initial design on scratch paper and made it a professional product. Thank you, Dean!

One new item on this design is our new "GoFundMe" account. We now have an ongoing GoFundMe account: www.gofundme.com/SpecialForcesChapter15. We need folks to advertise this site with your friends and associates, on your websites, and whatever social media will allow. The more GoFundMe visits we get, the more donations we can potentially receive to help support the work we do to assist our members and the community.

The next step is to continue improving the interior. We are going to install a rubber floor, which was donated by Raul de la Garza. We will also add more lights to the interior and exterior. Other items to include, but are not limited to: A nice stereo system, a generator—including wiring the trailer for it, an awning to extend out along the side of the trailer, etc., etc.



Finalizing the trailer will take more donations. If you would like to donate, or know of a company that wants to donate, we are offering 5"x25" emblems for donations between \$750-\$1000, and 10"x25" emblems for those who donate over \$1,000. These emblems are upon request only and will be placed on the lower front right of the trailer and remain there until the Chapter votes to remove them.

The trailer will be a platform that represents our Chapter to the public, and what we operate from, wherever we take it. It's going to be a great trailer and we hope it will represent us well. Thank you all for the assistance, support, and donations! More updates to follow soon.

Finally, the "War Wagon" upgrades have been on hold for this project, but we will surely get to and "Make It Great Again."

"De Oppresso Liber"





**TAKE PRIDE
IN WHAT YOU DO**

**NO MATTER THE
*uniform***

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www.ttuhsc.edu/nursing/undergraduate/vbsn



Chapter XV Member News



Sgt. Maj. (ret) Chris Marshall, at center of photo, with wife Susan and a few of his friends. Chapter members got together to help Chris celebrate his retirement from the Army after a 25-year career. The party was held at VFW Post 8541.



Eat, drink, laugh!

The date for Chapter XV's 14th annual fundraiser at Dick's Last Resort has been set for 16 October, 2018. Tickets will be \$30 each for a great evening of food, drink, music and fun at Dick's new location on the River Walk, 223 Losoya St.

President Bill Smith and event Chairman Fred Solis met recently with Dick's new management team to confirm the details: Ticket includes all-you-can-eat food buffet and well drinks for three hours, 6 to 9 p.m., with all proceeds going to the Chapter.

Please collect quality items for the silent auction, which is a big part of the evening. Many thanks to Dick's corporate office and local staff for their continuing support.



"Shirt master" John Tippy models the type of shirt he's recommending as a more comfortable summer dress uniform for Chapter members to wear at official events.

Chapter XV Member News



WHAT A BIRTHDAY! It was Vito Cellini's 95th birthday and his old friend and fellow warrior from World War II, Antun Baranovic, made the trip from Croatia to help celebrate. Above left, Antun confers with Vito while his son Pjero and daughter-in-law Nives look on. At right,

Vito opens one of his favorite birthday gifts — a bottle of grappa. Below, he poses with Antun and fellow Chapter XV members during the party, which featured Texas BBQ, live country music and dancing. The Croations loved it!



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:

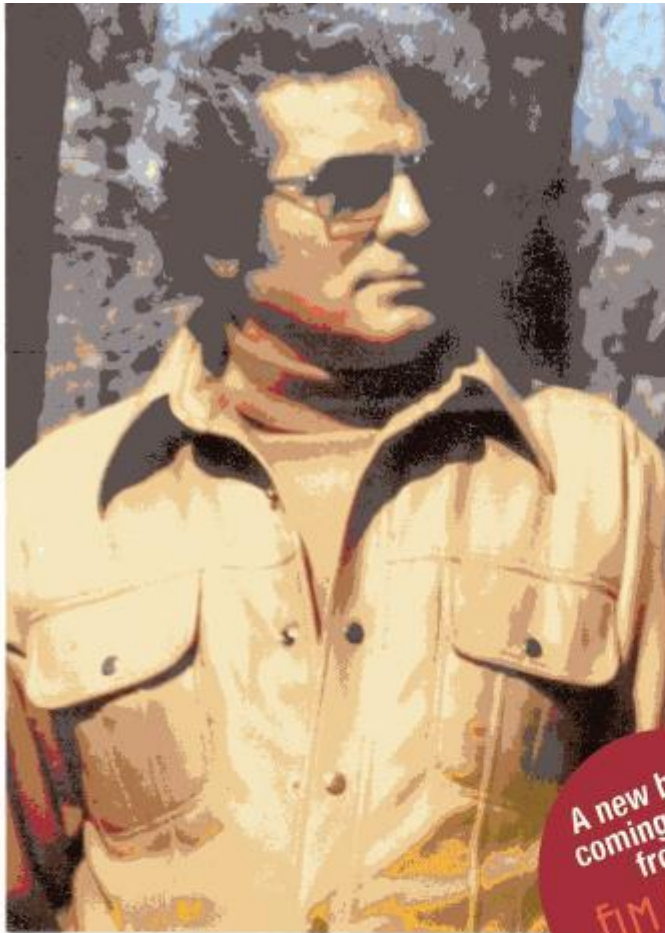
1. Applicant must be a SFA member or legal dependent or grandchild of a Chapter member in good standing.
2. A high school student anticipating graduation during the school year of application.
3. Grant must be used to attend an accredited college, university or vocational institution.
4. Eligible applicants 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



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

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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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On Forgiveness

By Fr Steve Rindahl

I have often been asked about forgiveness. Primarily in the question of, "With all of the things I have done, can God ever forgive me?"

The reality is that no matter how righteous a war, no matter how pure the intentions, no matter how closely the ROE were followed, war is a sustained time of doing what is typically not allowed in "civilized society." It is a time of doing what we grew up understanding to be "wrong" – that is to intentionally hurt or worse another person. And, quite simply, it goes against our God given design. As a result of these facts, combat has a profound effect on a person's emotional and spiritual health.

When the war is over (or at least over for any particular Soldier) and there is time to reflect on what was done (or failed to be done) a large number of veterans begin to reflect on and second-guess what they did while in combat. Some develop PTSD, some develop "moral injury" (which is the clinical term for guilt these days), and others simply have a sense of general unease. Did I really

do the right thing? What if I was in the wrong? Can I be forgiven?

When faced with these types of questions from Soldiers, I turn to the wisdom of those who dedicated themselves with fighting Satan on his home territory – the Desert Monastics. Their advice on difficult matters has been preserved for almost 2,000 years and is as valuable today as when they first gave it.

An elder was asked by a certain Soldier if God would forgive a sinner. And he said to him: Tell me, beloved, if your cloak is torn, will you throw it away? The Soldier replied and said: No, I will mend it and put it back on. The elder said to him: If you take care of your cloak, will God not be merciful to His own image?

~The Wisdom of the Desert~

Pax et Bonum,
Fr Steve
CH (MAJ-Ret) Steven G Rindahl, DMin
A-663 (Life)



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F Y I ...

Ch. XV Fiesta Medals Coming Up

Fiesta is a great Springtime event for San Antonio. Every year the festivities are fun, the food is classic and the libations plentiful. Then there are the collectible medals that are cherished by many. The more the better.

This year SF Chapter XV will kick off our first Fiesta Medal offering for the event. The design is almost finalized and ready to send to the maker. Every year will be a different medal design representing our Chapter, and of course the date will be an integral part of the design to make it more collectible.

This will be one of our Chapter fundraisers, so we look forward to everyone participating in the sale of these unique mementos. Pricing will be established soon. Anyone that has contacts that might assist in the sale or distribution of our medals please share the information. Call me at 210-602-2067 or email gordonlee@att.net. Lets make this a fun and successful event.

—Gordon Lee, “Medal Master”

SFA National to Charleston, WV

Chapter 68 is pleased to announced that we will be hosting the 2019 SFA International Convention from 13-18 August, 2019 in Charleston, W.V. Due to a late start, we are currently working on the details and will provide more clarity in the weeks and months to come.

We should have hotel contract in place by 15 September and will provide the reservation codes for the host hotels. Please hold off on any reservations until we identify the hotels and have the contract in place.

Please consider the following:

- Would Chapters be interested in sponsoring a Gold Star Family member to attend the convention? (Cover cost of hotel and reduced registration fee)
- Looking to conduct a Pistol Shoot. Does anyone have contacts with gun manufacturers that would provide pistols/shotguns and ammo at reduced rate or free of charge?
- Looking at an Aircraft Fly-in and Equipment Display on Saturday. Would members/spouses be interested in a short C-130 flight?

—Kevin Harry, President, Chapter 68

Whiskey and Wishes Heroes Gala happening 21 September



WISH for OUR HEROES (W4OH) will host the fifth annual Whiskey & Wishes Heroes Gala at Pedrotti’s North Wind Ranch on 21 September, 2018. The Gala raises funds to assist local military families struggling with hardship situations (food, shelter, transportation, child needs, medical expenses, and other basic needs).

WHO: Join George Hill, Matt Bonner, local military heroes, local celebrities and WISH for OUR HEROES.

WHAT: An evening of food, drink, fun, and most importantly, wishes granted for deserving military families in and around San Antonio. 100% of funds raised will assist local military families struggling with basic needs.

TICKETS for active duty military are \$25 each or \$40 per couple. Standard tickets are \$150 each or \$250 per couple. To purchase tickets, visit:

<https://www.whiskeyandwishes.org/tickets>

— Jeff Wells, President and Founder, W4OH

Chapter XV bids a fond farewell to Jeff and Monica Dahlby.

They’ve relocated to Florida for a new job and new opportunities. Godspeed!

Johnnie A. Terrazas, PE
Chief Engineer-CEO

32310 Flat Rock View
Bulverde, Texas 78163

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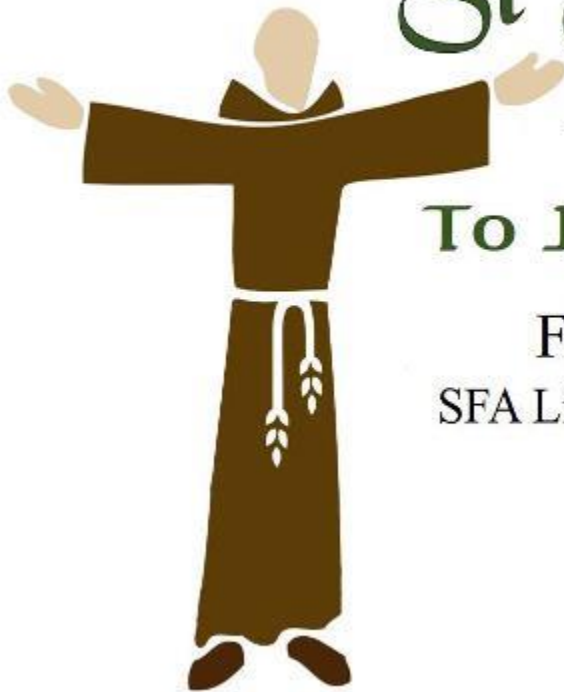


7/7/18



New Riverwalk location at 223 Losoya St .

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

Pax et Bonum
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8/4/18

GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV 2018 CALENDAR

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JANUARY</u></p> <p>4 Board Meeting 1400 6 Membership Meeting 1100</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FEBRUARY</u></p> <p>1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 1100 15 Drop Input Due</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MARCH</u></p> <p>1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 1100 9-11 Cotulla Wild Hog Cookoff</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><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 style="text-align: center;"><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 style="text-align: center;"><u>JUNE</u></p> <p>2 Membership Meeting 1100 12-16 National SFA Conference TBD JROTC Presentations</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><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 style="text-align: center;"><u>AUGUST</u></p> <p>2 Board Meeting 1400 4 Membership Meeting 1300 15 Drop Input Due</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SEPTEMBER</u></p> <p>6 Budget Committee meeting 1230 6 Board Meeting 1400 8 Membership Meeting 1300 Scholarship Applications</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OCTOBER</u></p> <p>4 Board Meeting 1400 6 Membership Meeting 1300 TBD Motorcycle Ride</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> <p>1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 1300 9 Budget Approval 11 Veterans Day Cerem 1000 15 Drop Input Due 28 Scholarship Results</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><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

- 19-22 SEPT 2018 57th annual Fifth Group Reunion
Country Inn & Suites, Clarksville, TN
(931) 645-1400 or cx_clrk@countryinns.com
- 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.
POC Kevin Harry, divemedic@yahoo.com.

Thanks to Mike Pagel and Chris Marshall 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!"