



# GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

## The Alamo Chapter

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

Issue # 11-18

November 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](http://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



### November 1 — Board meeting

1400 - VFW Post 8541, 2222 Austin Highway

### November 3 — Membership Meeting

1200 - Lunch served (BBQ, etc.)

1300 – Business Meeting

### November 11 — Veterans Day

1000 — Ceremony at FSH National Cemetery

### DECEMBER 8 — CHAPTER CHRISTMAS BANQUET



## DON'T FORGET



- Scholarship applications are due by Nov. 15. Details on Page 12.
- Annual dues are now due. See rates and application on Page 13.
- Tickets for the Christmas Banquet will be on sale at the membership meeting.
- Details on Page 9.
- Flag bearers are needed for Veterans Day ceremony at Fort Sam Houston Cemetery. Contact Raul de la Garza to volunteer.
- Nov. 4 is the last day of Daylight Savings Time.
- Vote Nov. 6.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

### President Sends:

I hope everyone had a great month and are doing well. Our Board meeting is set for 1 November at 1400 hrs. Our membership meeting will be on Saturday 3 November, with lunch being served at noon and the meeting starting at 1300 hrs. There is a fundraiser for one of our VFW member's granddaughters the Saturday of our meeting. Our lunch will be the plates to support the member and their family. I hope to see you all there.

Christmas banquet tickets are still on sale. I have sold many of the tickets and there are still some remaining. It will be a great time with great music by Rick Salinas. Please see me during the meeting if you still need to purchase more. Also, let me know if there is a group of yours and if you need to reserve an entire table.

Our Dick's Last Resort went well, and we should have some numbers in time for the meeting. I want to thank Fred for all the hard work with the coordination and setting up our 14<sup>th</sup> event. I also want to thank all who donated the silent auction items as they all went quickly. A special thanks to Edgar and Bobby for pre-selling many tickets and supporting the event.

As you all have seen, the trailer is looking awesome. Much

thanks to Mike, "The Trailer Master," for all his effort and hard work. The trailer will see many more improvements here soon. I know we all look forward to its maiden voyage.

Speaking of voyage, there are still tickets and time to book your spot on the Chapter's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual cruise next spring. If you wish to reserve a cabin and enjoy a great event, please reach out to Karen.

The Fiesta medals are in and Gordon did an outstanding job designing them. If we all work together to sell the medals, it will be a great fundraiser for the Chapter. It looks like this may become an annual event for us.

Until our meeting please be safe and enjoy your families.

William Smith  
Chapter XV President  
[presidentchapterxv@gmail.com](mailto:presidentchapterxv@gmail.com)



## \$\$\$ DOLLARS AND CENTS

### Treasurer's Report, October 2018

I'm glad to say the Chapter's annual fundraiser at Dick's Last Resort was a big success, both financially and fun-wise. Full report at the next meeting.

This month Assistant Treasurer Mike Pagel established a Chapter "Go Fund Me" account and President Bill Smith set up a Facebook Fundraising Page, and both were a boost to the Chapter's net worth. We send a big "Thank You" to Angie Canales for her generous donation and to John Rodden and Ramiro Daniel for their automatic monthly donations. Raul raised an additional \$126 for the door prize drawing.

Expenses for the month were about \$1,000, covering the cost of the P.O. Box renewal, postage

stamps, meeting meals and a plaque and gratuity for Dick's fundraiser. A check was also written to Aym Depot to cover production of the the Fiesta medals.

The budget committee will hold its final meeting at noon Thursday, November 1, at VFW Post 8541. The proposed 2019 budget will be presented to the membership for discussion and a vote at the November meeting.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Buddy Gee  
Chapter XV Treasurer  
[sgmgee@aol.com](mailto:sgmgee@aol.com)



# Minutes of October Meeting

## Chapter Meeting Date: 06 October 2018

The meeting was called to order by President William Smith at 1307 hrs. This was followed by the pledge of allegiance and the invocation. A moment of silence for fallen comrades and POW's was held.

President Smith welcomed new members and guests to the Chapter:

AR is out of rehab and is home.

JR Garza is recovering from foot surgery.

Henry Marque and his family who are visiting.

Welcome back Sergio Vasquez, Joe Cavallero and Bill Francisco.

### OLD BUSINESS:

a. Budget and Treasurer's Report: Buddy Gee presented the monthly budget report and it was accepted as read. The budget committee will brief the proposed new budget at the November meeting.

b. The president stated that we presently have 198 members with 30-some applications pending. These were the result of the recruiting effort at the Canyon Lake event. 40 members attended the meeting.

c. 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.

e. Cruise: Karen Hermann said the cruise is

from 28 Apr until 5 May 2019 and we have 48 people signed up. Registration will be extended for a couple of weeks. Any questions contact Karen.

f. SF Trailer: Mike Pagel has all the decals on and the universal hitch installed.

g. Christmas Banquet is set for Saturday 8 December at the El Tropicano Hotel and there are a few tickets left. Tickets are \$55 and Rick Salinas will be the entertainment.

h. Fiesta Medals: Gordon Lee stated that 1,000 medals are in production with the option to order more if needed. Medals should be available at our November meeting.

### 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. The President said that, "several hunts are coming up" and if interested to contact him.

c. Open Discussion: CH XV door prize drawing was conducted by Raul de la Garza.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

Respectfully submitted,  
JW Martin, D2041L A  
Chapter XV Secretary



Left: Henry Marque and Art Medina get acquainted at October meeting. Center: Mike Pagel describes outfitting the new cargo trailer during September's rainy days. Right, Mary Colantoni was glad to be back after recuperating from a foot injury.



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12/2017

# DICK'S LAST RESORT FUNDRAISER

October 16, 2018



## We ate, we drank, we laughed.

Yes, it was a crazy evening as usual at our 14th annual fundraising bash at Dick's Last Resort on the Riverwalk. This time, we were upstairs at Dick's new location at 223 Losoya St. Delicious buffet, silent auction and plenty of adult beverages brought in a crowd of about 80 party-goers. The event helps fund Chapter XV's local charitable projects.

In left photo, President Bill Smith presents a plaque of appreciation to managers at Dick's. Above, Vice President Juan Lopez and Kim Phillips toast grouchy Dick himself. Below in silly hats are Delia Popoy and friends; and hard-working ticket takers Barry and Iris Archer and Bob Walker.



## Dick's Last Resort (cont.)



Revelers included (clockwise from top left) Raul de la Garza & David Benavides; Mike Pagel; Mike and Laura Brown; Buddy Gee & Gen. Fred Valenzuela, Levi Rodgers with son Owen and friends Michael Trujillo & Pedro Solis; Mario Guerra & Joe Cavallero.

# Dick's Last Resort (cont.)

Despite nasty weather, the gang was all here! Thanks to Kim Phillips for the great party pictures!



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11/19

**Johnnie A. Terrazas, PE**  
Chief Engineer-CEO

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9/19

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# Chapter News



## Fiesta Medals are ready!

“Medal Master” Gordon Lee has received the new Chapter Fiesta medals and will have them available at the November meeting. The distinctive medal is designed to resemble a military dogtag and hangs from its ribbon on a chain. The tag is engraved with a beret and dagger and the words:

**Green Beret Chapter XV  
Special Forces Association  
Fiesta 2019  
San Antonio, Texas**

These medals should be a popular Fiesta souvenir (\$10 each) and a good fund-raiser for the Chapter. Thanks, Gordon!



## Good news from friends at Bjorn's

“Trailer Master” Mike Pagel has been in touch with the good folks at Bjorn's, who are helping outfit the new cargo trailer by donating a TV and sound system. They are currently studying the trailer's interior dimensions and plan to match it up with a

large-screen TV, sound bar and mounts. Thanks to Mike, Bill Francisco (who introduced Mike to the Bjorn's folks) and especially the experts at Bjorn's, a San Antonio landmark company that “connects your life” with the best in audio and video technology.



## Volunteers needed for Veterans Day

Raul de la Garza needs at least 5 volunteers for the Veterans Day ceremony at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery on Nov 11. Chapter

XV traditionally presents the armed service flags during this event, and everyone is encouraged to attend. Ceremony begins at 10 am, but members should arrive at 9:30. Dress is blazer and beret. See Raul to volunteer as a flag bearer.

## Christmas Banquet

Some tickets are still available for the Chapter Christmas Banquet, set for Dec. 8 at El Tropicano Hotel. The \$55 ticket includes afternoon hospitality (bar and snacks,) dinner banquet, after-dinner party with live music and dancing. Contact Bill Smith for tickets, and let him know if you want to reserve a table for your group.



## Special rate for SFA

Rooms at El Tropicano Hotel are available at a special rate of \$109 per night for the weekend of the 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](#)

**NOTE:** Our friends at Blue Knights Motorcycle Club are planning their annual Christmas Toy Run for Dec. 8. The ride starts with breakfast tacos at VFW Post 837, 4436 Valleyfield St., and costs \$25 per motorcycle, including passengers.

Registration 8 to 11 a.m.; kickstands up at 11. There will be a police-escorted procession/ parade to the Mission Road Development Center, which receives all proceeds. The run is co-sponsored by VFW Posts 837 and 8541.

# 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

LIMITED NUMBER OF CABINS AVAILABLE AT THESE PRICES

Interior from	*Oceanview from	Balcony from	Suite from
<b>\$825</b>	<b>\$925</b>	<b>\$1135</b>	<b>On Request</b>

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**

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## For holidays, share good fortune

**A**s we enter into the holiday season I would like to share something about how God judges people. Hold on – it is not as bad as you might guess from that introduction. Most people consider the judgment of God to be related to those things a person does wrong. While the following is certainly not a permission slip to do anything and everything you want regardless of morals – it is an important message about God's real judgment.

In the Gospel according to Matthew, Jesus makes clear that He shall bless those who help the suffering saying, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world... the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and

welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'" On the other hand, those who fail to help the suffering will endure the penalty for their indifference.

**H**olidays in all of the different faiths represented in the United States, as well as our secular holidays such as Thanksgiving, will fill the next few months. So, no matter which ones you observe, this is a time to celebrate. Please take time to share the joy with someone less fortunate than yourself.

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

## Encouraging results for 1st Warriors on the Way

By Steve Rindahl

**S**pend the last 2 weeks of September walking 180 miles across the north of Spain – in the beautiful mountains of Galicia – on the Camino de Santiago in 12 days and you just may be one of the Warriors on the Way 2018. We had a group size of 7, which included myself and a long-time colleague who is a clinical psychologist specializing in personal resiliency in the military. The other 5 were all combat veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. One is currently serving with 3<sup>rd</sup> Group. One spent a significant portion of his career in SOCOM. Two had been in the 12<sup>th</sup> Group prior to its deactivation and then went on to serve in PSYOPS. The fifth was a Navy Corpsman who spent his deployments on the ground with the Marines.

The purpose of the Warriors on the Way Pilgrimage (501c3) is to help combat veterans reduce their experience of symptoms of PTSD and Moral Injury. Each vet on the pilgrimage said that they were feeling better and happy to have been able to go. More importantly, the actual PTSD Assessments that were done before, during, and after indicate significant results. The "worst" a person can score on the assessment is an 80. The best a person can score is a 0. The combined scores were 186 before and 57 upon return. Average that across the 5 pilgrims and you have a 37.2 before and 11.4 after. That drop represents roughly a 70% decrease



in the experience of symptoms! All of this was made possible through generous donations from people all across the country.

**T**he next step is to grow the program so more vets can benefit. Applications are being taken for Warriors on the Way 2019. Fundraising, of course, has also begun. If you know of any vets who could benefit from the pilgrimage, please put them in touch with me. If you or your company is looking for a veteran-focused charitable giving opportunity – also get in touch with me.

Warriors on the Way  
PO Box 306  
Cibolo, TX 78108

[WarriorsOnTheWay@gmail.com](mailto:WarriorsOnTheWay@gmail.com)

# 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**

**Chapter XV**  
**Special Forces Association**  
**PO Box 33782**  
**San Antonio, TX**  
**78265-3782**

**Membership Renewal Form**  
**(Not for use by new members)**

**Dues pay period is from 1 October through 31 January. Any annual members who have not paid their dues by the grace period will be placed in an Inactive roster and will be removed from the mailing list.**

I. \_\_\_\_\_ (Print Last Name, First Name, MI) \_\_\_\_\_ (Membership Number) hereby apply for renewal of my membership in Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ of the Special Forces Association and submit the following information:

**CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING BOXES:**

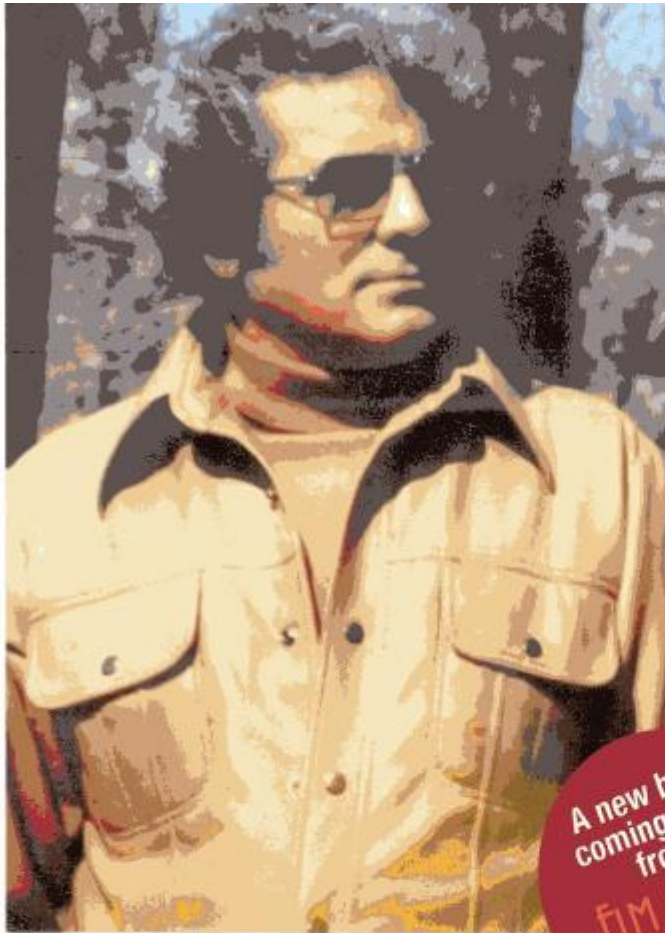
- Annual Dues.** Enclosed is a check or money order for **\$40.00** for a one-year renewal of my membership. Note: Annual renewal is \$40.00 if paid before 30 January of each year.
- Reinstatement.** Enclosed is a check or money order for **\$45.00**, which includes a \$5.00 reinstatement fee along with the \$40.00 annual renewal fee. Note: annual renewals are \$45.00 after 30 January of each year.
- Life Membership.** Enclosed is a check or money order **\$440.00** for a lifetime membership. The \$440.00 fee applies to members in good standing only.
- Reinstatement & Life Membership.** Enclosed is a check or money order **\$475.00** for reinstatement and lifetime membership of which \$440.00 is the life membership fee, \$30.00 is for annual dues and \$5.00 is for reinstatement.
- Life Membership (65 and over). Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_.** Enclosed is a check or money order for **\$320.00** for a lifetime membership. The \$320.00 fee applies to members in good standing only.
- Reinstatement & Life Membership (65 and over). Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_.** Enclosed is a check or money order for **\$345.00** for reinstatement and a lifetime membership of which \$320.00 is the life membership fee, \$20.00 is for annual dues and \$5.00 is for reinstatement

Current mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address City State Zip + 4

Home Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work Telephone :(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Retired Rank/Rank at Separation: \_\_\_\_\_



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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7/7/18



New Riverwalk location at 223 Losoya St .

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8/4/18

# GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV 2018 CALENDAR

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>JANUARY</u></b></p> <p>4 Board Meeting 1400 6 Membership Meeting 1100</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>FEBRUARY</u></b></p> <p>1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 1100 15 Drop Input Due</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>MARCH</u></b></p> <p>1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 1100 9-11 Cotulla Wild Hog Cookoff</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>APRIL</u></b></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;"><b><u>MAY</u></b></p> <p>3 Board Meeting 1400 <b>NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING</b> 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;"><b><u>JUNE</u></b></p> <p>2 Membership Meeting 1100 12-16 National SFA Conference TBD JROTC Presentations</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>JULY</u></b></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;"><b><u>AUGUST</u></b></p> <p>2 Board Meeting 1400 4 Membership Meeting 1300 15 Drop Input Due</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SEPTEMBER</u></b></p> <p>6 Budget Committee meeting 1230 6 Board Meeting 1400 8 Membership Meeting 1300 Scholarship Applications</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>OCTOBER</u></b></p> <p>4 Board Meeting 1400 6 Membership Meeting 1300</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>NOVEMBER</u></b></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 style="text-align: center;"><b><u>DECEMBER</u></b></p> <p>6 Board Meeting 1400 8 Christmas Banquet 2018  <b>NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING</b></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**

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**President: William E. Smith**

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## Calendar of Significant Special Forces Events

13-18 AUG 2019 SFA International Convention, Charleston, WV.  
Charleston Marriott Town Center  
POC Kevin Harry, [divemedic@yahoo.com](mailto:divemedic@yahoo.com).

**Thanks to Kim Phillips and Steve Rindahl 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](mailto: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!”**