



GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

The Alamo Chapter

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

Issue # 05 -18

May 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: Buddy Gee
VGSA Rep: Raul de la Garza
Chaplains: R. Johnson & S. Rindahl

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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

May 3 — Board Meeting

1400 - VFW Post 8541, 2222 Austin Highway

May 4 — Deadline for Canyon Lake trailers

NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING

May 18-20 — Canyon Lake Picnic

May 28 — Memorial Day Ceremony 0930

Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery

May 31 — June Board Meeting



DON'T FORGET



CRUISE NEWS:

It was a blast! See pages 10-11 for a few pictures from the Chapter fundraising cruise. More to come in a

special newsletter supplement that will be sent via separate email.

Funeral for MIA Maj. Donald Gene

“Butch” Carr will be held at the Fort Sam Houston Main Chapel at 0900 on Friday, May 11, with burial at the national cemetery. A reception at VFW Post 8541 will follow. Please RSVP.

Details on 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 3 May at 1400 hrs. There is no membership meeting for the month of May as we will have Canyon Lake Weekend on 18-20 May.

I want to thank everyone for the response to Tanya's mother's passing. Tanya's mom was 88 and was a very nice lady. She will be greatly missed.

The JROTC ceremonies are in full swing, and I want to thank everyone for helping John for the coordination with the schools. I presented the other night at Johnson High School and it was a very nice ceremony. There were over 18 National Awards presented. It was sad that only three individuals showed up to present for their respective organizations. **It is a good feeling to know our chapter makes every effort to present the award for the SFA.** It really does mean a lot for the school and the students. You all are doing great things.

We successfully completed our first chapter cruise. It was an amazing time and we can not thank **Karen Herman** enough for putting together such a great event. There were many memories made on the trip and we are already in the planning stage for our second cruise in late April of next year. **I left behind an expensive SF ring for a future scavenger hunt on the next cruise.** When it hit me that the ring went for a swim, I solicited the assistance of fellow swimmers. I especially want to thank Naked Steve for the extreme sacrifice and effort. I know there will be many pictures coming out soon and some embellished

stories. It was a great time!

Canyon Lake is the next big event. I believe there are still trailers left if you still need one. I hope we have a good turnout and look forward to having another great time as a chapter. I hope to see you there.

The VFW scholarships were awarded this past month. **I want to congratulate Barry Archer and Henry Jimenez. Their grandchildren were selected as the recipients for this year's VFW #8541 scholarship of \$2,000 each.** I am proud to say out of the five packets submitted, four of them were from family of our chapter members. I did not participate in the selection for obvious reasons. All packets were great, and I know it was a tough decision. I am moving towards increasing the scholarships for the VFW #8541 for this next school year.

June is the SFA Convention in El Paso. If you are planning to attend, you need to get online and book your room. It will be a good time and the chapter will continue the tradition of having fun and taking care of veterans.

Until the Board Meeting and Canyon Lake, I hope everyone stays safe and has a great month. My email is listed below if anyone wants to email me.

presidentchapterxv@gmail.com

William Smith
Chapter XV President



\$\$\$ DOLLARS AND CENTS

Treasurer's Report, April 2018

Income for the month (so far) was \$20, a donation from JR Garza for his business-card ad in the newsletter. However, we do anticipate a windfall from our fun fund-raising Caribbean Cruise.

A few members paid for Canyon Lake cabins, but that does not benefit the Chapter treasury.

Expenditures for April were \$525. We paid to renew our web page server, Sam's Club renewal and for the meeting meal. We also paid for Chapter Memorial Service flowers, shipping JROTC medals to the Valley, and flowers IMO Sac Van's funeral.

We welcome our newest member, Steve Wolverton and his lovely wife Linda Houston of Fayetteville, AR. Steve is still serving in the 20th SF Group and was recruited by Chris Marshall. Welcome y'all!

We also welcome David Holland, a life member who has transferred his membership to Chapter XV.

See you at the board meeting on 3 May and at Canyon Lake 18-20 May.

Buddy Gee
Chapter XV Treasurer
sgmgee@aol.com



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12/2017

Minutes of April Meeting

Chapter Meeting Date: 07 Apr 2018

The meeting was called to order by Vice President **Juan Lopez** at 1030 hrs. This was followed by the pledge of allegiance. JW Martin gave the invocation. A moment of silence for fallen comrades and POW's was held.

Juan Lopez welcomed new members/associate members and guests to the Chapter.

Members Sick or In Distress:

Iris Archer (doing better & recovering from surgery).

Pat Connolly had surgery; has recovered and was present.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Budget & Treasurer's Report: Buddy Gee** presented the monthly and annual budget reports and they were accepted as read.
- b. **March Minutes:** as published in the newsletter were accepted by the membership.
- c. **Membership report: Marti Scott** stated that we currently have 194 members
- d. **Veterans Affairs:** JR Garza stated the VA has expanded its ID Card to all Veterans to be used in the community. He also stated that new Medicare cards would be coming out with the SSN removed.
- e. **Dick's Last Resort** no report at this time.
- f. **Cruise: Karen Hermann**, will take place 15-22

April 2018.

- g. **Canyon Lake Picnic: Raul De La Garza**, will be held 18-20 May 2018. Cabins are \$110 per night. Need help in the form of pick-up trucks, bodies and cooks.
- h. **SFA National Convention:** Will be held in El Paso, TX 12-18 June 2018, at the Wyndham Hotel
- i. **Christmas Banquet:** Set for Saturday, 8 December, 2018 at El Tropicano Hotel. Room reservations are \$109/per night, banquet tickets go on sale in May for \$55 ea.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Volunteers** are needed for Memorial Day Ceremony at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery on 28 May. Members volunteer for Flag Detail.
- b. **JROTC Medal Presentation**, 4 dates are still open. Contact Juan Lopez to help.
- c. SOA Convention -19 Oct in Las Vegas.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Cotulla Hog Cook Off: meat was excellent and no meat was wasted.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

JW Martin, D2041L
SFA Chapter XV Secretary



HONORING OUR VIETNAM VETS: JR Garza (center) conducts an official pinning ceremony to recognize Vietnam War veterans 50 years after the war. The new lapel pin was awarded to a dozen members of Chapter XV during the April membership meeting. Pictured left to right are Bill Neuiszer, Fred Balderama, Pat Connolly, Ivan Davis, Mario Guerra, JW Martin, Buddy Gee, Jose Campos, Raul de la Garza and Henry Jimenez. David Benavidez (not shown) also received the pin.

Mark your calendar for these events

MIA FUNERAL & RECEPTION — May 11

Funeral for Maj. Donald Gene “Butch” Carr (CCS, MACV-SOG OP35, CCN) will take place at Fort Sam Houston’s Main Post Chapel at 0900 hours Friday, May 11. Interment will follow at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Special Forces Charitable Trust (SFCT) plans a reception following the ceremony at **VFW Post 8541**. If you plan to attend the reception, please email sgmgee@aol.com by 7 May so we can get a headcount.

On July 6, 1971, then Capt. Carr was flying in a North



American Rockwell Bronco (OV10-A) on a visual reconnaissance mission 15 miles inside Laos west of Ben Het. Carr was deputy commander of the MACV-SOG element at Nakhon Phanom, Thailand. He and the pilot, Air Force then 1st Lt. Daniel W. Thomas, were conducting an afternoon Forward Air Control (FAC) mission over the southern Steel Tiger region of Laos.

According to government records, the aircraft went missing after encountering bad weather. Teams on the ground near the target area heard an explosion, believed to be that of the aircraft, but a crash site was not located. Carr’s remains were located in 2014 and verified by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency in 2016.

Although he was a native of Indiana, his last known address was San Antonio and his family has chosen Fort Sam Houston as his final resting place.

Mike Taylor, who served three times with Carr and drove him to the airfield for his final mission, says he was “a soldier’s officer and leader, and most of all a warrior. In the field, he was a courageous commander who earned the Silver Star, led from the front and cared for his men. His family can be very proud of this great Special Forces soldier, as are all of us who served with him.”

CANYON LAKE WEEKEND — MAY 18-20

Remember May 4 is the deadline to reserve and pay for a trailer for the annual Canyon Lake Weekend and Jack Hogue Picnic. Price for a 3-bedroom trailer is \$110 per night, and this year the Recreation Area is requiring a two-

night stay on weekends. Contact Raul de la Garza for reservations (dragonrose_10602@yahoo.com; telephone (210) 907-5092. Payment may be made by check or cash to Raul or Buddy Gee.

You do NOT want to miss this annual weekend of SF camaraderie, great food and outdoor adventures. Bring your kids, your friends, even your dogs (a limited number of pet-friendly trailers are available.) Rumor has it there will be a poker game at the picnic this year.

For day trippers, the big barbecue and covered-dish picnic will be at noon Saturday, May 19, and a “gourmet surprise” is planned that evening. The event is held at the Joint Base SA Recreation Area at Canyon Lake, 698 Jacobs Creek Park Rd., about an hour’s drive from San Antonio.

Directions: Take I-35 north from San Antonio to Canyon Lake exit (Exit 191). Turn left on Farm Road 306, follow for 16 miles through Canyon City. Turn left onto Jacobs Creek Park Road (sign for Recreation Area). Go straight approximately 1/2 mile. Bring a side dish or dessert.

NATIONAL SFA CONFERENCE — JUNE 12-16

Conference co-chairman Bill Snider has emailed a “personal invitation” to everyone he knows encouraging them to attend the conference. Here’s part of what he says:

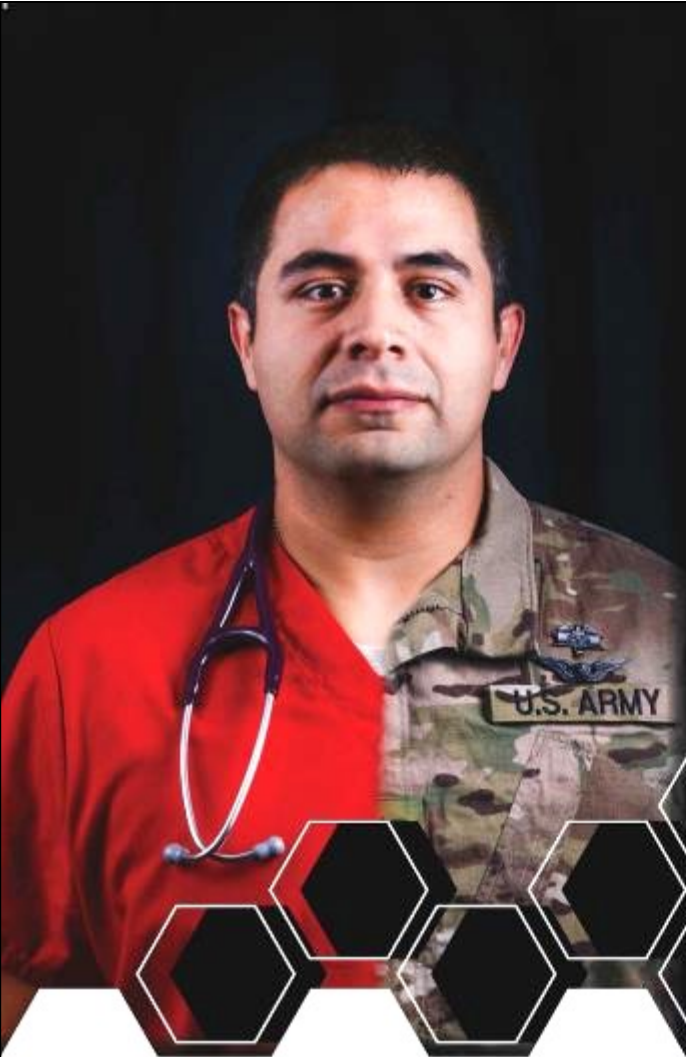


We are doing things differently and you will enjoy that fact. Unlike many conventions, El Paso plans to feed the attendees. In most cases there will be free breakfast . . . and every day of the Convention we have a major meal event. Full registration is only \$150 and the food alone is worth more than that!

In the movie, “The Two Jakes,” Jack Nicholson said, “I don’t want to live in the past ... I just don’t want to forget it.” That about sums up why we go to reunions and conventions, and why I am hopeful I get the chance to draw a beer with you. I truly hope to see you in June!

*Bill Snider – Co Chairman
SFA 2018 National Convention
El Paso, TX
Cell 915/667-9527*

See full agenda here: [SFA Convention](http://sfa2018elpaso.blogspot.com/)
<http://sfa2018elpaso.blogspot.com/>



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www.ttuhsc.edu/nursing/undergraduate/vbsn



CHAPTER XV MEMORIAL SERVICE



April 7, 2018



It was an unseasonably cold and windy day when Chapter XV members gathered at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery to remember those who have gone before. This year, the Memorial Service Detachment attended the ceremony to render formal honors.

In top photo, JW Martin and Juan Lopez salute the flag during National Anthem. At left, Lopez reads names of deceased chapter members while Mike Pagel rings the bell. Below, members prepare roses for distribution to graves while crowd gathers for the service.

—Photos by Henry Jimenez



Member News

Fred Solis, Birthday Boy

After the April meeting, Fred Solis treated everyone to lunch, birthday cake and live music on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Fred's wife Susan (at right) coordinated the celebration. At left, Fred cuts a rug with VFW patron. It was lotsa fun!



Mike Brown, Brewmaster

Mike Brown is getting into the brewery business. He and former ODA teammate David Holland will launch a beer and coffee house called Long Tab Brewing in Leon Valley, possibly as early as this summer.

"I'm looking forward to drinking some good beer with some SF brothers I haven't met yet," said a member of SFA Chapter XV.



Mike and David served together in Afghanistan in the early 2000s. Like other beer-drinking members of their team, they went on to sample brews in far-flung parts of the world.

After settling in San Antonio, Holland set up a home-garage brewery and he and Mike developed their brews — with SF names like OSS Oatmeal Stout and Black Hops IPA. The beer

is not yet on sale, but a license from TABC is expected within days. Construction permits have been granted for build-out of the pub at 4700 Timco West, Suite 105, and work is under way.

Meanwhile, their website longtabbrewing.com provides updates on progress toward the opening, as well as logo hats, t-shirts and other swag. Part of their profits will go to the Green Beret Foundation.

Holland, a life member of SFA, recently transferred his membership to Chapter XV.

Vito Cellini, Author



Vito's autobiography is in production and he has received a few paperback copies, which he will bring to Canyon Lake and offer for sale (autographs are free!) See the publisher's ad for his book, *Cellini: Freedom Fighter*, on P. 12.

Out and about: JROTC presenters



Left: Chapter Vice President Juan Lopez presents medal and certificate to Cadet Cameron Alexius at Canyon High School in New Braunfels. Right: Henry Jimenez makes presentation to Cadet Jesus Villanueva at Sidney Lanier High School. Those were two of 30-plus awards being presented to outstanding cadets at area high schools by members of Chapter XV. Lopez, coordinator of the chapter's JROTC program, thanks all members who have volunteered.

Memory Lane

Back to Vietnam: 'It's not like I remembered it'

By Chuck Rose



This past month I returned to Vietnam for the first time in 53 years, along with other soldiers who served in the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry (Airborne/Airmobile) from 1965 -1971, for a two-week tour with "Vietnam Battlefield Tours."

The tour concentrated on I and II Corps areas visiting various cities, fire bases, SF Camps, major US military camps and locations where our units had major combat engagements. At some of the battle engagement areas and camps, the government would not allow us access because they still have not been cleared for unexploded ordinance. For example, at the A Shau Special Forces Camp we were only allowed access to the old runway area. The camp area itself had not been cleared by the government, which we were told is an ongoing process throughout Vietnam. We did see several EOD trucks throughout our travels.

During this trip we visited Ho Chi Minh City, Pleiku (Camp Enari), Kontum, Dak To, An Khe, Phu Cat, Qui Nhon, Bong Son Area, Da Nang, Dong Ha, Khe Sanh, Loa Bao, Da Krong, Hue City and A Shu Valley, DMZ and the Laotian border. All US military bases and camps, fire bases were totally destroyed after the war by the government except for the runways, which are now either city airports, a road down in the middle of a town/city or being used to dry harvested rice and other crops.

Vietnam is no longer like I remembered it. The mud-wall, thatched roof homes are replaced by cinder block with metal tin roofs. Even the Montagnards have wooden homes with tin roofs built on wooden pilings. The old-two lane and dirt roads are now 2 to 4 lane major highways. Black pajamas are basically obsolete, replaced by brighter color pajamas. Firebases are overgrown with jungle.

The bicycles have been replaced with trillions of 125 cc motorcycles. Everyone over 18 seems to own a motor scooter or motorcycle and they are everywhere! Only school children and old people still ride bicycles.

All of the Vietnamese people were very warm and welcomed us with open arms everywhere we went. Old NVA soldiers approached us, shook our hands or hugged us. One told us, "Your country sent you here to fight us and our country sent us here to fight you, but that was a long time ago." "Welcome back to Vietnam." Even the active duty military were friendly and courteous.

One member of our group had the 8-digit coordinates where his platoon was engaged about 50 yards off a road. He lost several people in the 1967 engagement. The exact coordinates are now in the middle of a goldfish pond in the middle of an upscale bar. So we all sat down, ordered a drink and remembered those who were lost at this exact location over 50 years ago.

I enjoyed this trip immensely and would like to go back again sometime in the future. I will tell you, however, the 16-hour plane ride is a "butt-kicker"!



CHAPTER XV CARIBBEAN CRUISE

April 15-22, 2018



Traveling with 30 best friends

Photo above is from the first formal night on the cruise, just before a private cocktail party arranged by Karen Hermann with Royal Caribbean Cruise line.

- Front row (l to r): Angelica Popoy, Delia Popoy, Marlys Burkett, Charlotte Martin, Tanya Smith and Sharon Gee.
- Second row (standing): Linda Houston, Susan Marshall, Dion

Popoy, Kim Phillips, Juan Lopez, Ron Burkett, Karen Hermann, JW Martin, Marsha Scott, Vito Cellini and Mary Meffert.

- Back row: Vince Mendiola, Steve Wolverton, Chris Marshall, Johnnie Terrazas, Andrea Popoy Permejo, Steve Hermann, Bill Smith, Ben Scott, Pat Meffert, Buddy Gee and Merrill Hall.
- Other cruisers (not shown) were Irene Sloan, Rex Hammarback, Mandy Terrazas, Claudia Flores and Irene Morones.



Rum punch in Jamaican waters

Tales from the Cruise: Day-by-Day

Day 1 — We set sail from Galveston. ... Vito loses his car keys.

Day 2 — At sea. We explore the ship, meet for Buddy's Bloodies at poolside. That evening, we gather for formal pictures before our private cocktail party in the Olive or Twist Lounge. Then our first formal-night dinner. Everyone looks great!

Day 3 — Cozumel, Mexico: Some people shop ("Skinny Steve" gets alligator boots; Tanya buys silver jewelry; Chris a new Rolex.) Others take advantage of 2-for-\$3 Coronas, watch exotic Indian fire dancers, do tequila shots at Señor Frog's and decide to take a dive. Bill loses SF ring in the water. "Naked Steve" and others try to find it. (No luck.)

Day 4 — Grand Cayman Island: We take tenders to shore and find fish, stingrays, dolphins, turtles, coral reefs, shipwrecks, rum cakes and cigars. ... Vito does not like the ship's food, so chef in the main buffet makes him special Italian meals every day.

Day 5 — After early landing at Falmouth, Jamaica, we take a short trip to beautiful Jewel beach resort at Runaway Bay. Open bars, pools, restaurants and those great Caribbean waters. Rum punch for all!

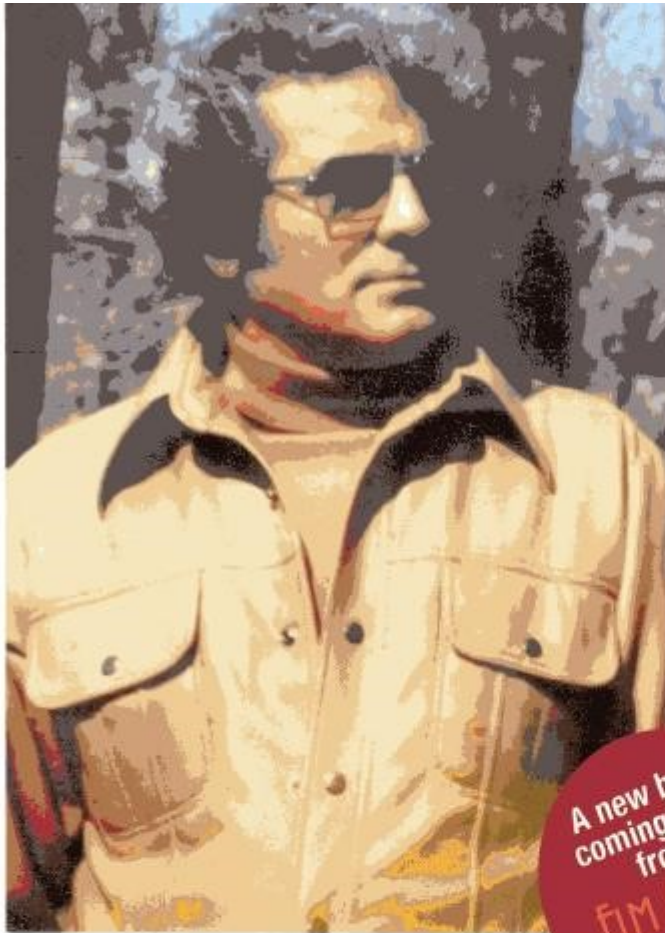
Day 6 — At sea. Irene Sloan has not been seen since Day 2. She's been spending all her time at the 3-card poker table. Bill and Vito played a little poker, too ... and Tanya did well on the slots. ... Another formal evening.

Day 7 — At sea. Last chance to see the shows, order room service, sing karaoke or win a big jackpot. Late, impromptu gathering at Hoof and Claw pub, and we still need to pack our bags!

Day 8 — Back at port in Galveston, Karen finds Vito's keys! Buddy loses laptop on shuttle to parking lot, so is late for final bash at Gilhooly's Oyster Bar in San Leon. Great oysters, great friends — great ending for a great cruise!

Editor's Note: For more 'Tales of the Cruise,' see newsletter supplement in a separate email.





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
coming soon
from

ELM GROVE
PUBLISHING

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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Serving those who served America.

America's veterans have done everything asked of them in their mission to serve our country, and we believe it is never too late to acknowledge their heroic service. That's why our hospice is taking part in the We Honor Veterans program, a collaboration between the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

We are prepared to help veterans and their families meet the challenges they may face at the end of life. Our staff and volunteers understand the unique issues veterans face and can assist in making sure they get the support and resources they need.

We have embraced our mission to serve America's veterans. It's our way of saying thank you for the sacrifices they have made in serving us.



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Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese) – CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-855-546-4831.

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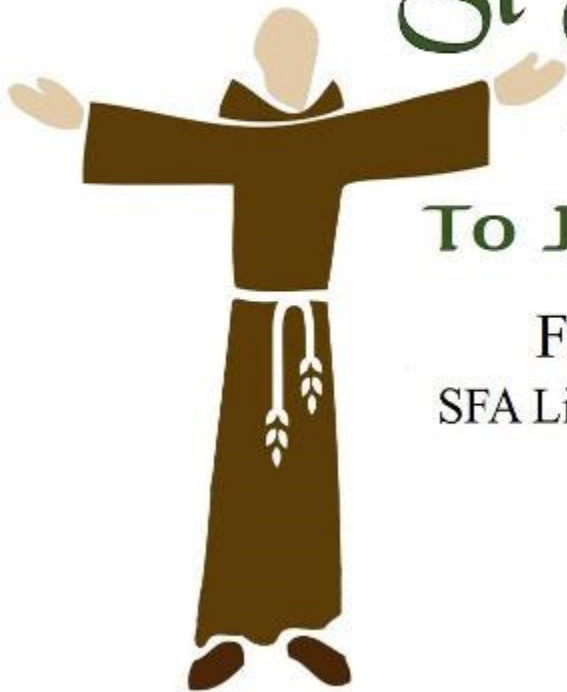


7/7/18



New Riverwalk location at 223 Losoya St .

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To Join Us in Worship

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</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AUGUST</u></p> <p>2 Board Meeting 1400 4 Membership Meeting 1100 15 Drop Input Due</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SEPTEMBER</u></p> <p>6 Board Meeting 1400 8 Membership Meeting 1100 TBD Budget Committee meeting Scholarship Applications</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OCTOBER</u></p> <p>4 Board Meeting 1400 6 Membership Meeting 1100 TBD Motorcycle Ride</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> <p>1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 1100 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 9 Buddy's Birthday 10 NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING TBD Christmas Banquet 2018</p>

All Chapter Meetings, unless announced otherwise, will be held at VFW Post 8541. Membership Meetings begin at 1100 hrs on the first Saturday of the month (unless otherwise noted in the calendar.) A breakfast meal will be served from 0930 to 1100 hrs prior to each Membership Meeting. Board Meetings will be held the Thursday prior to the Membership Meeting at 1400 hours unless announced otherwise.

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*

1/9/17/18

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



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Chapter XV, Special Forces Association

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Calendar of Significant Special Forces Events

- 12-16 JUNE 2018 Special Forces Association International Conference 2018
Wyndham Airport Hotel, El Paso, TX
POC: <http://sfa2018elpaso.blogspot.com>
- 19-22 SEPT 2018 57th annual Fifth Group Reunion
Country Inn & Suites, Clarksville, TN
(931) 645-1400 or cx_clrk@countryinns.com

Thanks to Henry Jimenez, Chuck Rose, Ben Scott, Kim Phillips, Tanya Smith and Chris Marshall for photos in this issue.

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The Editors



"Carry on!"