



GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

The Alamo Chapter

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

Issue # 1-17

January 2017

President: Bill Smith
Vice-President: Barry Archer
Secretary: Juan Lopez
Treasurer: Buddy Gee
Sgt at Arms: Raul de la Garza
Asst. Treasurer: Toby Todd
Asst. Sgt at Arms: Gordon Lee
Membership Secy: Marti Scott
Past President: Chuck Rose
Editors: Buddy & Sharon Gee
Webmaster: Scotty Codename
VGSA Rep: Raul de la Garza
DAV/VA: JR Garza
Chaplains: R. Johnson & A. Flores

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



Committee Chairs

By-Laws: Bill Smith
Nominations: TBD
Motorcycle Challenge: Gordon Lee
JROTC Awards: Jose Campos
Scholarships: Pat Connolly
Wounded Warriors: JW 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

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 5 — January Board meeting
1400—VFW Post 8541, 2222 Austin Hwy.

Jan. 7 — Membership Meeting
1200—Meal served
1300—Business Meeting



DON'T FORGET

- **Annual dues (\$40)** are due by Jan. 31. Please mail check to SFA Chapter XV, P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio, TX 78265-3782. (See P. 10 for details of SFA dues policy.)
- **Tickets for the AR-15** and Glock drawing are available for sale to the general public at \$10 each. Only 500 tickets will be sold. Please help with this fundraiser by taking tickets to sell.



Help **Ryan Wood** become River Walk King by attending SA Rampage game on Jan. 13. See P. 8.

- **"Choir Practice"** every Sunday, noon at VFW Post 8541.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Sends:

I want to thank everyone for a very successful 2016. I believe we had a good year and we accomplished a lot. Our Christmas Banquet was a success and I did not realize we had singers in our group.

At our January meeting I will have tickets for our AR-15 and Glock drawing. I am asking everyone to assist in getting these tickets out and make this a productive fundraiser. Some of our members have moved over a hundred of the tickets. We will draw as soon as we reach the 500 ticket mark. This will bring in \$5,000 to the Chapter.

Our supporters at Dick's Last Resort need our help to get Ryan Wood elected as Paseo del Rio King for 2017. They have a reserved section at the AT&T Center for the San Antonio Rampage vs Iowa Wild hockey game Friday, Jan. 13. More information is available in a flyer on page 8. Buy tickets at <https://www.sarampage.com/paseoking>.

Can't go? Make a donation at <https://www.thesanantonioriverwalk.com/about/royalty>. Ryan said, "I would love to see you guys there, and I am grateful for your support."

The 2017 Calendar is in the newsletter. I ask everyone to look it over and see if anything needs to be changed or if something is missing. In August, we are looking at having a mini-convention here with all the Texas Chapters invited. We are planning on involving the SF Companies here at Camp Bullis. This coming year marks the 10th year since Texas acquired C-5-19. Our SOF community has grown in Texas to 2 SF Companies, a Theater Support Command under SOCOM, and a SF Detachment - Africa. One of my goals this year is to bring them into the fold.

I hope everyone has enjoyed their time with family and friends during the holidays. Our little quick gathering at Brewers a few days ago turned out really nice. I plan on more of them this coming year. If you are traveling, please be safe and we will see everyone next year.

Until our meeting, I hope everyone stays safe and has a great remainder of the month. My email is listed below if anyone wants to email me. Happy New Year!

presidentchapterxv@gmail.com

William Smith
Chapter XV President



\$\$\$ DOLLARS AND CENTS

Treasurer's Report, December 2016

The year has come and gone, which means that your Treasurer has a mountain of work to do. At the January meeting we need to vote on (and hopefully pass) Monthly Treasurer Reports for November and December. We will also have our annual Closing Budget Report for 2016 and a Christmas Banquet financial summary. The good news is, we still have money in the bank and will be able to fund our budgeted charities for 2017.

We tip our berets to Laura and Mike Brown for their donation of delicious food trays and snacks for the Christmas banquet hospitality room. We also extend our thanks to Laura's company, Gentiva Hospice, as their generous donation helped us to keep within budget for the banquet.

The Chapter made its final charity donations in December totaling \$750 to OASIS and San Antonio Boys and Girls Club. OASIS provides SF warriors with VA Claims assistance across the USA free of charge. In total, we donated more than \$5,000 to charitable causes during 2016.

Thanks to Gordon Lee, we have picked up a new full-page ad through his contact, Glenn Barnes, assistant professor, Veteran to BSN Program, Texas Tech University Health Science Center. Advertising space is still available in our monthly newsletter and we hope you will advertise with us. The ad rates are at the end of this newsletter.

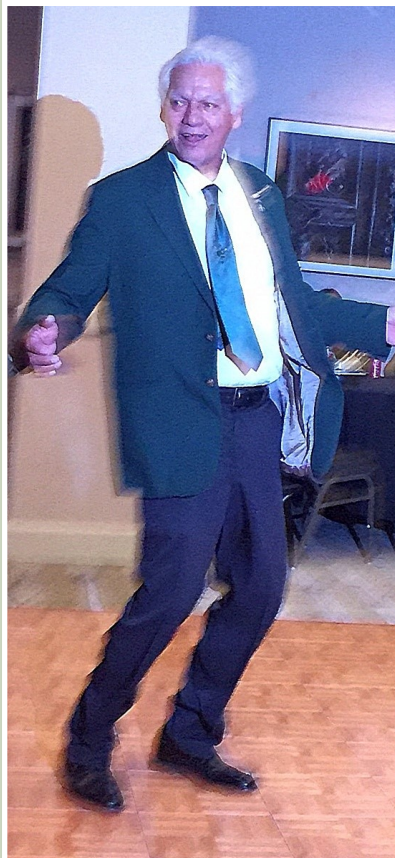
A full accounting of Chapter XV funds will be given at the January 7th General Membership Meeting.

Buddy Gee
Chapter XV Treasurer

Christmas Banquet 2016



December 10, 2016



WHAT A PARTY!

Members and guests of Chapter XV got into the Christmas Spirit with plenty of food and drink, singing (oh, yes!) and dancing the night away. There was a little official business — presentation of scholarships and awards — as well as lots of “unofficial business,” as seen in these photos by Thanh Van, Ben Scott and others. Counterclockwise from left are dancer Raul de la Garza, lovebirds Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Martin, rock stars Mike Brown and David Marshall, and a bounty of appetizers provided by Laura Brown and Gentiva Hospice.





HELPING VETERANS *help others*

TTUHSC Accelerated Veteran to BSN | Now available in San Antonio

FOR MORE INFORMATION

(806) 743-2730 or kyle.chapman@ttuhsc.edu

www.ttuhsc.edu/son/undergraduate/vbsn



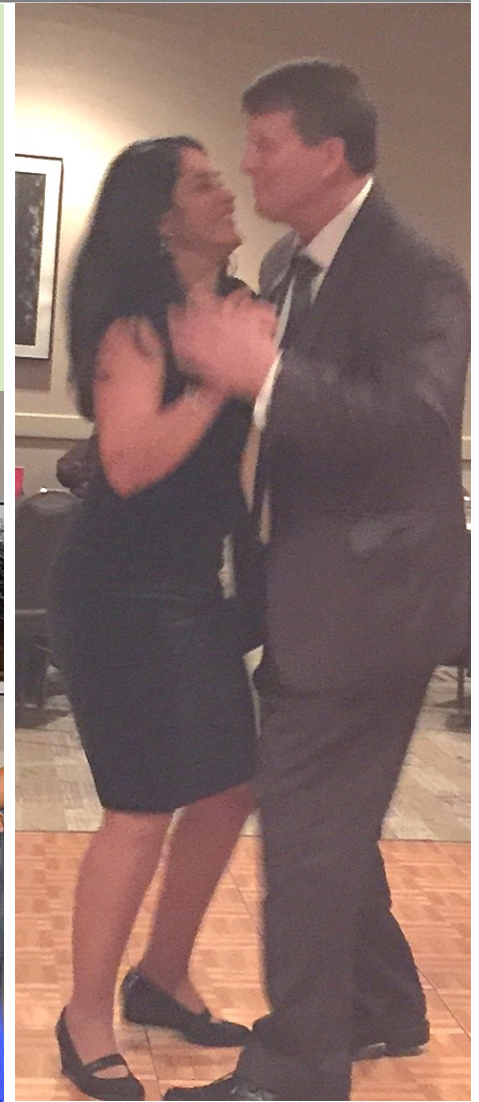
**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER.**

School of Nursing

Christmas Banquet



LET'S DANCE! After-dinner music by the Mike Clancy Band had the men and ladies of Chapter XV dancing into the wee hours. Seen here (counterclockwise from left) are the Jimenezes, Gees, Vasquezes, Archers, Scotts, Jacksons, Dahlbys and Juan Lopez with Jerrie LeBleu. A good-looking crowd, for sure!



Christmas Banquet

OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

Right, Bill Smith presents scholarship to Natalie R. James, granddaughter of José & Lucy Campos.

Below, special awards to Vito Cellini, Raul de la Garza (Member of the Year) and Dan Hopgood, (JROTC Project Chairman).

Bottom: attendees waiting for dinner (chicken and beef) at the banquet.



Christmas Banquet

YELLOW SUBMARINE?

This was not karaoke, folks. It was actual singing! Not until Mike Brown, David Marshall and Jeff Dahlby commandeered the mic at the Christmas party did we ever hear from the Chapter XV Glee Club. Who knew? Also enjoying the festivities were Rudy and Lois Johnson, Bill and Tanya Smith, Fred and Susan Solis, Bob and Penny Hand, Pat and Arlene Connolly, the ladies and bartender Crystal.





SARAMPAGE.COM

Paseo del Rio Night With The Rampage



SA Rampage vs. Iowa Wild

Event Date:

Friday January 13th, 2017 @ 7:30PM

Event Information:

Come join us for a night of fun at the AT&T Center as the San Antonio Rampage take the ice!

Help your nominee for River Walk King get selected and cheer in their section at the game!

Group Package Includes:

Charter Level tickets - \$25

Charter Seats are located close to the glass so you'll be right in the action!

*A portion of every ticket goes directly back to your nominee's fundraising efforts.

Order Form:

Order tickets online from your computer or mobile device by going to

sarampage.com/paseoking

*All tickets and food vouchers will be left at will call for pick up on the day of the game

Order Deadline:

Wednesday, January 4th

Orders purchased after deadline may not be guaranteed seats with the group.
Contact Nick Verzijl if deadline has passed to receive discount for event
(210) 444-5616 nverzijl@attcenter.com

Scholarship Recipients 2016



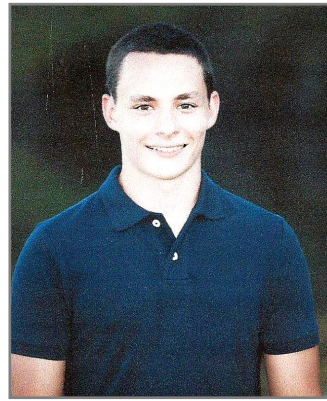
Natalie Rae James

Age 19

Granddaughter of José and Lucy Campos.

Graduated MacArthur High School. Cheerleader 4 years.

Attending Texas State College in San Marcos to become a teacher.



Brandon Hopgood

Age 17

Grandson of Dan Hopgood

Graduated Hudson High School, Hudson, Ohio. Competing gymnast.

Attending Miami College, Miami, Ohio to study business.

Friends of Chapter XV

Louis Dracoulis

Past Master

1414 Vista del Monte
San Antonio, TX 78216

DRACOULIS45@YAHOO.COM



4/4/17

Disabled American Veterans

**JR Garza
Commander
Emeritus**

San Antonio, Texas

"Serving Disabled Veterans and their Families".
210-722-4256 Cell
BGARZ@SATX.RR.COM

2/2/18



St Francis Church

Welcomes You To Join Us in Worship

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

Pax et Bonum
www.StFrancis.Church



8/4/17

GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

2017 CALENDAR

<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>MARCH</u>
5 Board Meeting 1400 7 Membership Meeting 1300	2 Board Meeting 1400 4 Membership Meeting 1300 10 Drop Input Due	2 Board Meeting 1400 4 Membership Meeting 1300 11-12 Cotulla Hog Cook-off 30 Board Meeting 1400
<u>APRIL</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>
1 Membership Meeting 1300 1 Chpt Memorial Service 1000 JROTC Presentations TBD	4 Board Meeting 1400 10 Drop Input Due 13-14 Jack Hogue Picnic 29 Memorial Day Serv 0930 JROTC Presentations TBD NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING	1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 1300 12-17 National Convention JROTC Presentations TBD 29 July Board Meeting 1400
<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>
1 Membership Meeting 1300 4 Fourth of July Parade TBD Poss Mini Convention TBD	3 Board Meeting 1300 5 Membership Meeting 1300 Poss Mini Convention TBD	7 Board Meeting 1400 9 Membership Meeting 1300 (Nomination of Officers & Scholarship Applications)
<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>DECEMBER</u>
5 Oct Board Meeting 1400 7 Membership Meeting 1300 TBD Motorcycle Ride TBD Dick's Fund Raiser	2 Board Meeting 1400 4 Membership Meeting 1300 (Election and Scholarship) 11 Veterans Day Cerem 1000 28 Scholarship Results	7 Dec Board Meeting 1400 9 Christmas Banquet 1730 & Installation of Officers NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING

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

From SFA Headquarters

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION POLICY OR PRECEDENT



SUBJECT: Membership Dues & Chapter Rebates

DATE: 31 August 2016

POLICY NUMBER ORIGINATING SECTION ORIGINATOR SFA -03

APPROVED: Gary Koenitzer, President

APPROVED: Jim Blanchard, Secretary

PURPOSE: To establish the Special Forces Association policy for dues and dues rebates to Chapters.

SCOPE: This policy applies to dues for all members within the Special Forces Association and is governed by Article IV, Section Dues and Fees, of the current Special Forces Constitution.

ANNUAL MEMBER DUES:

Dues for any calendar year cover the period from 1 January through 31 December, regardless of the date dues are actually paid. Dues received between 1 October and 31 December are applied to the next year's dues. (i.e. dues paid between 1 October and 31 December of each year will be credited to the next year's dues). Dues received prior to 1 October are processed for and apply to the current fiscal year.

Article IV, Section Paragraph A, of the Special Forces Association Constitution states members who have not paid their dues within 30 days after 31 December (30 January) become lapsed members. Lapsed members will incur a reinstatement fee of \$5.00.

DUES AND MEMBERSHIP SCHEDULE:

Type	Cost to Member	Chapter Portion	To National
Annual Dues	\$40.00	\$10.00	\$ 30.00
Reinstatement	\$45.00	\$10.00	\$ 35.00
Life Membership (Current)	\$440.00	\$80.00	\$360.00
Life Membership (Not Current)	\$475.00	\$85.00	\$390.00
Life Membership >65 (Current)	\$320.00	\$60.00	\$260.00
Life Membership >65 (Not Current)	\$345.00	\$70.00	\$275.00
New Member	\$50.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00
New Life Member	\$480.00	\$ 95.00	\$385.00
New Life Member >65	\$360.00	\$70.00	\$290.00
Widows/NOK of Members	\$ 40.00	\$10.00	\$ 30.00

Chapters must insure eligibility of new members as outlined on the application. Chapters must submit appropriate documentation as required. When submitting dues for multiple members please combine and remit on one check with a cover letter detailing member name, member number and any information changes.

Dues received after 1 October will be credited for the following year. The grace period will extend until January 30. If dues are not received by then a member will revert to Inactive status and be required to reinstate.

Dues received after 1 October will be credited for the following year. The grace period will extend until January 30. If dues are not received by then, a member will revert to Inactive status and be required to reinstate.

Applications and renewal/reinstatement forms are in the DROP or can be obtained from National or the Special Forces Association website. These forms may be reproduced for Chapter use.

Members At Large remit dues directly to National Headquarters. No portion of At Large Member dues are shared with the Chapters.

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*

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



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

A FULL-PAGE AD in this Newsletter is only \$100 for 12 issues.

To start your ad or keep it running, contact Buddy Gee,
sgmgee@aol.com



Other ad sizes available:

This is a half-page ad (horizontal)

8" x 5"

\$60



This is a quarter-page ad (vertical)

3 3/4" x 5"

\$40

These are business-card ads

3 3/4" x 2"

\$25



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

05-10 JUN 2017 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) Reunion
El Paso, TX
POC: jsthong@hotmail.com

12-17 JUN 2017 Special Forces Association International Conference 2017
Fayetteville, NC
POC: <http://sfa1-18.org/2017-convention.html>

-
- **Annual dues members, please remember to renew your membership not later than Jan. 31, 2017. You may want to consider life membership which is currently \$440, or \$320 if over age 65. (See full dues and membership schedule on P. 11.) Mail checks to SFA Chapter XV, P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio, TX 78265-3782. Any questions about annual dues or life membership should be directed to Membership Secretary Marsha Scott.**
-

Special thanks to our unofficial photographers who continue to provide photographs of Chapter XV events: Ben and Marti Scott, Henry Jimenez, Barry Archer, Toby and Linda Todd, David Benavides, and Dan Hoppood. Selecting which photos to use is always a difficult decision, but we try to include everyone possible.

The Editors

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.



“Carry on!”