



GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

The Alamo Chapter

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

Issue #03-22

March 2022

President: John Lopez
Vice-President: Pat Meffert
Secretary: Mike Brown
Asst. Secretary: Sergio Venegas
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Asst. Sgt at Arms: Raul de la Garza
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www.sfa-xv.org



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Nominations: Chuck Rose
JROTC Awards: John 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: John Lopez
Budget Committee: Merrill Hall
Chapter Memorial Svc: Pat Meffert

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



March 5 — Board Meeting 1130

VFW Post 8541, 2222 Austin Highway

Membership Meeting

1200— Noon Meal Served

(Menu: Pizza)

1300— Business Meeting



March 11-13 — Wild Hog Cook-off in Cotulla, TX

March 17 — Saint Patrick's Day



DON'T FORGET



Swordbearer's Chapel service with Fr. Steve Rindahl is no longer meeting at VFW 8541, 1100 hrs. on Sunday in the Rodela Room.

Sick call at 1300 hrs. every Sunday at VFW Post 8541. POC is Bill Beall.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Sends:

Hello Chapter XV!! March is now upon us, and winter will be winding down this month. I would like to thank everyone who attended our CH XV 45th anniversary get-together last month at the VFW. It was great having you there for the special occasion.

Here is what we are looking at for this month:

- Ash Wednesday falls on March 2nd this month.
- The La Salle County Wild Hog Cook-Off in Cotulla, TX will be from Friday, March 11th – Sunday, March 13th. We will have food, beverages, cigars, and music. Come on out and join us!
- Daylight savings time will start on Sunday, March 13th.
- Saint Patrick's Day is Thursday the 17th, so have yourself some Jameson Irish Whiskey, Baileys Irish Cream, Irish car bombs, black and tans, or all the above!

Spring 2022 will officially begin on Sunday, March 20th. JROTC awards will be starting this month and once again may be kept for just the students due to COVID. However, if you are interested in presenting a JROTC Special Forces Association Award of

Excellence to a JROTC cadet at one of our local high schools, please come talk with me and I will let you know if the school is having an open ceremony.



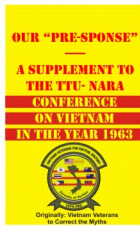
Just a quick reminder, our next membership meeting will be on Saturday, March 5th. The board meeting will start at 11:30am, followed by lunch at Noon. We will be having pizza delivered. The membership meeting will begin at 1pm. I look forward to seeing you there.

Stay safe!

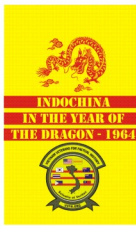
John A. Lopez
President, SFA Chapter XV

president@sfa-XV.org

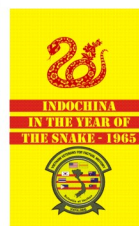
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The Original
“Little Yellow Book”



The Dragon
1964



The Snake
1965



The Horse
1966



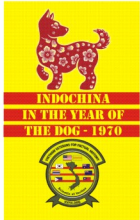
The Goat
1967



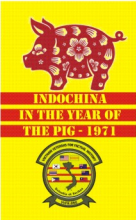
The Monkey
1968



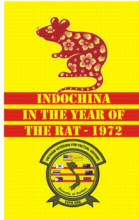
The Cock
1969



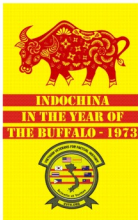
The Dog
1970



The Pig
1971



The Rat
1972



The Buffalo
1973



The Tiger
1974



The Cat
1975



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\$\$\$ DOLLARS AND CENTS

Treasurer's Report, March 2022:

I hope everyone had a great February and is excited about the approaching warmer weather. During our last meeting, I received some great feedback regarding sharing the Chapter debts, liabilities, and cash flow. Based on that feedback, the plan moving forward is to pull up the numbers via one eye and computer, this will allow for complete transparency. I'm not in the business of spending our beloved Chapter's money, I just sign the checks and ensure every cent is spent with a purpose. Last month the Chapter kicked off the selling of merchandise from the

SFA National Convention, for those that purchased those items, the Chapter thanks you for your support. We are looking to add some additional swag in the coming weeks, comparable to what you can find at Long Tab Brewery. Again, any feedback is welcomed, please feel free to share with me your thoughts on just about anything.

All the best,

Pete Martinez, Treasurer
treasurer@sfa-XV.org

Chapter XV 45th Anniversary



Past Presidents (L-R) Buddy Gee, Bill Martin, John Lopez, Chuck Rose, Bill Smith, Bill Beall, and Ron Burkett



Bill Beall



Bill Martin



Bill Smith



Buddy Gee



Ron Burkett



Chuck Rose



(L-R): Delbert, John, and Bobby



THE GREEN BERET FOUNDATION ASSISTS ALL GENERATIONS OF PRE AND POST-9/11 U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

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This coming year, as the Special Forces community commemorates the 70th anniversary of its establishment, the Green Beret Foundation will mark an additional significant milestone: the launching of the Pineland Initiative.

Beginning in 2022, the Pineland Initiative will reflect a 3-year phased approach to growth and expansion of the Foundation's existing programs and services, in order to accommodate the needs of the pre-9/11 Green Beret population.

This is a groundbreaking moment not just for our organization, but for the Green Beret community as a whole. The bond between all Special Forces soldiers past, present, and future, is strong, and by way of the Pineland Initiative, we are building upon this tradition of Green Berets helping our own. In doing so, the Foundation will expand its reach nationwide--with additional Veteran Service Officers joining our team to provide a Foundation presence geographically located at each of the five Active Duty Special Forces groups and the two National Guard Special Forces Groups, across the country.

Our time spent in Pineland is a key rite of passage uniting all Green Berets. By supporting Green Berets of all generations, the Green Beret Foundation seeks to build upon and reinforce that legacy. We are asking that those who wish to back the Pineland Initiative campaign please consider making a commitment of support in the amount of just a \$12 monthly recurring contribution to the Green Beret Foundation. Honoring our 12-man ODA teams and emphasizing that the Pineland Initiative will be a team effort; your \$12 a month can make a life-changing difference for Green Berets and their families--past, present, and future.

For more information on how you can help to support the Pineland Initiative, please visit www.GreenBeretFoundation.org.

DOL,

LTG(R) Ken Tovo
Chairman of the Board

Brent Cooper
Executive Director



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February Meeting Minutes

SFA CHAPTER XV MEETING MINUTES

Chapter Meeting Date: 12 February 2022

The meeting was called to order by President **John Lopez** 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.

John Lopez welcomed new members/associate members, special guests, and friends to the chapter:

- **Demetrio Duarte** (**Roy Benavidez's** nephew)
- **Marcie Friedman** (Echo Hill Goldstar Camp)
- **Toby Harnden** (author of First Casualty)

Members Sick or In Distress:

- **Iris Archer** passed away on 17 January 2022

February - June 2022 Business:

- Treasurer's Report** was given by **Pete Martinez**. Budget report was accepted by membership.
- Minutes** approval for January meeting: Minutes were accepted as posted in the February newsletter by membership.
- Membership** report given by **Sergio Venegas**: 240 members currently in Ch XV.
- February, Saturday the 26th is our **chapter's 45th anniversary**, 1300hrs get together at the VFW for cake and ice cream.
- March, **Cotulla Wild Hog Cookoff**, 11th-13th. (Fri-Sun). We received our registration packet in January.
- VFW Post 8541 Scholarship: Bill Smith**, (4) 5K scholarships, (1) of them is for JROTC. Cut-off is March 31st.
- SFA CH XV Scholarship**: Applications are due by April 30th.
- April 9th, Saturday, is our **Chapter memorial** at FSH cemetery at 1000hrs, then our meeting will be immediately following here at the VFW.
- May 6th-8th (Fri-Sun) is our **Canyon Lake** picnic.
- Memorial Day**, May, Mon, 30th (flag detail needed).
- June no planned events (Tuesday the 14th is **Flag Day** and the **Army's Birthday**).

Break for 15 minutes

(continued on page 8)

February Meeting Minutes

(continued from page 7)

Guest Speakers: Marcie Friedman, Toby Harnden, & Demetrio Duarte Jr.

July - Dec 2022 Business

l. **Independence Day, July 4th**, Monday. Looking into a chapter trip to Margaritaville Beach Resort, Playa Flamingo, Santa Cruz, Guanacaste, Costa Rica. Pacific side of Costa Rica. We plan on being there for July 4th, so will be flying out Saturday the 2nd. Returning Friday the 8th.

m. August no planned events.

n. September, **Labor Day** is on 5th, and the **5th SFG(A) reunion**: Sept 14-18th. (Wed-Sun) in Oak Grove & Hopkinsville, KY., and the **SFAIC** is in Colorado Springs, CO., through the 20-24th of September.

o. October, **DLR fundraiser**, Thursday the 13th? **SOAR Reunion** on or about the 17-21st of October.

p. November 11th is **Veterans Day**, and the 24th is **Thanksgiving**.

q. December 10th is our **2022 SFA CH XV Christmas banquet** at the Crowne Plaza San Antonio Airport Hotel. Located on 1111 NE Loop 410, SATX 78209.

r. Reminder: **Bill Beall** conducts Sick Call here at 1pm on Sunday's. Next meeting, Saturday, Mar 5th., 2022.

s. Open discussion: no chapel service tomorrow.

t. Door prizes: **Raul de la Garza** read off winning tickets.

u. President **John Lopez** made a motion to adjourn meeting, motion was seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Juan A. Lopez, D-8306

President, SFA Chapter XV

Daniel Bell

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THROUGH AGE 30	\$425.00	initial payment \$45.00 11 payments of \$38.64
31-40	\$410.00	\$45.00 \$37.27
41-50	\$375.00	\$45.00 \$34.09
51-60	\$335.00	\$45.00 \$30.45
61-70	\$290.00	\$45.00 \$26.36
71-80	\$225.00	\$45.00 \$20.45
81 AND OVER	\$170.00	\$45.00 \$15.45

Name: _____ Email: _____ Date of Birth: _____
 Address: _____ Branch of Service: (circle all applicable) Phone: _____
 _____ ARMY NAVY AIR FORCE SSN (optional): _____
 _____ MARINES COAST GUARD Gender (M) (F) _____

Qualifying Foreign Service (circle all applicable)

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
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| OCCUPATION SERVICE | GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY |
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| KOREA DUTY (1955-present) | IRAQ (2003-2011) |
| VIETNAM SERVICE | INHERENT RESOLVE (2014 - present) |
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- LIFE MEMBER: Please enclose amount shown on table.
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The web page for the post is www.vfwpost8541.org It has all the latest info on activities and latest calendar.	VPR's at 6 PM	V Post 8541 V #1 Commander - Bill Smith Sr. Vice Commander - Chris Espinoza Quartermaster - Chris Espinoza	Sickcall Every Sunday 1300 - 1500	Saturday Music 6:30 to 10:30 Meals 5:30 to 7:00		
ASWAA Meeting 1230 19 MAR 22	SPECIAL FORCES Meeting 12-1400 12 March		POOL POKER KITCHEN OPEN 5-7	1900 General Membership & Auxiliary Meetings Kitchen Open 5-7	POKER 7 PM	Spaghetti & Meat-Sauce \$10 Garlic Bread Side Salad Karaoke with Dalila
	P Kitchen Open 5-7				POKER 7 PM	BQ Brisket \$12 Mac & Cheese Potato Salad Sliced Bread Something Blue
Pool League	O 7 PM Kitchen Open 5-7		POL POOL POKER KITCHEN OPEN 5-7	Happy Patrick's Party Pot Luck See the flyer Dalila DJ	POKER 7 PM	Baked Chicken \$10 Rice Pilaf Mix Vegetable Karaoke with Dalila
	K Kitchen Open 5-7		POL POOL POKER KITCHEN OPEN 5-7	SUPPORT POST 8541. IT'S THE BEST IN THE Kosovo Campaign Dalila DJ	POKER 7 PM	Beef Fajitas \$10 Spanish Rice Charro Beans Cross Hill Junction
Pool League	R Kitchen Open 5-7		POL POOL POKER KITCHEN OPEN 5-7		Alamo Model A Club Meeting 3rd Sunday at 1 PM	Calendar is subject to change. This is Version 1 effective 25 Feb 22

WebPage: vfwpost8541.org LgB Email: Post8541@satx.rr.com



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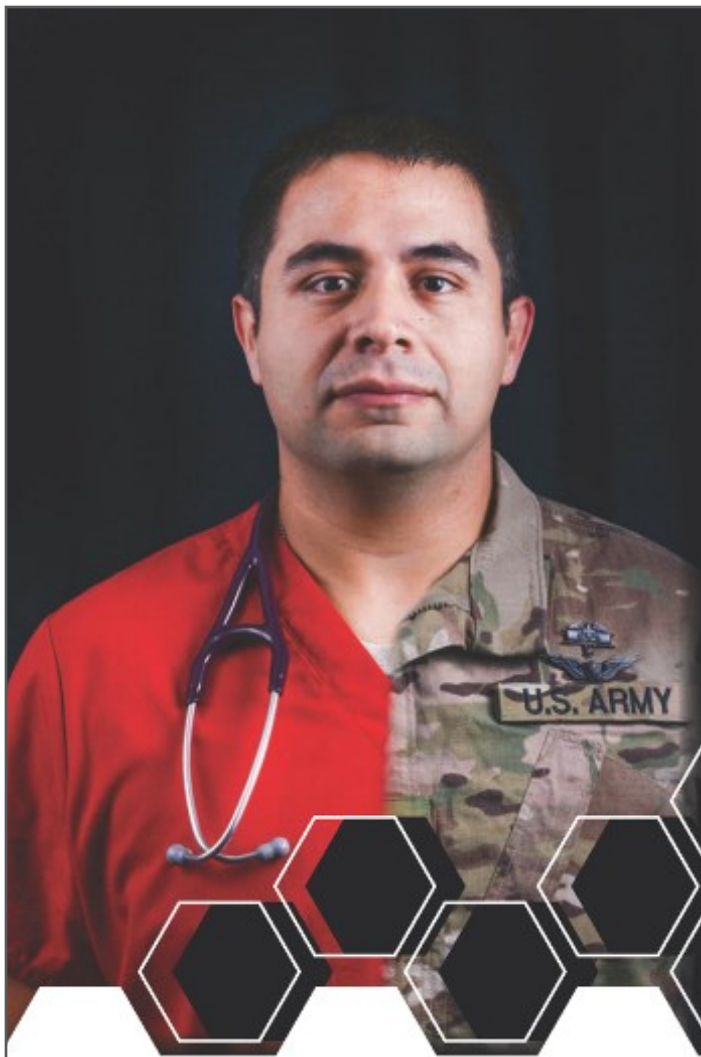
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GREEN BERET SFA CHAPTER XV

2022 CALENDAR

<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>MARCH</u>
01 New Year's Day 15 Board Meeting 1100hrs 15 Membership Meeting 1300hrs 17 Martin Luther King Day	12 Board Meeting 1130hrs 12 Membership Meeting 1300hrs 14 Valentine's Day 15 Drop Input Due 21 President's Day 26 CH XV 45 th Anniversary	02 Ash Wednesday 05 Board Meeting 1130hrs 05 Membership Meeting 1300hrs 11-13 Cotulla Event 13 Daylight Savings Time Change 17 St. Patrick's Day 20 Spring Begins 25 CMOH Day
<u>APRIL</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>
01 April Fool's Day 02 4th Annual GBF Crawfish Boil 09 CH XV Memorial 1000hrs 09 Board Meeting 1130hrs 09 Membership Meeting 1300hrs 10 Palm Sunday 15 Good Friday 17 Easter Sunday	08 Mother's Day NO BOARD/MEMBERSHIP MEETING 13-15 Canyon Lake Picnic 15 Drop Input Due 30 Memorial Day	11 Board Meeting 1130hrs 11 Membership Meeting 1300hrs 14 Flag Day & Army Birthday 19 Father's Day/Juneteenth
<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>
04 Independence Day 09 Board Meeting 1130hrs 09 Membership Meeting 1300hrs	13 Board Meeting 1130hrs 13 Membership Meeting 1300hrs 15 Drop Input Due	05 Labor Day 10 Board Meeting 1130hrs 10 Membership Meeting 1300hrs 16 POW/MIA Day 20-24 SFAIC
<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>DECEMBER</u>
08 Board Meeting 1130hrs 08 Membership Meeting 1300hrs 10 Columbus Day 13 or 27 DLR's Fundraiser 15 JBSA Octoberfest 17-21 SOAR Reunion	06 Daylights Saving Time Change 11 Veterans Day 12 Board Meeting 1130hrs 12 Membership Meeting 1300hrs 15 Drop Input Due 24 Thanksgiving Day	07 Pearl Harbor Day NO BOARD/MEMBERSHIP MEETING 10 Christmas Banquet 25 Christmas Day

Annual Membership Dues are now due. Pay \$40 for dues online at Chapter website, in person at Chapter meeting or by mail to P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio, TX 78265-3782.



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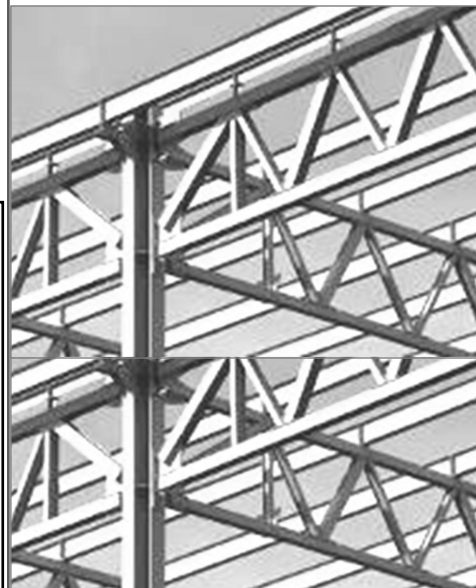


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Fr Steven G Rindahl, DMin
SFA A-663 (Life)

WarriorsOnTheWay@gmail.com

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: Juan E. "John" Lopez

president@sfa-xv.org



Thanks to John Lopez for the photos in this month's newsletter.

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 Daniel Bell at editor@sfa-xv.org, or mail them to Chapter President John Lopez at SFA Chapter XV, P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio TX 78265.

The Editors



"Carry on!"