



# GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

*The Alamo Chapter*

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

Issue #12-22

December 2022

**President:** John Lopez  
**Vice-President:** Pat Meffert  
**Secretary:** Mike Brown  
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**Asst. Treasurer:** Merrill Hall  
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**VGSA Rep:** Raul de la Garza  
**Chaplains:** R. Johnson & S. Rindahl

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[www.sfa-xv.org](http://www.sfa-xv.org)



Committee Chairs

**By-Laws:** Bill Smith  
**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



### December 10 — Christmas Banquet

DoubleTree by Hilton San Antonio Airport  
611 N.W. Loop 410, SATX 78216-5504

**No Member Meeting**

### December 25 — Christmas Day



## DON'T FORGET



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

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

### President Sends:

**S**eason's Greetings CH XV! I hope everyone had a happy and safe Thanksgiving last month. We are almost to the end of another year.

If you have not purchased your Christmas banquet tickets, you can still buy them on our website, or at the banquet. Please remember that you will not be allowed to take alcoholic beverages outside the hospitality room. Once we move from the hospitality room to the banquet room, there will be a bar provided by the hotel in the banquet room that offers drinks for purchase.

Some important dates for this month. Wednesday, December 7th is Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, and Wednesday, December 21st is the first day of winter.

Happy belated birthday to Bobby Walker (November 29th), and happy birthday to our December folks: Arline Connolly (December 2nd), Buddy Gee (December 9th), Raul De La Garza, Joe Dawson out in Germany (December 30th), and Bill Smith (December 31st). Anyone else I did not know about this month, Happy Birthday to you as well.

Just a reminder, there is no meeting this month because of our Christmas banquet. So, our next meeting

will be Saturday, January 14th. The kitchen will open at noon for lunch orders from their menu. Plates are \$10-\$12 dollars depending on the entrée you order. Our membership meeting will start at 1pm. If you cannot make the Christmas banquet, I would like to wish you and your family a safe and Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year for 2023.



John A. Lopez  
President, SFA Chapter XV

*president@sfa-XV.org*

# Member Photos



SFA CH XV member Dave & wife Rhonda Marshall at SF/Ranger Breakfast.



Gary Mitchell, Mario Guerra, and David Marshall at SF/Ranger Breakfast.



SFA CH XV member John & wife Susanne Armezzani at SF/Ranger Breakfast.



SFA CH XV member Mario Guerra receiving Veteran's Day Appreciation Certificate.



SFA CH XV member and SFBMC VP Mike Nesbit presenting SFA CH XV Treasurer Pete Martinez with winning raffle prize.



SFA CH XV President John Lopez presenting SFA CH XV member Jimmy Garza an award for his grilling services at Cotulla's Wild Hog Cook-off, and at our Canyon Lake picnic.

# November Meeting Minutes

## SFA Chapter XV

### 12NOV22 1300 Member Meeting Notes

#### VFW Post 8541, San Antonio, Texas

Leadership Presiding:

President: John Lopez

Treasurer: Pete Martinez

Secretary: Mike Brown

#### Summary of Chapter Business:

1. **President John Lopez welcomed visiting and new members:**
  - a. Robert Rogers: New Chapter Member
  - b. Ivan Davis: Visiting from Oregon
  - c. Mike Nesbitt: transferring into Chapter and current member of the local Special Forces Motorcycle Club chapter
2. **Sick and Distressed:** Chapter member Edgar Morales is home recovering from multiple surgeries. He is available for visitation or phone calls.
3. Chapter **Treasurer Pete Martinez** provided the monthly and annual Budget update. The budget was accepted as read.
  - a. Assistant Treasurer Merle Hall briefed the 2023 proposed budget with changes from previous years. The Chapter will be holding some charitable contributions until later in the year due to declining revenue. The Chapter will reassess the budget situation later in the year and allocate donations as money is available.
4. The Board met prior to the meeting to discuss the 2023 Budget. The Board proposed a revised budget to account for the significant loss of revenue because of the loss of the Dicks Last Resort event and the general loss of revenue producing events as a result of COVID.
5. **Minutes:** The OCT minutes were posted in the NOV newsletter. Minutes were accepted as written.
6. **Chapter XV Membership** currently stands at 243 members. A reminder that anyone with a change of email or phone number should let the Membership Secretary know so that the Chapter and National rosters are updated.

(continued on page 5)

# November Meeting Minutes

(continued from page 4)

7. **Member Fred Solis** purchased the Charlie Daniels fiddle for \$1000. The fiddle was acquired by Buddy Gee during a 5<sup>th</sup> Group reunion last year and in turn put it up for auction to raise money for the Chapter. Thanks to both Buddy and Fred for their continued support.
8. **Member Edgar Morales** donated a box of Cuban Cigars and a statue as fund raising auction items. Funds will go to support the Chapter XV scholarship fund.
9. **Chapter Member and Special Forces Motorcycle Club (SFMC) representative Paul Coleman** presented a winning raffle prize to **Chapter Treasurer Paul Martinez**. He discussed the SFMC and the continued cooperation and mutual support of both our Special Forces local nonprofit organizations.
10. SFA Chapter XV ballcap examples are available at [www.GreenBeretCD.com](http://www.GreenBeretCD.com). President John Lopez is tentatively looking at these hats as a possible revenue sale item if there is sufficient interest. Cost is approximately \$31 if you want all the embroidered options on it.
  - a. The Chapter is having a pre-decision discussion about purchasing swag (hats, shirts, coins, stickers, etc.) to sell at a profit to raise money for the Chapter. Please provide any recommendations, ideas, or concerns during upcoming Chapter meetings.
11. **Lifetime SFA Member and Chapter XV member Tony Aquiningoc** was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery 08NOV22. May he rest in peace.
12. **Key dates were announced:**
  - a. **10DEC** is the annual Chapter XV Christmas Ball. No meeting will be held that month per normal practice. The event will be held at the Double Tree Hotel by San Antonio Airport at 611 NW Loop 410, San Antonio, Texas 78216. **NOTE:** Contact President John Lopez at 210-606-3932 if you need last minute room reservations.
13. Meeting adjourned at 1430 hours.



4700 TIMCO W SUITE 105 SAN ANTONIO, TX 78238



**W**e realize that a Green Beret's transition out of the military is one of the most critical and sometimes most difficult times in their life. We take this very seriously by focusing on our three pillars: Resiliency, Redirection, and Reintegration. Within each of those pillars, we provide trust, strength, and direction. We provide both in-house GBF support and external resources advocacy, consultancy, and community connection to support the Green Beret's transition. We focus on connecting Green Berets with the mentors, programs, and advocates needed to make their next mission a success.



### **VA BENEFITS & CLAIMS PROGRAM**

The Green Beret Foundation's Next Ridgeline® Transition Support program is designed to provide the Special Operations community a comprehensive understanding of the VA Benefits & Disability Claims process, and internal systems to ensure a fair and thorough evaluation of VA claims. VA claims accuracy can result in a quantifiable increase in tax-free compensation to each Green Beret's entire household.

### **THIS PROGRAM ADDRESSES CHALLENGES BY PROVIDING:**

- ➔ Veteran Affairs advocacy to review current military/personnel service medical records or post-service VA.
- ➔ Access to our regional Accredited Veterans Services Officers (VSO) to file an original or updated VA disability claim.
- ➔ Pre-transition briefings for Special Forces soldiers and their family.
- ➔ Locating any treatment records or archived documents as evidence to submit when filing VA disability claims.
- ➔ Assess previous service documentation or records for a condition or an injury that could have potentially led to a service-connection: the in-service injury or diagnosis.

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## LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE SCHEDULE

| AGE as of DECEMBER 31st | ONE-TIME PAYMENT | LIFE MEMBERSHIP INSTALLMENT PLAN |                |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
|                         |                  | initial payment                  | 11 payments of |
| THROUGH AGE 30          | \$425.00         | \$45.00                          | \$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        |

## POST 8541

2222 Austin Hwy  
 San Antonio, TX  
 78218

(210) 655-2944

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)

- |                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| WORLD WAR II               | BOSNIA/KOSOVO                         |
| OCCUPATION SERVICE         | GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY |
| KOREAN SERVICE (1950-1954) | AFGHANISTAN (2001-present)            |
| KOREA DUTY (1955-present)  | IRAQ (2003-2011)                      |
| VIETNAM SERVICE            | INHERENT RESOLVE (2014 - present)     |
| EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS   | SSBN DETERRENT PATROL INSIGNIA        |
| DESERT SHIELD/STORM        | HOSTILE FIRE / IMMINENT DANGER PAY    |

### MEMBERSHIP TYPE (circle one)

- Member-At-Large OR Post # \_\_\_\_\_  
 ANNUAL MEMBER: Please enclose \$45 dues or Post dues of \$\_\_\_\_  
 Check if you wish to be automatically billed for annual dues  
 LIFE MEMBER: Please enclose amount shown on table.  
 LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLAN: Please enclose \$45 dues.  
 Check if you wish to be automatically billed for installments

### BILLING INFORMATION

- MASTERCARD  VISA  DISCOVER  AMEX  CHECK

### Dates and location of service in an overseas conflict:

\_\_\_\_\_

### Please list any campaign medals received below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I affirm that I am a citizen or national of the United States, that my Campaign Service was honorably, and that I have never subsequently been discharged from military service under dishonorable conditions. I also certify that I am entitled to a campaign ribbon or medal authorized by the U.S. government based on my overseas service or (2) I have served overseas in Korea or (3) I have received Imminent Danger or Hostile Fire Pay. I authorize authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to verify honorable overseas service entitling me to membership.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Member's Name and Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Quartermaster's Signature and Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_



2222 Austin Hwy **DECEMBER** 210-655-2944

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY   |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| <br>Post Calendar<br><br>Post Web Page<br><br>Scholarship | <b>V Post 8541</b><br>Commander - Bill Smith<br>Sr. Vice Commander - Robert DeArmon<br>Quartermaster - Chris Espinoza<br><a href="http://www.vfwpost8541.org">www.vfwpost8541.org</a> |   | # One Post in TEXAS  | <br><b>1200-1400</b><br>2nd Sat. of the Month                                 | <b>Saturday Bands</b><br>Play From 6:30 to 10:30<br>Meals are 5:30 to 7:00 |  |
| <b>Alamo Model A Club Meeting</b><br>3rd Sunday at 1 PM   | <b>Sickcall Every Sunday</b><br>1300 - 1500   | <b>ASWAA Meeting</b><br>1230<br>3rd Saturday                  | Calendar is subject to change. This is Version 1 effective 29 Nov 22   | <b>1 1900 General Membership &amp; Auxiliary Meetings</b><br>Kitchen Open 5-7 | <b>P</b>   | <b>3 Fried Catfish Fries \$12</b><br><b>Coleslaw</b><br><b>Hush Puppies</b><br>Cross Hill Junction |
| <b>4 Pool League</b>                                      | <b>5 KITCHEN OPEN 5-7</b>   | <b>6 Cornhole 1900</b><br>Kitchen Open 5-7<br>RayG's Birthday | <b>7 Kitchen Open 5-7</b><br>101st AB Meeting 1900<br>Pearl Harbor Day | <b>8 RayH's Birthday</b><br>Jackson White                                     | <b>9 O</b>   | <b>10 Brisket \$12</b><br><b>Spanish Rice</b><br><b>Charro Beans</b><br>Karaoke by Dalila          |
| <b>11 Pool League</b>                                     | <b>12 KITCHEN OPEN 5-7</b>  | <b>13 Cornhole 1900</b><br>Kitchen Open 5-7                   | <b>14 Kitchen Open 5-7</b>   |   | <b>15 O</b>  | <b>17 Open Kitchen</b><br>Karaoke by Dalila  |
| <b>18 Pool League</b><br>Cigar Bob's Birthday             | <b>19 KITCHEN OPEN 5-7</b>  | <b>20 Cornhole 1900</b><br>Kitchen Open 5-7                   | <b>21 Kitchen Open 5-7</b>   | <b>22 SUPPORT YOUR POST. BUY YOUR BUDDY A DRINK.</b>                          | <b>23 E</b>  | <b>24 Christmas Party</b><br>Juke Box Music  |
| <b>26 See the Flyer</b>                                   | <b>27 KITCHEN OPEN 5-7</b>  | <b>27 Cornhole 1900</b><br>Kitchen Open 5-7                   | <b>28 L</b><br>KITCHEN OPEN 5-7  |   | <b>29 R</b>  | <b>31 See the Flyer</b><br>Bill S's Birthday   |

WebPage: [vfwpost8541.org](http://vfwpost8541.org) LgB Email: [Post8541@satx.rr.com](mailto:Post8541@satx.rr.com)





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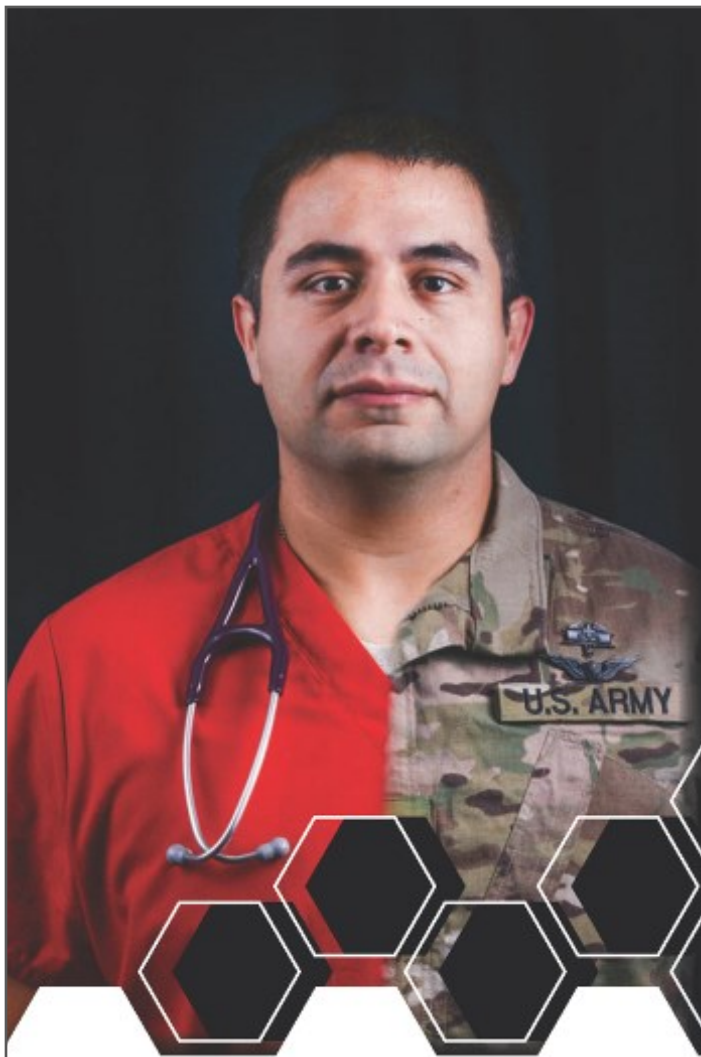
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# GREEN BERET SFA CHAPTER XV

## 2022 CALENDAR

| <u>JANUARY</u>   | <u>FEBRUARY</u>   | <u>MARCH</u>   |
|--|---|--|
| 01 New Year's Day<br>15 Board Meeting 1100hrs<br>15 Membership Meeting 1300hrs<br>17 Martin Luther King Day  | 12 Board Meeting 1130hrs<br>12 Membership Meeting 1300hrs<br>14 Valentine's Day<br>15 Drop Input Due<br>21 President's Day<br>26 CH XV 45 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary | 02 Ash Wednesday<br>05 Board Meeting 1130hrs<br>05 Membership Meeting 1300hrs<br>11-13 Cotulla Event<br>13 Daylight Savings Time Change<br>17 St. Patrick's Day<br>20 Spring Begins<br>25 CMOH Day |
| <u>APRIL</u>   | <u>MAY</u>  | <u>JUNE</u>  |
| 01 April Fool's Day<br>02 4th Annual GBF Crawfish Boil<br>09 CH XV Memorial 1000hrs<br>09 Board Meeting 1130hrs<br>09 Membership Meeting 1300hrs<br>10 Palm Sunday<br>15 Good Friday<br>17 Easter Sunday | 08 Mother's Day<br><b>NO BOARD/MEMBERSHIP MEETING</b><br>13-15 Canyon Lake Picnic<br>15 Drop Input Due<br>30 Memorial Day   | 11 Board Meeting 1130hrs<br>11 Membership Meeting 1300hrs<br>14 Flag Day & Army Birthday<br>19 Father's Day/Juneteenth   |
| <u>JULY</u>  | <u>AUGUST</u>   | <u>SEPTEMBER</u>   |
| 04 Independence Day<br>09 Board Meeting 1130hrs<br>09 Membership Meeting 1300hrs   | 13 Board Meeting 1130hrs<br>13 Membership Meeting 1300hrs<br>15 Drop Input Due  | 05 Labor Day<br>10 Board Meeting 1130hrs<br>10 Membership Meeting 1300hrs<br>16 POW/MIA Day<br>20-24 SFAIC   |
| <u>OCTOBER</u>   | <u>NOVEMBER</u>   | <u>DECEMBER</u>  |
| 08 Membership Meeting 1300hrs<br>10 Columbus Day<br>17-21 SOAR Reunion<br>31 Halloween   | 06 Daylights Saving Time Change<br>11 Veterans Day<br>12 Board Meeting 1130hrs<br>12 Membership Meeting 1300hrs<br>15 Drop Input Due<br>24 Thanksgiving Day         | 07 Pearl Harbor Day<br><b>NO BOARD/MEMBERSHIP MEETING</b><br>10 Christmas Banquet<br>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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 **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER.**  
School of Nursing



## \$\$\$ DOLLARS AND CENTS

### Treasurer's Report, December 2022:

Merry Christmas Chapter Alamo Chapter. Regarding dollars and cents the Chapter has obligated a fair amount of cash for the Christmas party. The proactive approach for events, fundraising, and merchandise, we assess increased incoming cash flow for 2023. I wanted to thank those individuals who are volunteering to assist in that effort. I want to apologize for not being present at this year's holiday banquet, I'm attending my yearly training in Virginia Beach. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

All the best,  
Pete

*treasurer@sfa-XV.org*



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

*WarriorsOnTheWay@gmail.com*

## Johnnie A. Terrazas, PE

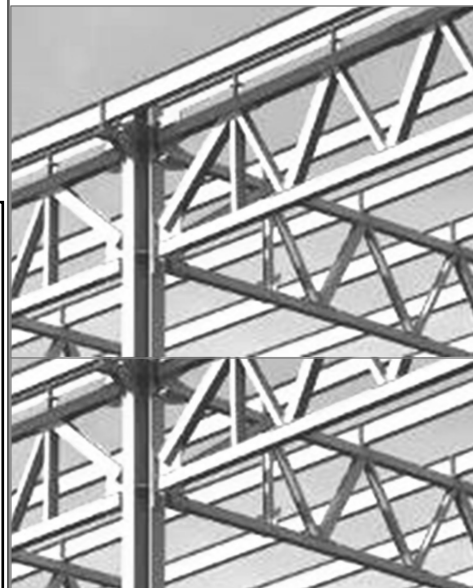
Chief Engineer-CEO



32310 Flat Rock View  
Bulverde, Texas 78163

*johnnaterrazas@gmail.com*

210-833-9493



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## **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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[editor@sfa-xv.org](mailto:editor@sfa-xv.org)



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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](mailto: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](mailto: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!"**