



GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

The Alamo Chapter

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

Issue #9

September, 2011

President: Armando Canales
Vice-President: Bill Beall
Treasurer: Mario Guerra
Secretary: Rick Matheney
Sgt at Arms: Pat Connolly
Asst. Sgt at Arms: Bob Hand
Membership Secretary: Marti Scott



Chief Editor: Mike Maloy
Web Master: Scott Sutherland
Asst. Secy: Henry Jimenez
Chaplain: Adan Flores
Chaplain: Rudy Johnson
Home Page: www.sfa-xv.org

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

03 Board Meeting 1300
10 Cajunfest Celebration VFW, 1200-?,
Educational Grant Applications,
Nominations for chapter officers accepted
16 National MIA/POW day
NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Happy Patriot's Day

OCTOBER

03 Board Meeting 1300
08 Membership Meeting 1900,
meal: 1800
Fund raiser at Dick's on Nov. 15th
Scholarship Applications Accepted
Nominations for Chapter Officers
Happy Halloween

NOVEMBER

05 Board Meeting 1300
10 Membership Meeting 1900
meal:1800
10 Drop Input Due
11 Veterans Ceremony FSH
Election and Scholarship results
15 Fund raiser at Dick's Last Resort
Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Veteran's Day



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As most chapter members know by now, I recently lost my youngest brother following a long illness from numerous medical issues. He lived a good life and served his country in a splendid manner, serving two tours in Vietnam as a Navy SeaBee. I wish to thank those of you who offered your prayers and support and to those of you that were able to be with my family for the rosary and graveside service. I will always be indebted to you and I want to convey to you my family's everlasting gratitude. This is the true meaning of Green Beret brotherhood.

Now we must go forward with our lives and commitments. We've received the chapter coins and I've begun to mail some to the chapter members who had bid on them and reside outside of our city. I will have the rest of the coins at our next board meeting on September 3rd. The coins will be sold for \$15 of course! I want to publicly thank Henry Jimenez for the initial design and to Bill (Wild Bill) Smith for the "leg work" and kudos to those chapter members that donated large sums of money for the coins, Pedro Vasquez, Pete Estrada, Lyle Sloan, Henry Jimenez, Smitty, Marti, Jim Stanford and many others. All the profits will be put into our convention 2013 operational fund.

We still need volunteers to assist our chapter in planning the convention so come and attend the next planning meeting. In addition, we're looking for chapter members who may have connections (contacts) that would want to support our project. We will need sponsors or donors for the Hospitality Room, Banquet, Picnic, advertising, entertainment and other areas. You may contact, Fred Solis, chairman, Jen Paquette, assistant chairperson, Mario, Treasurer or me if you can help.

Don't forget to join us for our Cajun Fest on September 10th at VFW Post 8541. Donations of money, Cajun dishes or desserts will be gratefully accepted. The chow line will open at noon. Because of this celebration, we will not have a membership meeting in September.

Our annual fund raiser at Dick's Last Resort will be held on Tuesday, November 15th. We're asking for items for the Silent Auction. Contact Bill Beale or me if you wish to help. Happy trails to all of you until we meet again. God is great, beer is good and people are loco! Stay thirsty my friends. **Red Bird sends**



Red Bird sends.

Notice to All Chapter XV Members

In order to maintain our lines of communication, please notify Bob Hand (830-609-1918) or Marti Scott (210-491-2783) anytime you have a change to your address, phone number or e-mail address. If you have recently obtained an internet connection and now have an e-mail address please let us know as it saves our chapter \$\$\$\$\$\$ if we can e-mail you the newsletter and other notices.



MINUTES OF MEMBERSHIP MEETING AUGUST 11, 2011

1. Meeting called to order @ 1900 hrs by Bill Beall, Chapter VP. Mando's brother passed away and he is with the family this evening.
2. Pledge of Allegiance / moment of silence for our POW's, MIA's and fallen SF brothers and spouses.
3. Invocation by Rudy
4. Meal: thanks to Adan and his wife, Yolanda, for cooking... and a guy named **Red Bird** for hosting it. The meatloaf was very good.
5. Recognition of new chapter members / special guests.
6. * VP asks each attendee to introduce himself / herself and share a quick history of his / her military service. We go around the room with everyone (guest included) speaking for approximately 30 seconds. Turned out to be a good idea and very popular. Several guests in attendance tonight.
7. Members sick or in distress? John Graw is doing well and is in attendance tonight... and with a \$500 donation to the 2013 convention fund.
8. Mario opened an account at the bank for convention funds.
9. Coins: check's in the mail! Coins were being shipped this week. Check with SGM Smith.
10. Update on National Convention 2013 from Fred Solis: Our 1st convention meeting was held last Saturday prior to our regular board meeting. We need sponsors at all levels... large and small. 50% of any profits made at convention will go to our national HQ's. Great rate on hotel rooms at the Hyatt... just \$106 per night.
11. SOAR, Las Vegas- Sept.19th-23rd. The Orleans Hotel (check with Godfather for details.)
12. **Red Bird** has been appointed to the Philip Neri Committee for 2011-2013.
13. National Convention 2012 will be at Fayetteville. 60TH anniversary. Doubletree Motel; make reservations early before all the rooms are gone; you may have to go to another hotel. Reservation number:910-323-8282, June 11-17, You may call Zipper Allen (chairman) for details.
14. Our DROP input has been submitted.
15. We're accepting nominations / applications for Scholarship grant.
16. Requesting that current chapter officers run for same offices for next two years; need continuity for convention 2013.
17. Treasurer's report. Motion to approve passed.

BREAK 15 minutes

- Unfinished Business
- New business: September 10th - Cajunfest here at VFW bingo hall (already confirmed date with Lori.) **Bring a side dish.** We have to buy all beverages from the VFW. **Chow line starts at 12 noon - no membership meeting.**
- Dick's Last Resort: need person to assist. See Marti.
- Motion needed to give Fred Solis and Jen Paquette full authority to make contracts or sign any documents pertaining to 2013 convention. Motion passed / carried.

OPEN FORUM

- Rudy – info on Texas Militia. Check internet for more info or see Rudy.
- Mike Maloy – keep sending photos for newsletters.
- Chuck Rose - need leaders, trainers, and volunteers for Red Cross. See Chuck.
- John Graw – VA info... possible to get more than 100% disability. See John for details.
- Buddy Gee – 5th Group anniversary, Sept. 19 – 24
- Lennie – brought pears from tree at his house... help yourself. Suggest doing your own research concerning the Green Beret Foundation
- Larry Sills – suggest being prepared for your death notice ahead of time to take burden off friends and family. So many deaths in our association lately that it makes good sense to be ready with photos and obit the way you want it to be written. Beall suggests bringing the info with photos to our monthly meetings.

Motion to be adjourned @ 2015 hrs

RAFFLE

By Secretary – *Rick Mathewey*



!!!!Special Notice!!!!

For those who are annual members, it is time to renew your membership for 2012. Please send your check made out to Chapter XV and note it is for your annual dues. Dues MUST be received before 31 December 2011. IF you send your dues to National directly (we prefer you send your dues to the Chapter so we may get our rebate for it), PLEASE note on the bottom it is for Annual Dues with Chapter XV so that we will get credit for our rebate from National. As always if you have any questions or issues, let me know. You may contact me via email at: oneangeLfl@hotmail.com or by telephone (210) 849-1242. Thank you.

Marti Scott, Membership Chairperson

!!!!Special Notice!!!!

John Edmiston, writer for the Chapter XV Special Forces book, is seeking photos, letters and other memorabilia from our Chapter XV members' time on duty. Please gather these items to be included in the SF book. You can scan them yourself or he will have them scanned and originals will be returned. Documents of your service would also be appreciated.

As to letters, they can be letters from family or wives and girl friends. If you kept 'Dear John' letters, he'd like to include those as well. You may contact John at his email address: jedmiston52340@satx.rr.com

!!!!Special Notice!!!!

Per my request for Red Cross Volunteers to the membership meeting on Thursday night, August 11. The point of contact at the Red Cross is Alfred Lopez (210) 582-1925. They are looking for various types of support and skills. The only requirement is that there is a basic background check that everyone associated with the Red Cross has to pass. This is a great opportunity for our SF brothers to get involved and serve their community while demonstrating their leadership abilities. Thanks, Chuck Rose, 210-854-4131.



Pictures from the Funeral for Alonso Canales at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery on August 19, 2011 (younger brother of Ch. XV Pres. Armando Canales)



Presenting the U.S flag to the family of Alonso Canales.



Ladies of SFA Chapter XV.



Group picture of Alamo Chapter members in attendance.



Chapter President Armando Canales.



SGM Enrique Jimenez (ret.) and General Alfredo Valenzuela (ret.)



Folding the flag for presentation to the family.



Once Upon A Time....

(These pictures are printed in the order in which they were submitted to the newsletter. We are finally receiving a great response to our request for old photos so there may be a delay in printing your photo in the newsletter. Please keep them coming. Thank you for your understanding. The Editor



Bob Hand leading some not-so-conventional transportation in an undisclosed location in 1986.



Bob Hand at an undisclosed location in 1986, center, wearing the boonie hat.



Chuck Rose waits for a Huey in So. Vietnam.



Jim Weldon & Maggie at My Da So. Vietnam. Dec. 1967.



Lou Colantoni, at age 19 in Korea in October of 1961.



David Hunter on left, carrying a 'wild pig.' Taken in 1964 at A-232, Camp Buon Brieng.

Special thanks to all the chapter members who have submitted your 'Once Upon A Time' photos. They are terrific and we hope those of you that haven't yet submitted them will do so ASAP.

Please submit your "Once Upon A Time" photos to Editor, Mike Maloy at Chinook501@aol.com. If you mail me your photos, DO NOT submit original photos (copies only because I automatically lose all originals). CAUTION!!!! The next time I receive an original photo I intend to run it through my shredder instead of my scanner.



Pictures from Cajun Fest, Sept. 10, 2011



And it was a birthday party too. Happy birthday to Marti Scott and Bill Beall.



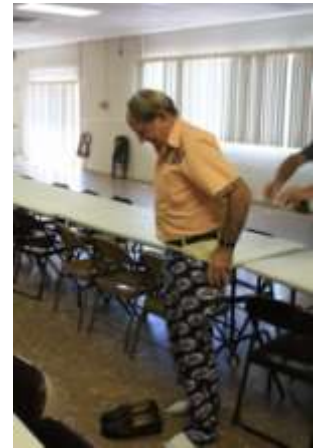
Bobby Walker, Mike Maloy, and Mando Canales solve the problems of the world.



Bill Beall, shucks an oyster with a smile of anticipation.



Lenny Czarnecki is a serious oyster shucker. Note the grim look!



Lenny tries on his new pants, compliments of Lyle Sloan.



A lot of very happy diners enjoying a delicious Cajun meal prepared by our cooks, Colin, Aubrey, Pete and Bruce. Pictured here in the center foreground are Pat Connolly, Alex Flores and Lou Colantoni.



From L. to R., Bart Severson (back to camera), Bob Walker and Lyle Sloan.



Mario Guerra, Lou and Mary Colantoni enjoy an after dinner chat.



From L. to R., 'A.R.' Skeebe and Alex Flores.



From L. to R. in foreground, Lyle and Irene Sloan and Tony Reccio



Two of our guests enjoy the music after eating a fantastic meal.



Our three cooks, Aubrey, Pete and Colin.



Our two birthday celebrants, Bill Beall and Marti Scott cut the birthday cake.



Dave Benavides proudly showing off his new shirt.



Frank and Patricia Sill selling tickets for the wine basket to raise funds for the Chapter.



From L. to R., Rick Matheney, Chuck Rose, Marci Maloy, and Marti Scott (back to camera).

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. M. 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



Drop Zone Cafe & Bar
Hope & Ed Fernandez

Breakfast Tacos,
Lunch Specials,
and Iced Cold Beer

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Attention: Juan Moya

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Special thanks to our unofficial photographers who continue to provide us with numerous photographs of Chapter XV events: David Benavides, Henry Jimenez, Marti and Ben Scott, and Chapter XV chronicler John Edmiston. Selecting which ones to use is always a difficult decision, but we try to include everyone possible.

The Editor

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 Editor Mike Maloy at Chinook501@aol.com, or mail them to Chapter President Mando Canales at SFA Chapter XV, P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio, TX 78265.



"Carry on!"

