



# GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

*The Alamo Chapter*

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

Issue # 05-16

June 2016

**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  
**Editor:** Buddy & Sharon Gee  
**Webmaster:** Scotty Codename  
**VGSA Rep:** Raul de la Garza  
**DAV/VA:** JR Garza  
**Chaplains:** R. Johnson & A. Flores

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Committee Chairs

**By-Laws:** Bill Smith  
**Nominations:** TBD  
**Oktober Fest VFW:** Rudy Johnson  
**Tellers:** Lenny Czarnecki  
**Motorcycle Challenge:** Gordon Lee  
**JROTC Awards:** Bill Smith  
**Scholarships:** Alex Flores  
**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

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

### June

**02 —June Board Meeting 1400**

**04—Membership Meeting:**

**Meal 1200**

**Business Meeting 1300**

**12-19—National SFA Conference, Jacksonville, Fla.**

**30—Board Meeting 1400**



### **DON'T FORGET**

- Christmas Banquet tickets are now available. \$50 per person, including cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, after-dinner drinks, live music and dancing. December 10, El Tropicano Hotel. See Bill Smith for tickets.
- Sunday 'Choir Practice' every Sunday at noon, VFW 8541, 2222 Austin Highway.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Bill Smith, Chapter XV president, was not available to pen his normal message to the troops for the June issue of the newsletter. His ghost writer for this issue is Buddy Gee, your loyal treasurer.

We regret to report that Mike Maloy is passing the torch as editor of our newsletter. Mike says his cancer treatments are taking their toll on his body and his time. We wish him well and thank him from the bottom of our hearts for his many years of producing an award-winning newsletter. Thank you, Mike!

Buddy and Sharon Gee have volunteered to fill in until a replacement editor steps up to the plate. Please consider volunteering for this important mission.

As Bill would say, "I hope everyone is well and doing fine. Our meeting is on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. I hope to see everyone there." We meet at the VFW Post 8541, 2222 Austin Highway. Lunch is served at noon and the meeting is at 1:00 p.m.

This year our Jack Hogue Picnic at Canyon Lake was a smashing success. A good time was had by all and thanks to our young guns, the average age of attendees was at an all-time low. We welcome the "youngsters," our Iraq and Afghanistan veterans... and of course, the beautiful young ladies who come with them. See the attached photos.

President Bill and a few other members will be attending the SFA National Conference in Jacksonville, Florida, later this month. We'll get a report  at the July membership meeting. Until then, keep safe. DOL

## **\$\$\$ DOLLARS AND CENTS**

### **Treasurer's Report, June 2016**

May was a month to spend. Our only income was a \$20 donation from Chapter member John Rodden. In the expense column, we had budgeted \$2,000 to cover the Jack Hogue Picnic at Canyon Lake, but came in under budget with expenditures of \$1,482 for food, beverages, supplies and ice. Not too bad for a whole weekend of fun, food and drinks for our members and guests. Picnic Chairman Raul de la Garza broke even on the cabin rentals. Other expenses for the month were \$70 to renew the license plates on the war wagon and \$45 to renew the Sam's Club Membership Card.

Advertising space in the newsletter is still available. Raul has some nice gifts for the door prize drawings, so get your tickets at the meeting. See you there!

Buddy Gee

Treasurer, SFA Chapter XV



## **JROTC AWARDS**

Chapter member Arturo Medina presented Special Forces medals and certificates to outstanding Junior ROTC cadets at several San Antonio area high schools. Shown counterclockwise from top right are the award recipients: Cadet 1LT Gregory Barba of MacArthur High School, Cadet SSG Vincent Salazar of Churchill High School, Cadet Drake Adkins of Clark High School, and Cadet CSM Braden Agnoskie of Madison High School.

# JACK HOGUE PICNIC at CANYON LAKE



Attendees at the Jack Hogue Annual Picnic listen as chapter members and guests introduce themselves.



Jim Stanford, Ron Burkett, Buddy Gee and Gary Waggoner share a few war stories with younger vets.



Left: Arnulfo Vasquez, Jeff Dahlby and Santos Gutierrez enjoy refreshments.



Right: afternoon chat with Iris Archer, Marlys Burkett and Cecilia Goode.

# JACK HOGUE PICNIC at CANYON LAKE



The 2016 picnic was a great success! Thanks to Picnic Chairman Raul de la Garza (right) and all his helpers, everything came together just right. Cooks Don Iverson, Ben and Marti Scott, Steve and Karen Hermann outdid themselves, from the Friday night fajitas to the Sunday morning SOS. Nobody went hungry or thirsty!



## **JACK HOGUE PICNIC at CANYON LAKE**



### **FUN, FOOD, FRIENDS:**

Counterclockwise from top left: Jerrie LeBleu and Barry Archer help the kids roast marshmallows for S'mores.

Buddy Gee, Delbert Hayes, Gary Waggoner and Toby Todd get together for a pic.

Twinnings chatting with a friend.

Barbecued shrimp courtesy of Steve and Karen Hermann, caught smooching on the job.

## JACK HOGUE PICNIC at CANYON LAKE



7th Group guys had a reunion of their own at the picnic. From left, Don Iverson, Art Medina, Bob Hand, Joe Dawson, Jeff Dahlby and Mike Brown.



Jerrie, Raul and Gordon Lee dig into picnic goodies. President Bill watches the action.

Notice to members and friends of SFA Chapter XV, The Alamo Chapter:  
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**President: William E. Smith**

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### ***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*

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**Special thanks to our unofficial photographers who continue to provide us with numerous photographs of Chapter XV events: Toby and Linda Todd, David Benavides, Henry Jimenez, Dan Hopgood and Marti and Ben Scott. Selecting which ones 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 [sgmggee@aol.com](mailto:sgmggee@aol.com), or mail them to Chapter President Bill Smith at SFA Chapter XV, P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio, TX 78265.



**“Carry on!”**

