



GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

The Alamo Chapter

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

Issue #14-3

March, 2014

President: Chuck Rose
Vice-President: Bill Smith
Treasurer: Mario Guerra
Secretary: Bob Hand
Sgt at Arms: Pat Connolly
Asst. Treasurer: Buddy Gee
Membership Secy: Marti Scott
Asst. Sgt at Arms: Raul de la Garza
Public Affairs Off.: Buddy Gee
Recruiter: John Tippy
Recruiter: Joe Cavallero
Recruiter: TBD
Tellers Chairman: Len Czarnecki
Canyon Lake Picnic: Bob Hand
Dick's Last Resort: TBD
Nomination Committee: Buddy Gee
Christmas Banquet: Bill Smith

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www.sfa-xv.org



Editor: Mike Maloy
Web Master: Scott Codename
Asst. Secy/Past Pres.: Bill Beall
July 4th Parade: Bill Beall
Oktober Fest VFW: Bill Beall
Chaplain: Adan Flores
Chaplain: Rudy Johnson
SFA Conv. Chmn: Fred Solis
SFA Conv Asst.Chmn: Bob Walker
Memorial To Fallen: Bob Walker
Memorial Day: Bob Walker
JROTC Awards: Dan Hopgood
JROTC Awards: Henry Jimenez
Scholarships: Alex Flores
SFA Motorcycle: Gordon Lee
Cove Fund Raiser: Mario Guerra

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

3 Apr Board Meeting 1300
5 Membership Meeting 1300
5 Motorcycle Cmt Mtg 1500
12 Chpt Memorial Serv 1100
for Fallen Brothers/Spouses
TBD Motorcycle Rally

MAY

1 May Board Meeting 1300
10 Drop Input Due
16-18 Jack Hogue Picnic
26 Memorial Day Serv 0930
JROTC Presentations All Month
No Membership Meeting in May

JUNE

5 Jun Board Meeting 1300
7 Membership Meeting 1300
9-15 National Convention

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

February and March were slow months for the Chapter. The committees continued to meet and plan for upcoming activities. Committees are always looking for additional members, so if you are interested in joining one or two, here are some of the committees, and the names of the chairperson to contact:

- 1) By-Law Committee contact **Bill Smith**
- 2) Motorcycle Combat Challenge Ride (April 19) contact **Gordon Lee**
- 3) Chapter Memorial Service for Fallen Brothers and Spouses (April 12) contact **JW Martin**
- 4) JROTC Program (May/Jun) contact **Dan Hopgood**
- 5) Wounded Warrior Support & Recruitment Committee (On-going) contact **JW Martin**
- 6) Jack Hogue Canyon Lake Picnic (May 16-18) contact **Bob Hand**
- 7) Memorial/Veterans Day Services at FSH Ceremony contact **JW Martin**
- 8) Dick's Last Resort Fund Raiser (Date TBD – Oct/Nov) contact **(TBD)**
- 9) Nomination Committee (Aug) contact **Buddy Gee**
- 10) Teller Committee (Nov) contact **Lenny Czarnecki**
- 11) Christmas Banquet Committee (Dec 6) contact **Chuck Rose/Mario Guerra**

As you can see, there are a lot of upcoming events within the chapter, and I want to personally thank everyone who is involved in supporting chapter activities and its membership. In April we have two major events, The Chapter Memorial Service for Fallen Brothers and Spouses on the 12th beginning at 1000 hours at Fort Sam Houston, and on the 19th we have the Motorcycle Combat Challenge Fund Raiser Ride. We are going to need the help of the chapter membership to support this event and ensure that it is a success. More will be discussed about both of these events at the General Membership Meeting on April 5th at 1300 hours.

I am still looking for volunteers to serve as Chapter pallbearers in 2014. It does require the individual to have a SFA green blazer with pocket patch and a beret (green, tan, red or black) with SFA Crest and Flash. JW Martin is also looking for flag bearers for Memorial and Veterans Day Services at Fort Sam Houston. The same uniform as pallbearers applies.

A lot of members have asked where they can obtain the beret flash and crest and SFA green blazer with pocket patch.

The SFA flash and crest for the beret can be ordered from SFA National. The order form can be found on SFA Association web-site: <http://www.specialforcesassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Merchandise-Order-Form-revised-12-05-13.pdf>

The SFA Blazer and pocket patch can be ordered from several organizations. This store sells them at a starting price of \$110, which includes patch. These are high quality jackets.

<http://stores.uniformspro.com/blazers/>

Sick and Distressed:

- 1) **Mike Wyant** home, but still awaiting a date for stomach surgery
- 2) **Raul Del La Garza** and **Tony Stokely** are both recovering from shoulder surgery.

Chuck Rose
President
SFA Chapter XV



SFA CHAPTER XV MEETING MINUTES

Chapter Meeting Date: 1 March 2014

The meeting was called to order by President **Chuck Rose** at 1300 hrs. This was followed by the pledge of allegiance. Chaplain **Adan Flores** gave the invocation. A moment of silence for fallen comrades and POW's was held.

Chuck Rose welcomed back Chapter member **Joe Haro**.

Members sick or in distress were mentioned:

- **Mike Wyatt** still ill. Members may call his wife (Hortencia) at 830-998-7135.
- **Tony Stokely** recovering from shoulder surgery.
- **Raul de la Garza** recovering from shoulder surgery 4 – 7 February 14.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **January's and February's Chapter Meetings Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes by **Pat Connolly**/seconded by **Barry Archer**. Minutes approved by membership.
- b. **Treasurer's report** was given by **Mario Guerra**. Motion to approve report by **Barry Archer**/seconded by **Marti Scott**. Report approved by membership.
- c. **Membership report** given by **Marti Scott**: 167 chapter members are paid up for the year with 30 others deemed delinquent on dues as of end of January 2014. 6 widows are on our Chapter roster.
- d. **Alert Roster Update** was given by **Chuck Rose**. All changes/updates need to be forwarded to **Marti Scott** by email as she is maintaining the master roster.
- e. **Chapter committees and other updates:**
 - **Bylaws Review Committee (Bill Smith csmsapd@satx.rr.com):** Current chapter and national bylaws are posted on chapter website. Bill has been having committee meetings. Term limits of office holders, rules for the wearing of beret, etc. are being discussed. Should you have any proposed changes/amendments please email them to Bill for his committee's review.
 - **Memorial for Chapter XV Fallen Members/Spouses** to be held at the Ft. Sam Houston Memorial Cemetery is schedule for 12 April 2014. **J. W. Martin** will be coordinating this event and will brief us with further information at subsequent Chapter meetings. Set-up at 0930 hrs. Service beginning at 1000 hrs. Chow at the VFW after service.
 - **Motorcycle Challenge Fundraiser** will be held in 19 April 2014 with **Gordon Lee** coordinating. All motorcycle clubs/riders are welcome and have been contacted. So far this has been well received by these groups. Bike run to 5 stops at various participating VFW's from 0930 to 1530 hrs. (approximate times) with combat skills tested at each stop such as grenade accuracy throw and shooting skills. NOTE: only dummy grenades and BB's or pellets will be used during competition. Prizes/gifts to be presented based on scores. Chapter will be purchasing BB guns and pellet guns for the event that we will also use in subsequent years. If you want to be on Gordon's committee, let him know as he needs volunteers. This is shaping up to be a grand event.
 - **JROTC Recognition Program** is very active. Chapter representative is present at participating high schools where a plaque and ribbon is presented to each award recipient. If you wish to represent Chapter XV at one of the San Antonio area high schools that is currently not in our program, please see **Dan Hopgood** for details. We now have 25 high schools participating in this program and there are still 10 – 15 additional schools that have not been contacted yet that we could sponsor.
 - **Jack Hogue Picnic** at Canyon Lake will be held 16 - 18 May 2014. 30 trailers were available for rent, and they are going fast with 15 left! All 7 chapters from Texas and Oklahoma (Region 7 of the SFA) have been invited. See **Bob Hand** (210-336-1102) to reserve a trailer. Looking to have a bigger turnout this year than last year and a lot of fun for all!

- **SFA Annual Convention** in Columbia, SC this year from 9 – 15 June.

15 MINUTE BREAK

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Drop Zone** will be re-opened in March.
 - b. **J. R. Garza** (BGARZ@SATX.RR.COM) updated Chapter members on some of the changes taking place at VA:
 - There is a push that veterans receiving benefits from VA may lose those benefits when they become eligible to draw SSN.
 - Be aware that there has been an electronic security breach of VA benefit files.
 - If your military ID has your SSN on it, it may be confiscated at the post gates by security. All new ID cards will be required to have DOD numbers on them. In 2015 there will be a new ID card for all retired personnel with a data chip giving individuals access to only certain areas of post.
 - New VA patient cards are being sent out by US mail. Once you receive your new card, destroy the old one.
 - If you lose you military ID card you need a police report in order to get a new card issued.
 - c. **Roy Benavidez Elementary School** – Chapter will be a sponsor to this school. **Steve Twining** briefed the Chapter on what the school would like from us and will be point of contact for school. Steve indicated that the school rewards students with popcorn and is trying to purchase a popcorn machine for that purpose. Motion made by **Lennie Czarnecki**/seconded by **Barry Archer** for Chapter to spend up to \$800 to purchase a commercial grade popcorn machine for the school. Approved by membership. Steve is looking for volunteers who wish to help him out with this school.
 - d. Chapter Christmas Banquet will be held on 6 DEC 14.
 - e. **Open Forum:**
 - **Pat Connolly** will be having knee replacement surgery.
 - Vietnam monument ceremony in Austin on 29 March 14.
 - **James Boone** of Dick’s Last Resort is the San Antonio Riverboat King. Chapter donated \$500 to this non-profit event and will probably get the money back tenfold at our fund raiser at Dick’s Last Resort.
 - **Chuck Rose** asked members to sign get well cards that were at the meeting for future times when members may be sick. You may be getting a card signed by yourself so don’t get sick.
 - f. Meeting lunch prepared by **Adan Flores**. Thank you Adan!
 - g. Chapter XV Raffle Conducted.
- Meeting adjourned at 1411 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Barry Archer,
SFA Chapter XV Assistant Secretary

Jack Hogue Picnic, Fort Sam Houston Recreation Area, Canyon May 2014

Friday, 16 May, 14:00 trailer keys will be available for issue at pavilion # 5. Friday: night fajitas b and borracho beans by Marti. BYOB and what ever else you desire. The chapter will supply margaritas by Pe usual.

Saturday, 17 May. Pat Connolly and his Bride will start setting up the chow line at 12:00. The Cha BBQ meats, chicken and sausage. Beer, sodas, water and condiments will also be provided. Please bring you f fruit or a desert. There will be power available for a limited number of Crock pots etc. Bring your our music, box will be there

Sunday, 18 May Bloody Mary's by Buddy and SOS by Marti. Police call and wash down of the pav out time is 12:00 Hrs.

We have 30 three bedroom trailers reserved of which 4 are pet friendly and 1 is for the physically cha of the trailer is \$85.00 a night or \$170.00 for the weekend. POC to reserve a trailer is Bob Hand 210-33 retsfcsmbh@sbcglobal.net. Make checks out to SFA Chapter XV. Mailing address is Bob Hand, 5713 Fairway: 78108 or SFA Chapter XV PO Box 33782 San Antonio, TX 78265-3782. Trailer reservations will not be co money is received. For those of you who have your own RV trailers or motor homes, you must make a r recreation area. The phone number is 800-280-3466. **Trailer reservations must be confirmed and 12:00 hrs. 12 May 2014 or the trailers will be turned back in to the Recreation Center.**

SEE YOU AT CANYON LAKE!!!

Medal of Honor Presentation to SFA Alamo Chapter XV Member Jose Rodela



And Welcome Home Jose Rodela at San Antonio International Airport



Chuck Rose welcomes Jose Rodela home



Jose Rodela meets up with a Korean War buddy (Special thanks to Marti Scott for these pictures).

2014 CALENDAR

<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>MARCH</u>
2 Jan Board Meeting 1300 4 Membership Meeting 1300 4 Motorcycle Cmt Mtg 1500 30 Feb Board Meeting 1300	2 Membership Meeting 1300 2 Motorcycle Cmt Mtg 1500 10 Drop Input Due 27 Mar Board Meeting 1300	1 Membership Meeting 1300 1 Motorcycle Cmt Mtg 1500 7-9 Cotulla Hog Cook-off TBD
<u>APRIL</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>
3 Apr Board Meeting 1300 5 Membership Meeting 1300 5 Motorcycle Cmt Mtg 1500 12 Chpt Memorial Serv 1100 for Fallen Brothers/Spouses TBD Motorcycle Rally	1 May Board Meeting 1300 10 Drop Input Due 16-18 Jack Hogue Picnic 26 Memorial Day Serv 0930 JROTC Presentations All Month NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING	5 Jun Board Meeting 1300 7 Membership Meeting 1300 9-15 National Convention
<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>
3 Board Meeting 1300 4 Fourth of July Parade TBD 5 Membership Meeting 1300 31 Aug Board Meeting 1300	2 Membership Meeting 1300	4 Sep Board Meet 1300 6 Membership Meeting 1300 (Nomination of Officers & Scholarship Applications)
<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>DECEMBER</u>
2 Oct Board Meeting 1300 4 Membership Meeting 1300 4 Oktoberfest Party 1500 TBD Dick's Fund Raiser 1800 1 Nov Board Meeting 1300	1 Membership Meeting 1300 (Election and Scholarships) 10 Drop Input Due 10 Veterans Day Cerem 1000 28 Scholarship Results	4 Dec Board Meeting 1300 6 Christmas Banquet 1730 & Installation of Officers NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING

All Chapter Meeting unless announce otherwise, will be held at VFW Post 8541. Membership Meetings are held at 1300 hrs on the first Saturday of the month. A meal will be served at 12:00 to 1:00 hrs prior to each Membership Meeting. Board Meeting will be held during the Thursday prior to the Membership Meeting at 1300 hrs.

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 matched 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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USA Boxing Gulf Association
331 Peacedale Court
Houston, Texas 77015



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, 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 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 Chuck Rose at SFA Chapter XV, P.O. Box 33782, San Antonio, TX 78265.



"Carry on!"

