

Issue #9-19

President: Bill Smith Vice-President: Juan Lopez Secretary: J.W. Martin Asst. Secretary: David Marshall Treasurer: Buddy Gee Asst. Treasurer: Mike Pagel Sgt at Arms: Raul de la Garza Asst. Sgt at Arms: Gordon Lee Membership Secy: Marti Scott Past President: Chuck Rose Editors: Buddy & Sharon Gee Webmaster: Brent Davis VGSA Rep: Raul de la Garza Chaplains: R. Johnson & S. Rindahl



Committee Chairs By-Laws: Bill Smith Nominations: Chuck Rose JROTC Awards: Juan 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: Bill Smith Budget Committee: Buddy Gee Chapter Memorial Svc: J.W. Martin Chapter Annual Cruise: Karen Hermann

September 2019

# **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**



October 3 — SFA Board Meeting 1400—VFW Post 8541, 2222 Austin Highway

- **October 5** Membership Meeting
  - 1200 Noon meal served
  - 1300 Business meeting



#### October 10 — ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AT DICK'S LAST RESORT

- October 19 Oktoberfest at Fort Sam Houston
- October 31 November Board Meeting

# **DON'T FORGET**



• Fred Solis requests donation of silent auction items for the Dick's Last Resort Fundraiser. See Page 6.

• Volunteers needed for Oktoberfest at Fort Sam Houston. Sign up at Oct. 5 meeting.

- Reserve your spot for next year's Chapter Beach Getaway to Secrets Akumal, Mexico. Details, Page 8.
- Christmas Banquet tickets now on sale at \$55 each. Includes appetizers, drinks, dinner, dancing to live music by Rick Salinas. POC is Bill Smith

# **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

#### **President Sends:**

ur board meeting is fast approaching as well as our Dick's Last Resort fundraiser.

The Board meets at 1400 hrs on the 3rd of October and our regular membership meeting is the 5<sup>th</sup> of October, with lunch at noon followed by the meeting at 1300 hrs. We have been having great turnouts and we are accomplishing a lot.

Canyon Lake went well as we welcomed back the SOD -Africa from their recent deployment.

C-5-19 SF has safely returned, and we will be setting up a welcome home for them as well. I will get some



pictures and get to Buddy for the next newsletter.

Congratulations to Buddy and Sharon on the 2019 Golden Quill Award, which was presented to Chapter XV at the SFA National Convention in August. Our newsletter was named the top newsletter among all SF chapters.

We still have tickets left for the Christmas Banquet on 14 December and we are preselling tickets for Dick's Last Resort.



Sorry for the short input this month, but it has been very busy on the VFW side.

Until the meeting stay safe and enjoy your families.

William Smith Chapter XV President

presidentchapterxv@gmail.com

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

#### Treasurer's Report, September 2019

September is historically one of the Chapter's busiest financial months of the year. This month has been no exception. This is the beginning for membership renewals and ticket sales for Dick's Last Resort and the Christmas Banquet.

A tip of the beret goes to the following donors for September: Chuck Rose (Framed Fiesta Medal and Poster); Rudy Johnson and Bill Neuizer (meeting meals); George Garcia and John Rodden (general fund). New member Allan Blakeborough joined the Chapter as a life member. Raul raised \$120 in door prize tickets and \$180 in merchandise sales.

Chapter expenses included a delicious noon meal of beef stroganoff from the VFW kitchen; Gold Star

family lodging fees at the National Convention; web site

maintenance fees and bank credit card fees.

The Chapter finances are being carefully managed and are keeping within the budget. In October, I will be looking for volunteers to serve on the Budget Committee for 2020.

Donations, membership renewal and tickets for Dick's Last Resort and Christmas Banquet can be purchased on line at <u>www.sfa-xv.org</u>, or at one of our meetings.

> Buddy Gee Treasurer

sgmgee@aol.com

# Honoring life's journey

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12/2018

# **Minutes of September Meeting**

#### Chapter Meeting Date: 07 September 2019

The meeting was called to order by President **William Smith** 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 POWs was held.

**William Smith** welcomed new members/associate members and guests to the Chapter:

# Steve Wolverton & Linda Houston (from Arkansas) Bill Leal Edward Zidek (new member) Fred & Lucy Villarreal (former 3<sup>rd</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> SFG (A) member) Ted & Veronica Heckerman (visiting from Austin, TX) Tex Speer Mike & Barbara Simpson (Gold Star family) Tre Cowan (son-in-law of Chuck Rose)

#### **Members Sick or In Distress:**

J.W. Martin recovering well from a stroke last month. Edgar Morales will be having surgery later this month.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **Treasurer's Report: Buddy Gee** presented the monthly and annual budget reports and they were accepted as read.
- b. **Membership report: Marti Scott** stated that we currently have 211 members.
- c. Chapter Vacation/Fundraiser: Karen Hermann & Mary Jo briefed August 2020 trip to Riviera Maya, Mexico.
- d. JBSA Oktoberfest: Chris Marshall briefed the October 19 event on Fort Sam and asked for volunteers to help with sales.
- e. **Special Operations Detachment-Africa** has returned home from Syria & Iraq. **William Smith** said that they will be having their picnic at Canyon Lake, TX next weekend.

- f. Charlie Company 5/19<sup>th</sup> SFG(A)NG: William Smith reported they are now on leave from Afghanistan.
- g. Christmas Banquet: William Smith briefed tickets are now on sale for \$55 ea. for the December 14 event. COL Tim Oxner will be the guest speaker.
- h. **Board Elections: Chuck Rose** took nominations for new board seats. First-round results follow:

President: Juan Lopez accepted; Vice President: Raul de la Garza accepted, Patrick Meffert accepted, Dave Marshall accepted; Treasurer: Merrill Hall accepted; Secretary: Mike Brown accepted; SGT at Arms: Gordon Lee accepted; Asst. SGT at Arms: Raul de la Garza accepted. The second round of nominations will take place at next month's meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. International Airborne Symposium: Chuck Rose briefed the event to be held October 13-15 at El Tropicano Hotel.

b. Dick's Last Resort Chapter Fundraiser: William Smith briefed the upcoming event is set for 6-9 p.m. October 10. Tickets are \$30 each.

c. Chapter Scholarships: Pat Connolly made a motion to raise the scholarship from \$3,000 to \$4,000. Motion passed.

d. **Santiago, Spain Pilgrimage:** Chaplain **Steven Rindahl** stated the group will be leaving Saturday to Spain for approximately two weeks.

e. **Open Discussion: Mike Simpson** thanked the chapter for their sponsorship at the national convention in West Virginia. **Laura Brown** thanked chapter for their response to her ad in chapter newsletter in helping to meet the non-clinical needs of hospice patients in her organization. **Dana Lee** put out information on ladies Special Forces t-shirts for sale.

> Respectfully submitted, Juan A. Lopez, D-8306 SFA Chapter XV Vice President



Chapter members Tony Aquiningoc, Marti Scott, Michelle Buratti and Susan Marshall help Vito Cellini (red shirt) celebrate his 96th birthday after September meeting.



Pat Connolly, JW Martin and Chris Marshall enjoy the beef Stroganoff by Chef Sharon Rodriguez before the Chapter meeting.





# **Bob Jenkins, U.S. Army (Retired)**



06/20

# **Chapter News**

# Get Ready for Big Night at Dick's Last Resort

his will be the Chapter's 15th annual fundraiser at Dick's Last Resort, and everyone knows it's a Real Big Deal!

Fred Solis, the event chairman, has issued a "Call to Arms" for silent auction donations. Our good friend, Country Singer Rick Salinas,

answered the call by donating a Cordoba Guitar, which was autographed in Nashville by superstar Charlie Daniels. We'll happily sell it to the highest bidder! Thank you, Rick!

The auction is only one part of this fun evening which happens from 6 to 9 p.m. Oct. 10 at Dick's new location on the Riverwalk, 223 Losoya St. Tickets are \$30 each and will be available at the October meeting. This is one



#### October 10, 2019 6 p.m.-9 p.m.

of the Riverwalk's biggest bargains, as the ticket includes a help-yourself buffet, draft beer, wine and well drinks, live music by Rick Salinas, door prizes and the silent auction.

Dick's Last Resort has been a longtime supporter of Chapter XV, providing the food, drink and service personnel and awarding us all the proceeds. The event is open to the public, and tickets are available at the door. So bring your friends and plan to have a blast.

If you have auction items to donate, bring them to the Oct. 5 meeting or call Fred to pick them up (210-823-6818.) See you there!

# After Dick's, it's time for JBSA Oktoberfest

F or the first time, Chapter XV has been invited this year to participate in the Joint Base San Antonio Oktoberfest, a fun day for military families at Fort Sam Houston.

The party starts at 1 p.m. with live music, food trucks, games, vendors and official Tapping of the Keg. Location is the parking lot across from the Military and Family Readiness Center, Building 2797.



#### October 18, 2019 1 p.m.-9 p.m.

the booth.

These guys will need volunteers to help sell medals, coins, shirts and other swag, participate in the fun and do some informal recruiting.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the Oct. 5 chapter meeting

Chapter XV and VFW Post 8541 are joining forces to man a booth at the festival. Raul de la Garza is point man for Chapter XV and Chris Marshall is the organizer for Post 8541. They are planning to take the Chapter Trailer out to the parade field to haul supplies and draw attention to

to volunteer for two-hour shifts between 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Raul and Chris will probably give us more details at the next Chapter meeting.

# **Chapter News**

# **Election process continues for 2020-2021**

#### From the Chapter XV Nominations Committee

#### **Chuck Rose and Bobby Walker**

Nominations process for Chapter XV board of directors will continue at the October Membership Meeting on October 5th. For those unable to attend the meetings, nominations will be accepted by Chuck Rose over the phone at 210-854-4131 until October 12<sup>th</sup>.

The election will take place beginning October 15<sup>th</sup> for absentee ballots and be completed at the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Membership Meeting. The new board of directors will be announced at the end of the November Membership Meeting and will be sworn in at the Chapter Christmas Banquet on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Below are the current nominees for the eight open positions of the Chapter board of directors:

President	John Lopez
Vice President	Raul De La Garza; David Marshall ; Pat Meffert
Secretary	Mike Brown
Treasurer	Merrill Hall
Sergeant at Arms	Gordon Lee
Assistant Secretary	None
Assistant Treasurer	None
Assistant Sergeant a	it Arms None

If you plan to nominate someone for office, please confirm with the person that they are willing to accept the nomination. You can also nominate yourself, if you desire. Absentee ballots will be sent to the membership on October 15<sup>th</sup> for those who cannot attend the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Membership Meeting.



#### Annual Dues now due From Marsha 'Marti' Scott,

Membership Secretary

Welcome to Fall (officially), but here in South Central Texas we are still having our own "private" Summer!

With the beginning of October we are now beginning our new fiscal year for our Annual Dues Members. Dues renewal is \$40 and you can pay at a membership meeting or online at <u>www.sfa-xv.org</u>.

You have until December 31 to pay your Annual Dues. The sooner you get them in the better, so that we can get ahead of the fees and insure that you have no interruption of your SFA DROP or any complications of commo from National, as well as here in the Chapter.

As a reminder, PLEASE notify us if you have any changes in your email, mailing address and phone number so that we can try and keep our roster as current as we can.

If you have any questions regarding your dues, please contact me at **oneangeLFL@hotmail.com.** 

Wishing you a great Fall season!



### CHRISTMAS BANQUET DECEMBER 14, 2019

El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel 110 Lexington Ave., San Antonio 78205

- Hospitality Room, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Social, 5 p.m.
- Banquet, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. (approximate)
- Dancing to the music of Rick Salinas, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.
- Tickets: \$55 each
- Purchase tickets online with credit card or PayPal. <u>www.sfa-xv.org</u>

# **Chapter News**

# Special Forces Association Chapter XV 2020 Escape to Secrets Akumal!

#### Enjoy Unlimited Luxury\* - An all-inclusive experience that exceeds expectations!

Secrets Akumal Riviera Maya - Idyllic. Striking. Nature. Nestled in the heart of the Riviera Maya, bask on white-sand beaches and relax in calm, clear waters. This adult-only paradise fuses elegant and original design with nature's elements. Akumal means "place of the turtle" in Mayan and is renowned for its beautiful beaches and green sea turtles

- \*Limitless access to gourmet à la carte dining options
- without reservations required
- Unlimited international and domestic top-shelf spirits
- Natural fruit juices and soft drinks 24-hour room and concierge services
- 24-hour room and concierge servi
- Pool and beach wait service
- Daily refreshed mini-bar soft drinks, juice, bottled water and beer Daily maid service
- Endless daytime activities and live nightly entertainment
- Theme parties, oceanfront bars and entertainment venues
- No wristbands required, all taxes and gratuities included
- Enjoy free Wi-Fi and free international calling to the US with Unlimited Connectivity



#### Let's go play on the beautiful beaches of the Riviera Maya!



#### August 18th - 23rd, 2020 - 5 night / 6 Days Land Only - \*includes transfers to / from resort

Junior Suite Tropical View

#### \$1115.00 per person

Junior Suite – Swim Out

\$1190.00 per person

Preferred Club Junior Suite - Swim Out

\$1418.00 per person

\$200 p/p deposit due at booking. \*Additional suite categories and pre/post 1, 2 and 3 night combinations available on request with special pricing. Space subject to availability at time of booking. Complimentary transfers on 5 day package arrival and departure days only. Contact for more details.

#### Contact Karen Hermann @ 210-372-5122 or <u>khermann@wth.com</u> for more information or to book

Sheri Green Austin, TX T: (855) HIP-2CRZ E: sgreen@dreamvacations.com







\*Prices are per person, based on double occupancy, land only, space is limited, Rates include a \$45 per person markup donation to SFA Chapter XV. Mark-up will not be waived. Other restrictions may apply. © 2020 Dream Vacations.

# **5th Group Reunion**

# A fun-filled week at Fort Campbell



#### From Buddy Gee

S ix members of Chapter XV attended this year's 5th Group Reunion at Fort Campbell. Our



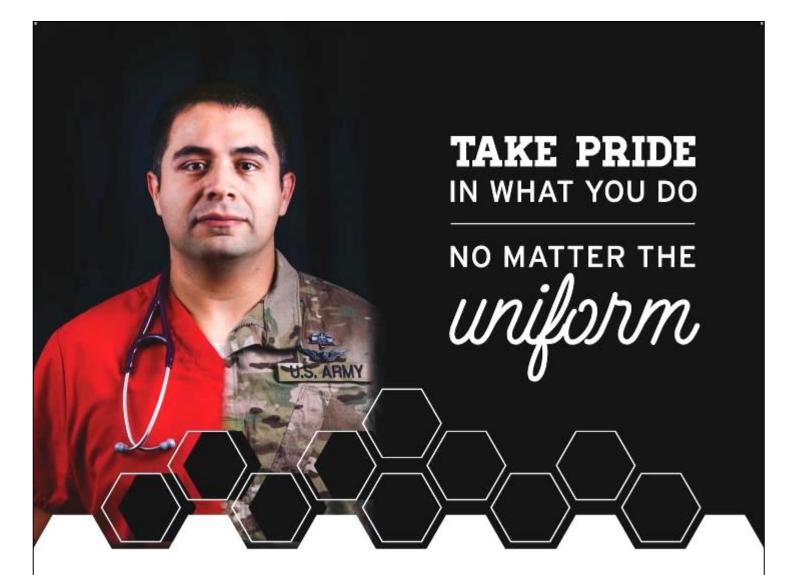
contingent included John Armezzani; Al Blakeborough (new life member); Brent and Shelly Cooper; Bill and Alice Martin and Bill's brother Robert; and Gary Waggoner.

The 5th Group leaders and members of SFA Chapter 38 treated us to a full week of activities — golfing, jumping, shooting, eating, drinking and touring. One of the tours was an interesting day in Nashville that featured a visit to Charlie Daniels' office and recording studio, a stop at the Sirius Radio recording studio with DJ Storme Warren, and a luncheon hosted by Charlie Daniels. The superstar musician took time to sign a guitar donated by San Antonio singer Rick Salinas for our silent auction at Dick's Last Resort.

In left photo, Bill Martin (right) tells his story to BG (ret) Scott E. Brower and COL (ret) Chris Conner, both former 5th Group commanders.

Below left, Charlie Daniels' manager David Corlew presents an autographed "flag fiddle" to Niko Walsh, Co. A, 1st Battalion, 5th SF Group van driver who won the door prize drawing. Below right, that's me (center) with buddies I served with in Vietnam: Paul Owen, Mike Risner, Al Blakeborough and Mike Winstead.





#### TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER SCHOOL OF NURSING OFFERS AN ACCELERATED VETERAN TO BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (VBSN) TRACK FOR VETERANS WITH PRIOR MILITARY MEDICAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE.

The VBSN track is open to veterans from all branches of the service and is designed to build on the education and experience of the veteran with a system of assessment that will allow for advanced placement in the curriculum based upon demonstration of knowledge and skill. This accelerated 12-month track has online classes in addition to clinical instruction guided by assigned clinical coaches and nursing clinical faculty. The track has clinical sites in Abilene, Amarillo, Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, Lubbock, Odessa and San Antonio.

Call or click at:

vbsn@ttuhsc.edu | 806.743.9294 | 1.800.493.3954 www.ttuhsc.edu/nursing/undergraduate/vbsn







5/20

# **Friends of Chapter XV**

# SA Blue Knights receive international recognition



At left, members of Blue Knights Chapter IV of San Antonio gather at VFW Post 8541 for award presentation by their organization's international president, D.J. Alvarez. Center front row is Sue Gramby, whose life was saved by five of their members. Below, Alvarez (left) with Hugo Garcia.



Members of the local chapter of the Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club gathered at VFW Post 8541 Sept. 28 to help honor five of their members. Ron Davidson, Hugo Garcia, John Cozack, James Alvarez and Bryon Ratcliff each received the Blue Knights Meritorious Service Lifesaving Award from the organization's international president, D.J. Alvarez. The men's actions saved the life of Sue Gramby, who was involved in a tragic motorcycle accident with an 18wheeler on May 9. Her husband, Blue Knights member Raul Gramby, did not survive the accident, but quick

embers of the local chapter of the Blue Knights Law<br/>Enforcement Motorcycle Club gathered at VFWaction by other riders — directing traffic, applying a<br/>tourniquet, summoning medical help — saved her life and<br/>prevented further injuries.

At the ceremony, State Rep. Ray Salazar also presented the five with commendations from himself and State Sen. José Menendez.

Chapter XV supports the Blue Knights chapter with an annual contribution to their Santa Claus Run, which raises funds for school clothes and supplies. Blue Knights International has 650 chapters with 19,500 members in 29 countries.



**The sixth annua**l Whiskey and Wishes Heroes Gala will be held Nov. 2 at Pedrotti's North Wind Ranch. Tickets are \$30 for active duty military or \$50 per military couple; \$150 for reserved seat or \$250 per couple; \$1,600 for reserved

table of 10, or \$2,500 for VIP Table.

The Gala has raised over \$1.2 million in its first five years, with 100 percent of the money going to assist military families with basic needs (food, shelter, transportation, child needs, uncovered medical expenses, etc). Purchase tickets at <u>https://one.bidpal.net/whiskeyandwishes2019/ticketing</u>

#### Warriors on the Way

Steve Rindahl and his team of combat veterans just returned from their pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago in Spain. His 'Warriors on the Way' had trekked 180 miles to arrive in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, on Sept. 26. Congratulations, pilgrims!



In World War II he fought with the armies of three different countries.

After that things *really* start to get complicated.

Soldier, resistance fighter, secret agent, inventor and American patriot.

This is his true life story.

Born in New York and raised in Italy, Vito "Tutuc" Cellini went from street gangster to soldier to resistance fighter to secret agent – all before he was twenty-one years of age.

Drafted into the fascist Italian army against his will and sent to the front line, he deserted and joined Tito's Yugoslavian Partisans fighting the Nazis, returning to Italy to join the Allies amid one of the biggest cover-ups of the European war.

He ended the war working covertly with the American OSS (forerunner of the CIA) hunting down criminals and undesirables.

Sailing home to New York in 1948 with a forged Italian passport and just 12 cents in his pocket, he was arrested at Ellis Island. Since then, Cellini's inventiveness, reputation and irrepressible sense of adventure have taken him all over the world, often putting his life in great peril.

Respected by the New York Mafia, Cellini later negotiated with some of the most feared organized crime syndicates in Italy. Nicaragua's President Somoza sought his advice on guerilla warfare and weapons tactics, and while in Nicaragua he was embroiled in the assassination of a high profile journalist and had to flee for his life.

A new book coming soon

> Cellini has kept Federal Agents informed of credible plots to assassinate known enemies of the United States. He even served for a short time, albeit inadvertently, as bodyguard for a notorious drug lord in Mexico.

FREEDOM FIGHT

BIOGRAPHY of an AMERICAN PATRIOT MICK J. PRODGER with TUTUC CELLINI

He has never been afraid of taking the law into his own hands because, he says, sometimes that is the only way to survive.

His inventions, including the *Cellini Muzzle Brake*, have earned him 19 patents and the undying respect and gratitude of members of the U.S. Special Forces and Law Enforcement. He has been privileged to count some of America's most revered and decorated military heroes among his closest friends.

Cellini is, more than anything, a patriot; a man who puts honor above all. And while some of his adventures make fictional spies and secret agents pale by comparison, unlike his fictitious counterparts, Cellini always remained faithful to one woman.

Now at the age of 94, he finally feels comfortable talking about his life, and he isn't pulling any punches.

The good. The bad. The ugly. The truth.



Cellini: Freedom Fighter Like us on Facebook for news and publishing updates Chaplain's

# Make the most of winter's holidays

O ctober starts the run-up to all of the End of Year Holidays. We will soon be experiencing All Hallows Eve, more commonly known as Halloween, immediately followed by Dias de los Muertos (Days of the Dead – which has been connected by many to the Church holiday of All Souls falling on the same day) celebrated throughout the American Southwest, Mexico, and extending throughout much of Latin America.

We then have Thanksgiving, Advent (for those still in touch with the Church calendar,) Christmas and New Year's – just to hit the most popular celebrations among a large handful of others.

Each of these holidays has a distinct purpose. Halloween – AKA All Hallows – AKA All Saints, originally recognized the potential for sainthood among all who died in the faith. Dias de los Muertos and All Souls are the opportunity to remember our dead loved ones and keep their memory alive – celebrating their lives and importance in our own lives.

Thanksgiving gives us the opportunity to enjoy the feast of riches with which our nation is blessed. Advent, in turn, gives a moment of pause to recognize that life is not as good as it could be and to focus on what could make it better (including of course, the power of God active in the world.) Christmas returns us to celebration, and News Year's points our attention to the hope of an even better future to come.

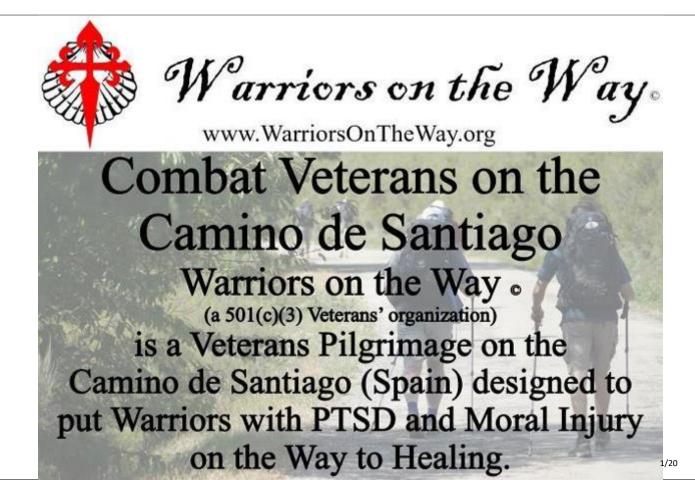
All of these celebrations occur in the days



which are darkest. Short days and long nights mark the winter, which these celebration opportunities protest against. These celebrations are here to shout out in a loud voice – Darkness does not have to win!

Make the most of the holidays before us. As the days approach, celebrate your loved ones, friends, and family – both living and dead. Give thanks for the great fortune of living in the United States and being beneficiary to its many blessings. Set a large table and invite others to celebrate with you. Seek within yourself how you can make your world better. Rejoice in the blessing of God's unlimited love for you. And, set your sights on an even brighter tomorrow.

> Buen Camino, Fr Steve CH (MAJ-Ret) Steven G Rindahl, DMin





# GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV 2019 CALENDAR

JANUARY	<b>FEBRUARY</b>	MARCH
10 Board Meeting 1400	2 Membership Meeting	2 Membership Meeting
12 Membership Meeting	15 Drop Input Due	8-10 Cotulla Wild Hog Cookoff
31 February Board Meeting	26 Ch. XV 42nd anniversary	29 Vietnam Veterans Day
	28 March Board Meeting	
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
4 Board Meeting 1400	2 Board Meeting 1400	1 Membership Meeting
6 Chapter Memorial Service 0900	NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING	14 Flag Day & Army Birthday
6 Membership Meeting 1100	15 Drop Input Due	
28-5 Ch. XV Cruise/fundraiser	17-19 Canyon Lake Picnic	
30 Scholarship applications due	27 Memorial Day Serv 0930	
TBD JROTC Presentations	TBD - JROTC Presentations 30 June Board Meeting 1400	
JULY	AUGUST	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>
4 Independence Day	1 Board Meeting 1400	5 Board Meeting 1400
11 Board Meeting 1400	3 Membership Meeting	7 Membership Meeting
13 Membership Meeting	13-18 SFA National Convention	20 POW/MIA Day
	15 Drop Input Due	
<u>OCTOBER</u>	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
3 Board Meeting 1400	2 Membership Meeting	5 Board Meeting 1400
5 Membership Meeting	Officer Elections	7 Pearl Harbor Day
10 Dick's Last Resort fundraiser	11 Veterans Day Ceremony 1000	NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING
19 Oktoberfest at FSH	15 Drop Input Due	14 Christmas Banquet
31 November Board meeting		
Meetings begin at 1300 hrs on t calendar.) A lunch meal will be	nounced otherwise, will be held he first Saturday of the month (u served from 1200 to 1300 hrs pric e held the Thursday prior to the I rise.	nless otherwise noted in the or to each Membership

#### 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.

1 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 quidance of my God,

I will conquer my fears and succeed.

I will keeps 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'be lifted my glass and drank my fill, Gf the wine that's known as pride. I'be walked among some gallant men, And matched them stride for stride. I'be 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 Picki Walker

1/9/17/18

# **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



10/10/17

Notice to members and friends of SFA Chapter XV, The Alamo Chapter: A FULL-PAGE AD in this Newsletter is only \$100 for 12 issues.

To start your ad or keep it running, contact Buddy Gee, sgmgee@aol.com



Other ad sizes available:

This is a half-page ad (horizontal)

8" x 5"

\$60

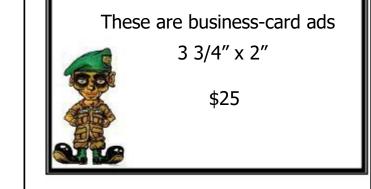




This is a quarter-page ad (vertical)

3 3/4" x 5"

\$40



Chapter XV, Special Forces Association

P.O. Box 33782 San Antonio, Texas 78265-3782 President: William E. Smith

presidentchapterxv@gmail.com

#### **Calendar of Significant Special Forces Events**

13-17 OCT 2019 1st Special Forces Group Reunion, Las Vegas, NV. The Plaza Hotel & Casino POC Phil Grounds, <u>steppingwild@gmail.com</u>

21-25 OCT 2019 Special Operations Association Reunion XLIII, Las Vegas Orleans Hotel and Casino POC Ivan Davis, registrar4soar@gmail.com

#### Thanks to Ben Scott, Steve Rindahl and Hugo Garcia for photos in this issue.

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

The Editors



"Carry on!"