



GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV

The Alamo Chapter

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

Issue #9-19

September 2019

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:
VGSA Rep: Raul de la Garza
Chaplains: R. Johnson & S. Rindahl

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www.sfa-xv.org



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

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



September 5 — SFA Board Meeting

1400—VFW Post 8541, 2222 Austin Highway

September 7 — Membership Meeting

1200 — Noon meal served

1300 — Business meeting



OCTOBER 10 —CHAPTER FUNDRAISER AT DICK'S LAST RESORT

October 19 — Oktoberfest at Fort Sam Houston

DON'T FORGET



- Everyone should be collecting quality items for the fundraiser at Dick's Last Resort. Ladies items, restaurant and hotel gift cards, military memorabilia are always good sellers. POC is Fred Solis.

- Christmas Banquet tickets now on sale

- at \$55 each. Includes appetizers, drinks, dinner, dancing to live music by Rick Salinas. POC is Bill Smith

- Volunteers needed for Oktoberfest at Fort Sam Houston. POC is Chris Marshall.

- Sick call every Sunday, 1300 hours at VFW Post 8541. POC is Bill Beall.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Sends:

The Board meeting is Thursday 5 September at 1400, with our membership meeting Saturday 7 September at 1300. Lunch will be served from 1200-1300 and the meeting will start at 1300. I will have Christmas Banquet tickets available for purchase. It is important to purchase your tickets soon as they will go quickly. It is our intent to have at least a table for each of the redeploying SF units here in Texas.

I want to congratulate Buddy and Sharon for receiving the top honors for the Chapter newsletter. Ours was selected as the top newsletter in the SFA and was awarded the Golden Quill Award during the National Convention. This is an outstanding accomplishment due to the number of chapter newsletters and the quality.

Dick's Last Resort is set for 10 October and I hope to see everyone there. We need auction items and assistance in gathering items to use as door prizes. The price of the tickets is \$30 each and I will have them at the meeting.

Special Operations Detachment - Africa out of Austin has returned home from their deployment. They are having their family weekend on 13-15 September at Canyon Lake. The event will start off with an airborne operation at Camp Swift in Bastrop the Friday afternoon. I will get the times and announce them at the meeting. The VFW in conjunction with our Chapter will be providing food for

their families and other events.

C-5-19th Special Forces are back on the ground at Fort Bragg. They had a good deployment and ridded the world of many bad guys who want to do our country harm. I will post more on their family event as it develops.

West Virginia and their SFA Chapter did an

outstanding job with the National Convention. I did not think there was another state out there as patriotic as Texas; I was wrong. West Virginia is very patriotic and was an outstanding host to the event. A great time was had by all. We will brief more at the meeting.

Remember, nominations for officers will start this month and October, with voting in November. Chuck Rose is heading up the nominations committee with assistance from Bobby Walker. If you are interested in filling one of the leadership positions, please let Chuck or Bobby know.

I hope everyone stays safe and enjoys their family

William Smith
Chapter XV President

presidentchapterxv@gmail.com



\$\$\$ DOLLARS AND CENTS

Treasurer's Report, August 2019

There has not been a lot of activity for your treasurer this month. I was on vacation and missed the August board and general membership meetings. Received no monies and paid no bills from either meeting. Following the family vacation, I took two weeks to travel on the back roads of Appalachia to attend the SFA National Convention in Charleston, West "By God" Virginia. A good time was had by all.

August income was meager. Two Christmas Banquet tickets were purchased on-line and Mr. John Rodden's monthly donation was electronically transferred to the Chapter account.

The Chapter sponsored a Gold Star Family to the national convention and a check for their airfare has

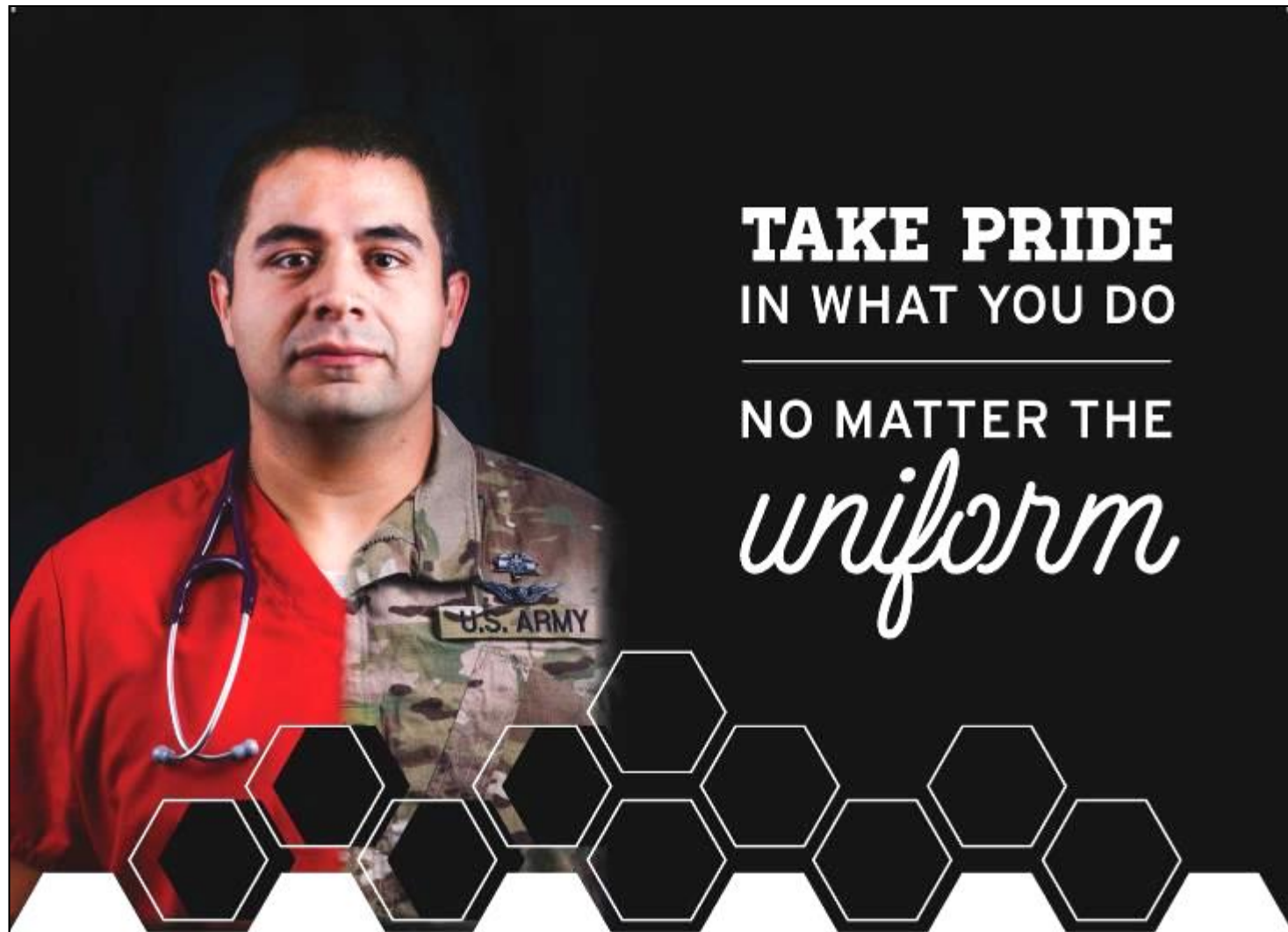
been disbursed. The hotel lodging bill is forthcoming. Other expenditures included payment for the monthly website maintenance and purchase of green blazer pocket patches and beret flashes, which will be available for sale at the meeting.

A detailed accounting will be provided at the monthly membership meeting September 7.

You can now order your Christmas banquet tickets and pay with credit/debit card on the Chapter's web site at www.sfa-xv.org.

Buddy Gee
Treasurer

sgmgee@aol.com



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Minutes of August Meeting

Chapter Meeting Date: 03 August 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:

Mike & Jessie Rose with daughter **Jessica Rose**

Brent Cooper, Green Beret Foundation & former 5th SFG (A) member

Mike Sill former SFA CH XV Sgt at Arms
LTC (R) Vicente Trevino life member
Bill Martin from Floresville

Members Sick or In Distress:

J.W. Martin recovering well at home from a mild stroke he had on 02 August 2019

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Budget & Treasurer's Report:** **Buddy Gee** was not present at the meeting.
- b. **Membership report:** **Marti Scott** stated that we currently have 206 members.
- c. **Chapter XV 2020 Vacation/Fundraiser:** **Karen Hermann** briefed ideas for August 2020.
- d. **JBSA Octoberfest:** **Chris Marshall** briefed the upcoming October 19th event on Fort Sam Houston.
- e. **Special Operations Detachment Africa** has returned home from Syria & Iraq. **William Smith** made a motion to donate \$500 for their welcome home. Motion was approved.
- f. **Charlie Company 5/19th SFG(A) NG** will be returning from Afghanistan Sept-Oct 2019.
- g. **Christmas Banquet:** **William Smith**

briefed tickets are now on sale for \$55 each for the Saturday, December 14 event.

- h. **SFA National Convention:** **William Smith** briefed the details of the event being held in Charleston, W.V. from 13-18 August.
- i. **Board Elections:** **William Smith** briefed the members on the details of the upcoming elections.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Military Service Detachment:** **William Smith** was presented a plaque and a medal for the chapter's support of Fort Sam's MSD.
- b. **Dick's Last Resort Chapter Fundraiser:** **Juan Lopez** briefed the upcoming event is set for Thursday, October 10 from 6pm- 9pm. Tickets are \$30 each.
- c. **Chapter Scholarships:** **Pat Connolly** briefed the chapter on the requirements and procedures for the application process.
- d. **Motorcycle Run:** **David Marshall** briefed the details on the upcoming Inaugural 9/11 Commemorative Motorcycle Run on September 7. Proceeds go to the Green Beret Foundation and SFA CH XV.
- e. **Open Discussion:** Motion was made to buy the chapter a new margarita machine because our old one has broken. Motion passed.
- f. **Door Prize Drawing:** Was conducted by **Raul De La Garza**.



President Bill receives award from Fort Sam Houston's Military Service Detachment

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Juan A. Lopez, D-8306

SFA Chapter XV Vice President

Bob Jenkins

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Chapter News

Items for your Fall Calendar

October 10, 2019



Night at Dick's Last Resort

- Green Beret Chapter XV 15th annual fundraiser
- 1800-2100 hours
- 223 Losoya St. (or enter from Riverwalk)
- Includes buffet, draft beer, wine and well drinks,

live music, silent auction, door prizes

- Ticket price \$30
- Needed: Door prizes, auction items and volunteer workers
- POC is Fred Solis SFA.Colonel@hotmail.com

October 19, 2019

Oktoberfest at Fort Sam Houston

- JBSA fun day for military families, 1 to 9 p.m. at the Parade Field
- Live music, Biergarten-tapping of the keg, food trucks, games, arts and crafts vendors
- Chapter XV and VFW 8541 join forces to man a booth selling medals, coins, shirts, etc. Volunteers needed. POCs: Chris Marshall and Raul de la Garza



From Marsha 'Marti' Scott, Membership Secretary

Greetings Chapter Members!

Here we are in September and I am sure you are saying

'Whoa ...SEPTEMBER! Where did the last eight months go? It seems that for 'some' of us, the time passes quicker

than it used to.

With that said, as of October 1st we begin a new fiscal year for our Annual Dues-paying Members. The time for Annual Dues begins October 1 and ends December 31. Please mark your calendars, whether on the 'fridge' or in your electronic devices, to remind you of this.

Now, for those who are interested in changing your membership from Annual Dues to a Life Membership, below are the prices for doing that. You may submit those funds to the Chapter and we'll process to National, so that we (the Chapter) will receive our share to help



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. www.sfa-xv.org

cover expenses in Administrative Funds for Chapter XV. You can also pay online at the Chapter website, www.sfa-xv.org. Here are the amounts for Chapter Dues and Life Membership

- Annual Dues \$40 (current)
- Reinstatement (not current on dues) \$45.00
- New Member of SFA \$50.00
- Widows/Next-of-Kin Members \$40.00
- Life Membership (Current, under 65) \$440
- Life Membership (not current, under 65) \$475.00
- Life Membership (current, over 65) \$320.00
- Life Membership (not current, over 65) \$345.00
- New Life Member \$480.00
- New Life Member (over 65) \$360.00.

If you have any questions regarding these required dues, please contact Marsha 'Marti' Scott, email: oneangelFL@hotmail.com

Looking forward to another memorable year in the Chapter and having you a major part of our Chapter.



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SFA International Convention 2019

CHAPTER 68 hosted an action-packed convention Aug. 13-18 in Charleston, WV, with the theme "A Tribute to Gold Star Families." At right, CW3 Chris Wilkerson of the Army's Black Daggers brings in the flag during picnic at McLaughlin Air Base. Below, Chapter XV's Mike and Barbara Simpson were among Gold Star honorees at the annual banquet; President Bill Smith with MOH recipient and convention speaker Herschel 'Woody' Williams. Bottom right, Bill in hospitality room with Vince Treviño, Pete Vasquez and unidentified friend. At bottom left, Buddy Gee, Nick Brown, Bill Smith, Brent Cooper and Chris Wilkerson gather for welcoming ceremony at the West Virginia Capitol. Also attending the convention from Chapter XV were Barry and Iris Archer and Don and Maribeth Blue.



Member News

The Simpsons: Chapter XV's Own Gold Star Family



A THREE-BERET FAMILY: Shown in this 2011 photo are (from left) Chapter member Mike Simpson of San Antonio with his sons, the late Michael H. Simpson, who died of wounds from an IED in 2013, and Isaac Simpson, recently retired. The photo was taken during Michael's graduation from the Q Course at Fort Bragg.

Chapter XV was proud to sponsor our own Gold Star Family, LTC (Ret.) Mike W. and Barbara Simpson, at the SFA National Convention in Charleston, WV. They were honored as part of the convention's week-long "Tribute to Gold Star Families" in the West Virginia capital.

—Continued next page

Member News

The Simpsons: Chapter XV's Own Gold Star Family

—Continued

The couple's youngest son, SSG Michael H. Simpson, died of wounds from an IED in 2013 while serving with the 1st Special Forces Group in Afghanistan.

Mike retired from his own Army career in 1994, having served as an officer with the 1st and 10th SF Groups and the U.S. and European Special Operations Commands. An attorney and a Certified Christian Conciliator, he is an elder in the Presbyterian Church in America, a shooting instructor and a Black Belt karate instructor. He has been a longtime member of Chapter XV.

Barbara is a choral singer with the Beethoven Damenchor and a reader/performer with the Extended Run Players at University of the Incarnate Word.

The Simpsons are a Gold Star Family because of the loss of Michael, and they are also the parents of two other distinguished soldiers: Isaac, a recently retired Green Beret who served with 1st Group and Training Group and suffered injuries during his deployments to Iraq, Djibouti, the Philippines, and Korea; and David, who has 15 years of active duty in the Army infantry with deployments to Iraq, Kosovo and Kuwait. Their daughter, Abigail Simpson, is a massage therapist at the Army Medical Center in Tacoma, WA.

With her husband and sons all serving in the Army -- frequently in harm's way -- Barbara says she was proud and concerned for them "but not on the edge. I had lots of friends praying for me."

The couple met during their freshman year at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. Mike is a native of Lubbock, and Barbara arrived there from her hometown of Corpus Christi. He graduated with a degree in history, while she studied theater arts and English to earn her education degree.

During his Army career, Mike earned two master's degrees. After retirement, he enrolled at St. Mary's University Law School and received a law degree in 1998. After practicing law with local firms, he was recalled to active duty in 2007 and served 31/2 more years, first as operations officer in the Strategic Operations Division, Multinational Force Iraq, and then as Deputy Command Historian with SOCOM in Florida. While there, he deployed to Afghanistan twice.

Back home, he became City Manager of Olmos Park and served in that role until 2013.

On April 27 of that year, just 20 days into his deployment, son Michael was on patrol in the Ghazni province of Afghanistan when he drove over an improvised explosive device. Badly injured, he was quickly transported to a MASH unit and stabilized. He was then medevac'ed to a hospital in Bagram, but his heart stopped on the way. Doctors there performed open-heart massage and revived him, and he was airlifted to the U.S. military hospital in Landstuhl, Germany. That's where Mike,



Mike and Barbara Simpson



The Trumps with Simpson family in 2017

Barbara and the whole family arrived on May 1 in time to see Michael, whose heart was still beating on its own. But he was declared brain-dead later that day, leaving wife Krista and two small sons.

Because of a problem transporting the body to Dover, Mike says the family had a four-day wait in Germany. That time allowed them to grieve together, comfort each other and come to terms with their loss. He says it was "a grace and a blessing" that many bereaved families never have.

The SFA convention was dedicated to Gold Star Families, but it wasn't the first time the Simpsons had been so recognized. They were one of the first Gold Star Families invited to the White House shortly after President Trump's election. Yes, the President asked Mike for his advice on the continuing war in Afghanistan, and Mike gave it straight: "Figure out how to win, or get out."

Barbara thanked Chapter XV for sponsoring their trip to the SFA Convention. "We are grateful for that time with Special Forces friends," she said. As for Mike, he is "looking forward to being part of the Chapter again."

Chapter News

Election process under way for 2020-2021

From the Chapter XV Nominations Committee

Chuck Rose and Bobby Walker

Nominations process for Chapter XV Board of Directors, for a two year period, 2020 – 2021, in accordance with Chapter By-Laws will be held during the **September** and **October** Membership Meetings. For those unable to attend the meetings, nominations will be accepted by Chuck Rose over the phone at 210-854-4131.

The election will take place beginning **October 15** for absentee ballots and at the **November** 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**. The eight positions open for nomination are:

<u>POSITIONS</u>	<u>REQUIREMENT STATUS</u>
President	Member
Vice President	Member

Secretary	Member or Associate Member
Treasurer	Member or Associate Member
Sergeant at Arms	Member or Associate Member
Assistant Secretary	Member or Associate Member
Assistant Treasurer	Member or Associate Member
Assistant Sargent at Arms	Member or Associate Member

If you plan to nominate someone for office, please confirm with the person that they are willing to accept the nomination. In accordance with Chapter By-Laws, the President can only serve two consecutive terms in office, or a total of four years. Thus, Bill Smith cannot be nominated again for President for the upcoming election. Other positions have no restrictions for number of two-year terms that can be served.

Note: Honorary Members cannot hold an elected office.

Another scholarship in the Valley



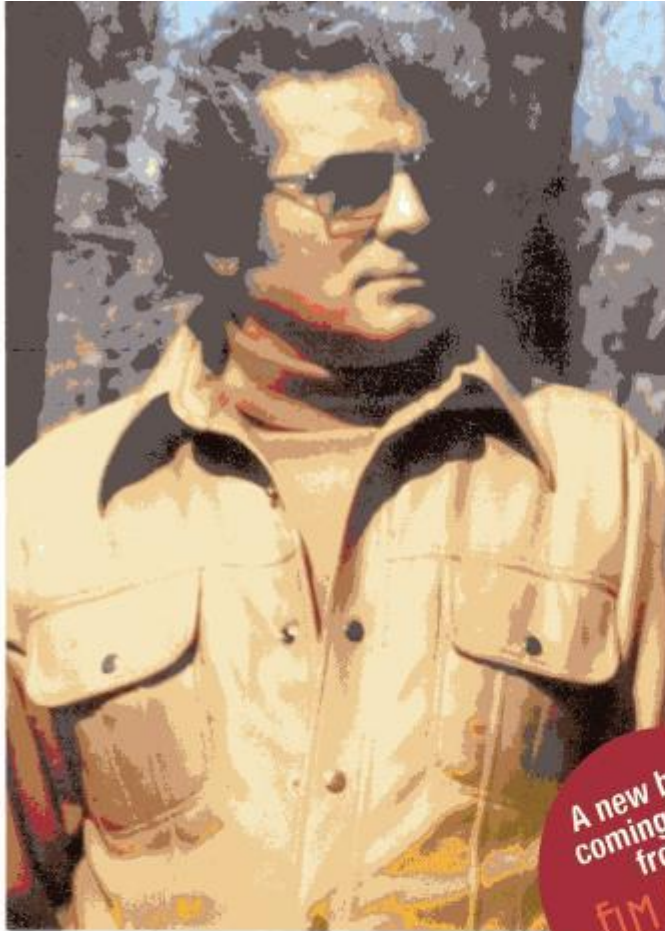
RAMIRO DANIEL, a life member of Chapter XV who lives in Donna, Texas, presents a \$1,000 scholarship on behalf of the Chapter to Arriana Marie Guerra, graduating from Donna High School. She was in the top 20 of her graduating class.

Ramiro, who also makes a monthly donation to Chapter XV, funds this scholarship himself and calls it the SFA Chapter XV scholarship.

AS a member of SFA, he was asked by school counselors to present two other military scholarship awards, as their donors didn't show.



This is the official 2019 Fiesta poster, framed with the very first Chapter XV Fiesta Medal. Members are being asked to donate toward purchase of the artwork, which will be displayed on permanent loan at Longtab Brewing in San Antonio.



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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.

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.

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.

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Cellini: Freedom Fighter

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If blessed, be a blessing to others

September 11, 2001, our nation was attacked and a war was born. Now, in 2019, that war is 18 years old. If the war were a person, that person would be old enough to vote in the upcoming primaries in preparation for the 2020 presidential election. I wonder how the war would vote. This will not be a political commentary – rather, a simple look at some priorities informed by faith.

For those who wish to call for peace there are passages of scripture from which to draw. The most frequently used being Isaiah 2:4, which describes the scene of swords being beaten into plows and spears into pruning hooks. A wonderful scene, a goal to aspire to, but (as made clear just two verses earlier) it is a scene of “the last days” and it is God who is bringing an end to all wars.

At the opposite end of the spectrum we have the passage from Romans chapter 13 that recognizes that government has a societal obligation and bears the sword to bring wrath upon those who commit evil. Then of course, there are the many commands throughout scripture to give aid to those in need – whether it be food, water, clothing, housing, etc.

Our former president Theodore Roosevelt wrote, in his book *Fear God and Take Your Own Part*, that people are

blessed by God to be a blessing to others and that nations, likewise, are blessed to bless others. Just as a strong man helps the man who is weaker than himself and the affluent man helps the man in poverty – so too should a strong and affluent nation help those who are not as strong and do not have adequate resources.



Roosevelt was arguing against Woodrow Wilson who, as the sitting President, was refusing to enter the First World War and come to the aid of those European countries that could not stand up to Germany on their own. Roosevelt went so far as to say that failing to use your blessings to bless others was not just failing to serve God but was, in that failure, to be in service to Satan. Strong words to drive home an important point: No matter what you do, no matter what priorities you set, no matter who you vote for – strive to bless others with whatever blessings you have received.

Buen Camino,
Fr Steve
CH (MAJ-Ret) Steven G Rindahl, DMin
A-663 (Life)



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GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV 2019 CALENDAR

<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>MARCH</u>
10 Board Meeting 1400 12 Membership Meeting 31 February Board Meeting	2 Membership Meeting 15 Drop Input Due 26 Ch. XV 42nd anniversary 28 March Board Meeting	2 Membership Meeting 8-10 Cotulla Wild Hog Cookoff 29 Vietnam Veterans Day
<u>APRIL</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>
4 Board Meeting 1400 6 Chapter Memorial Service 0900 6 Membership Meeting 1100 28-5 Ch. XV Cruise/fundraiser 30 Scholarship applications due TBD JROTC Presentations	2 Board Meeting 1400 NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING 15 Drop Input Due 17-19 Canyon Lake Picnic 27 Memorial Day Serv 0930 TBD - JROTC Presentations 30 June Board Meeting 1400	1 Membership Meeting 14 Flag Day & Army Birthday
<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>
4 Independence Day 11 Board Meeting 1400 13 Membership Meeting	1 Board Meeting 1400 3 Membership Meeting 13-18 SFA National Convention 15 Drop Input Due	5 Board Meeting 1400 7 Membership Meeting 20 POW/MIA Day
<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>DECEMBER</u>
3 Board Meeting 1400 5 Membership Meeting 10 Dick's Last Resort fundraiser 19 Oktoberfest at FSH 31 November Board meeting	2 Membership Meeting Officer Elections 11 Veterans Day Ceremony 1000 15 Drop Input Due	5 Board Meeting 1400 7 Pearl Harbor Day NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING 14 Christmas Banquet
<p>All Chapter Meetings, unless announced otherwise, will be held at VFW Post 8541. Membership Meetings begin at 1300 hrs on the first Saturday of the month (unless otherwise noted in the calendar.) A lunch meal will be served from 1200 to 1300 hrs prior to each Membership Meeting. Board Meetings will be held the Thursday prior to the Membership Meeting at 1400 hours unless announced otherwise.</p>		

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

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



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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

16-21 SEPT 2019 5th Special Forces Group Reunion, Clarksville, TN
Country Inn & Suites
POC: www.sfa38.org

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

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

Thanks to Juan Lopez, Ramiro Daniel, Mike and Barbara Simpson 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!"