



# The Scuttlebutt



Alamo Detachment



APRIL 2012

Vol. 20 Issue 04

## HONOR – COURAGE – COMMITMENT COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE



MARINES & ASSOCIATES,

I hope you and yours had a good Easter holiday. Again it is FIESTA time in San Antonio. Our annual Fiesta events are coming very soon. The MARINES AT THE ALAMO is on Thursday, April 26 and the Fiesta MARINE BAND BBQ is Friday, April 27.

At the Marines at the Alamo event on Thursday, the Detachment sets up a booth. Our mission is to publicize the Marine Corps League, recruit new members, and solicit donations for our Marines Helping Marines Program. The Marine Band here from New Orleans for Fiesta will have a concert at 1600 in front of the Alamo. The 4th Recon Bn, USMCR will have a static display of their weapons and equipment. The Marine Corps Recruiting Station will have a booth also. We will set up at 1200 to insure we get a good spot for our booth.

At the Marine Band BBQ event, the Alamo Detachment will provide a BBQ meal for the members of the Marine Band which comes to San Antonio to participate in the Fiesta parades. This year will be joined for the first time by the San Antonio Young Marines Unit (SAYM). The SAYM's have offered to help serve and clean up. They are fine group of youngsters, you will enjoy meeting and talking with them. Jose Martinez is the Chairman of the BBQ Event and has been working hard to make it a success. We are still accepting donations for the BBQ. If you wish to make a donation, make the check out to Alamo Det. 315 and indicate that it is for the Band BBQ. Cash is always acceptable. Your participation is greatly needed and desired. For more information please call Jose Martinez at 210.254.2271 or Felix Conde at 210.373.3687 or email me at [fcondejr@aol.com](mailto:fcondejr@aol.com).

The Detachment members continue to participate in the Fort Sam Houston Homeless Veterans Burial Program (HVBP). All veterans who served honorably deserve the dignity of military funeral regardless of their personal status. Our Thursday morning MHM Wounded Marine Breakfasts continue. It is a very rewarding endeavor and the Wounded Marines are fantastic.

On a sad note, we recently lost Cpl Chris Bordoni, who was WIA and brought to BAMC. He fought hard in ICU for months but lost the battle. He is survived by his wife and family. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

**Don't forget, our next general meeting is Saturday, April 28 at 0930.** We will discuss the upcoming events and projects such parades, a Detachment summer outing/BBQ for the members, MHM events for the Wounded Marines, and the 2012 Birthday Ball.

Keep our Marines and Corpsmen in harm's way in your prayers. Semper Fi.

Felix Conde Jr, Commandant

**DETACHMENT MEETING  
SATURDAY 28 APRIL 2012  
U.S. NAVY & MARINE CORPS RESERVE TRAINING CENTER  
3837 BINZ - ENGLEMAN RD.  
Attitude adjustment begins at 0800-MEETING STARTS AT 0900  
Bring yourself, bring a new member!!!  
Once a Marine, Always a Marine**

MINUTES OF MARCH 31, 2012

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, ALAMO DETACHMENT  
U. S. NAVY AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE TRAINING CENTER  
3837 BENZ ENGLEMAN RD, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

**OFFICERS – 2011**

**COMMANDANT**

Felix Conde – 253-9148  
[fconde@aol.com](mailto:fconde@aol.com)

**SR. VICE COMMANDANT**

Orlando Garza

**JR. VICE COMMANDANT**

Carlos Quijano – 375-5664  
[quijanosa@aol.com](mailto:quijanosa@aol.com)

**JUDGE ADVOCATE**

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[rkotto@world-net.net](mailto:rkotto@world-net.net)

**ADJUTANT**

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**JR. PAST COMMANDANT**

Robert K. Otto

**DETACHMENT E-MAIL**

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**WEB SITE**

[www.detachments.com](http://www.detachments.com)

The Scuttlebutt is published monthly by Alamo Detachment 315 of the Marine Corps League, P. O. Box 831641, San Antonio, Texas 78283-1641.

Submit news articles to editor, Carlos M. Vargas, 132 Stratford Ct., San Antonio, Texas 78223-2024, (210) 532-3783 or [cm\\_vargas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cm_vargas@sbcglobal.net).

**DEADLINE:** for submitting news articles is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

The monthly meetings of the Alamo Detachment are held 0900 on the 1st Saturday of the month at the MPAT building at the rear of the Navy & Marine Corps Reserve Training Center. 3837 Binz Engleman Rd., San Antonio, TX

**OPENING CEREMONY**

COMMANDANT FELIX CONDE CALLED MEETING TO ORDER AT 0900 ACCORDING TO RITUAL.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

THE SGT AT ARMS WAS ABSENT. ALL OTHER OFFICERS WERE PRESENT.

A MOTION WAS MADE AND PASSED TO SUSPEND THE MEETING IN ORDER THAT THE NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS MAY BE INSTALLED.

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDANT CARLOS VARGAS PERFORMED THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY.

THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS WERE INSTALLED:

COMMANDANT – FELIX CONDE  
SR VICE COMMANDANT – ORLANDO GARZA  
JR VICE COMMANDANT – CARLOS QUIJANO  
JUDGE ADVOCATE – ROBERT OTTO  
ADJUTANT – HUMBERTO C REYES  
PAYMASTER – CARLOS ESPINOZA  
CHAPLAIN – WILLIAM BOYLE  
SGT AT ARMS – JOE MORALES

THE REGULAR DETACHMENT MEETING RESUMED AFTER THE OFFICER INSTALLATION.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** – THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED WITH THE FOLLOWING CORRECTION. CORRECTION – CARLOS VARGAS RECEIVED A PLAQUE OF APPRECIATION FOR HIS WORK AS THE “SCUTTLEBUTT” EDITOR.

**PAYMASTER’S REPORT** - PAYMASTER’S REPORT WAS APPROVED AS READ SUBJECT TO AUDIT.

**BUDGET REPORT** – THE BUDGET WAS APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

TWO “FIESTA” ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED. FIRST, THE “MARINES AT THE ALAMO” PREPARATIONS ARE COMPLETE, TENT, CHAIRS, WATER, ETC. THE UNIFORM WILL BE WHITE SHIRTS WITH RIBBONS, BLACK TROUSERS, BLACK SHOES AND MCL COVERS. MARINES NOT HAVING THIS UNIFORM MAY WEAR THE RED SHIRT. THE SECOND ITEM DISCUSSED WAS THE MARINE BAND BBQ RECEPTION. MARINE JOSE MARTINEZ MADE THE PRESENTATION. WE STILL NEED 4 / 12 LB BRISKETS, 10 / 5 LB CONTAINERS POTATO SALAD (\$50.00), AND 6 CASES BEER. MARINE VOLUNTEERS SHOW TIME – 1000 – APRIL 27, 2012  
BRING CAKES, COOKIES ETC.

**NEW BUSINESS** – SE VICE COMMANDER ORLANDO GARZA PROPOSED THE MAKING OF PROFESSIONAL GENERIC BUSINESS CARDS FOR ALL HANDS. MOTION WAS MADE TO THAT EFFECT. MOTION PASSED.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – MARINE RICHARD JONES ANNOUNCED THE UP COMING MCCC “FIESTA” RECEPTION AT FORT SAM HOUSTON ON APRIL 25, 2012. THE EVENT WILL START AT 1800. THE PRICE WILL BE \$25.00 PER PERSON. FLYERS WERE MADE AVAILABLE AND THE INFORMATION WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEB SITE.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1133 UNTIL APRIL 28,2012**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

HUMBERTO C REYES

ADJUTANT

## FIESTA WEEK IS HERE

Our Annual Fiesta events are coming next week. The Marines at the Alamo is Thursday, April 26 and the Marine Band BBQ is Friday, April 27.

At the Marines at the Alamo event, the Alamo Detachment sets up a booth. Our mission is to publicize the Alamo Detachment, recruit new members, and collect donations for our Marines Helping Marines Program. The Marine Band will conduct a concert in front of the Alamo at 1600. The 4th Recon Bn will have a static display of their weapons and equipment.

At the Fiesta Marine Band BBQ event, the Detachment provided a BBQ meal for the members of the Marine Band which comes to San Antonio to participate in the Fiesta parades. This year we will be joined by the San Antonio Young Marine Unit. They will help serving and with the cleanup. Jose Martinez is our Chairman for the BBQ event. We are still accepting donations for the BBQ. If you wish to make a donation, make the check to Alamo Det 315 and indicate it is for the Band BBQ. Cash is always acceptable.

Your participation is greatly needed and desired. For more information please call Jose Martinez at 210.254.2271 or me at 210.373.3687 or email me at [fcondejr@aol.com](mailto:fcondejr@aol.com).

**Don't forget our next monthly meeting is Saturday, April 28 at 0930.**

Semper Fi,  
Felix Conde Jr  
Cmndt

## STAFF MEETING

Here's an update on events:

Last Thursday, 4/19, Bob Otto and I presented the Valero CEO and staff a plaque and a photo (Det & Wounded Marines) in appreciation for their support.

Sylvia Rodriguez the Valero Energy Foundation Executive Director has asked for photos of Cathy Killinger with the Wounded Marines. Cathy, a Red Cross volunteer at BAMC Burn Center and wife of Clay Killinger a Valero executive, is our contact with Valero. If you have any photos of her with the MarDet Marines please send them to me asap.

For Jose Martinez & Carlos Espinoza: I have a \$250 check for Jose from the donations received prior to last week. I also received a \$100 check from W.W. Reininger and a \$25 check from Val Yruegas for the BBQ. These checks need to be deposited and a \$125 check issued from the Det to Jose Martinez.

Staff, we will have a meeting with Jose Martinez on Thursday at 1400 at El Rincon de Maria Restaurant (My Maria's restaurant) to finalize the BBQ plans. The San Antonio Young Marine Unit will give us \$300 to feed the SAYM at the BBQ. I will use whatever we need to buy for the Young Marines and return the remainder to them. In addition we will discuss the 'Marines at the Alamo' event. We need to make sure we have everything we need for event on Thursday, April 26. I forwarded Jose Martinez's BBQ update to you, let me know if you do not receive it.

Other items of interest:

I have not gotten any "USMC goodies" for handouts at the Marines at the Alamo, SSgt Eppright from USMC recruiting hadn't received supplies as of last week. By the way, He is being transferred to Okinawa soon. If you have any contacts where you can obtain "goodies" please try to get some.

The SgtMaj of the MC will be at the MarDet SAMMC the morning of April 23, Monday.

I am in the process of writing my comments for this month's Scuttlebutt.

I will send out an email to the Detachment regarding Thursday Marine Band BBQ this morning. I'm hoping we get more people to help Jose with the BBQ.

If I have forgotten anything, please let me know.

Semper Fi,  
Felix Conde Jr  
Cmndt

## UPDATE ON BAND PICNIC

The latest from BBQ Chairman Jose Martinez:

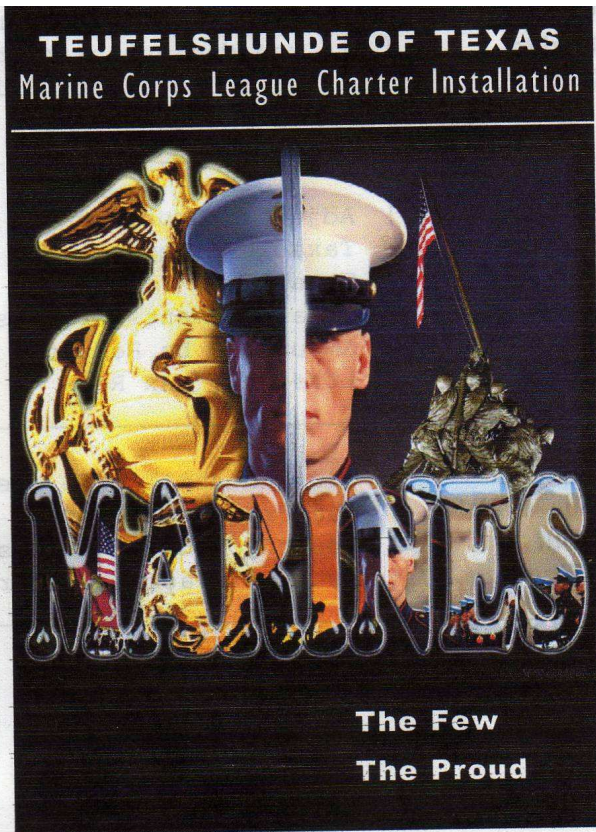
We are ready for the BBQ. If you plan to help please be at the Marine Detachment BAMC building no later than 1200 on Friday 27 April.

Invited are the Alamo Det, of course; the Alamo Chapter 1st Marine Division Assn; Marine Det BAMC, San Antonio Young Marines; all other wanting to partake of the BBQ will be charged \$5.

The Marine Band will arrive about 1500 after they finish marching in the Fiesta parade.

I want to thank all the people who donated either cash or needed items or both for making the Band BBQ possible again this year.

Semper Fi,  
Felix Conde Jr  
Commandant.



CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO  
 OUR MARINE CORPS  
 LEAGUE CHARTER  
 CEREMONY

Attire: Business Casual or MCL Uniform

RSVP: (210)269-5056 By 26 April 2012

Email: eghilsjr@aol.com

Date: 28 April 2012

Time: 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM

Location: New Braunfels Public Library  
 700 E. Common Street, New Braunfels, TX 78130.



All April members...03 – Mary Louise Velasquez; 09 – Ramiro Martinez; 09 – Paul Casillas; 20 – Russell Minor; 13 – Ralph Perryman; 22 – Samuel Perez; 26 – James Mahoney.

**The Marine Corps Version of Genesis:**

In the beginning was the word, and the word was God.

In the beginning was God, and all else was darkness and void, and without form. So God created the heavens and the Earth. He created the sun, and the moon, and the stars, so that light might pierce the darkness. The Earth, God divided between the land and the sea, and these he filled with many assorted creatures.

And the dark, salty, slimy creatures that inhabited the murky depths of the oceans, God called sailors. And He dressed them accordingly. They had little trousers that looked like bells at the bottom. And their shirts had cute little flaps on them to hide the hickeys on their necks. He also gave them long sideburns and shabby looking beards. God nicknamed them "squids" and banished them to a lifetime at sea, so that normal folks would not have to associate with them. To further identify these unloved creatures, He called them "petty" and "commodore" instead of titles worthy of red-blooded men.

And the flaky creatures of the land, God called soldiers. And with a twinkle in His eye, and a sense of humor that only He could have, God made their trousers too short and their covers too large. He also made their pockets oversized, so that they may warm their hands. And to adorn their uniforms, God gave them badges in quantities that only a dime store owner could appreciate. And He gave them emblems and crests... and all sorts of shiny things that glittered...and devices that dangled.

On the 6th day, He thought about creating some air creatures for which he designed a Greyhound bus driver's uniform, especially for Air Force flyboys. But He discarded the idea during the first week, and it was not until years later that some apostles resurrected this theme and established what we now know as the "Wild-Blue-Yonder Wonders."

And on the 7th day, as you know, God rested.

But on the 8th day, at 0730, God looked down upon the earth and was not happy. No, God was not happy! So He thought about His labors, and in His divine wisdom God created a divine creature. And this He called Marine. And these Marines, who God had created in His own image, were to be of the air, and of the land, and of the sea. And these He gave many wonderful uniforms. Some were green; some were blue with red trim. And in the early days, some were even a beautiful tan. He gave them practical fighting uniforms, so that they could wage war against the forces of Satan and evil. He gave them service uniforms for their daily work and training. And He gave them evening and dress uniforms... sharp and stylish, handsome things... so that they might promenade with their ladies on Saturday night and impress the hell out of everybody! He even gave them swords, so that people who were not impressed could be dealt with accordingly. And at the end of the 8th day God looked down upon the earth and saw that it was good.

But was God happy? No! God was still not happy! Because in the course of His labors, He had forgotten one thing: He did not have a Marine uniform for himself. He thought about it, and thought about it, and finally God satisfied Himself in knowing that, well... not everybody can be a Marine!

**Once a Marine, Always a Marine!!**

## The Marine Corps League. What's That?

The League is a veterans organization of the U.S. Marines. It is composed of Marines and former Marines with honorable service. It aims to perpetuate the traditions and spirit of the U.S. Marine Corps through the continuous association of Marines who served under the Globe and Anchor at any time, in war or peace.

There are League detachments all across the country. Regular meetings are conducted under a unified ritual, with the Marine Corps spirit and atmosphere predominating.

The one and only membership qualification is honorable service in excess of 90 days in the Marines. This means that, regardless of rank held, regardless of when or where a Marine served, regardless of what division or wing he may or may not have served with, that Marine, male or female, is welcome in the Marine Corps League.

A common trait of League members is the spirit of *Semper Fidelis*, the spirit of being "always faithful" to the Country, the Corps, and to their fellow Marines, in-service and out. So deep is this ingrained in members that, long after most have hung up the uniform for the last time, they still dare to call each other "Marine." Each seems to hold the League slogan as a personal truth, that of "Once a Marine—Always a Marine."

Being a Marine is what it's all about. John A. Lejeune, who founded the Marine Corps League in 1923, put this first above all

else. Although he was the Major General Commandant of the Corps, a decorated hero of the First World War, and the former Commanding General of the victorious Second Army Division, he said his first claim to fame was, "I am a Marine!" All his other attainments came farther down the list. There was nothing more important to him.

The U.S. Congress felt that the purposes of the Marine Corps League were so valid that in 1937 it granted the League a federal charter.

League members know a special bond of comradeship unique to those who have worn the Marine Emblem. The members look after one another and assist the widows and orphans of their Marines. They observe national holidays such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day, and days of special interest to Marines like "the Birth-

day," the landings at Guadalcanal, Inchon, and DaNang, the anniversary of the flag raising at Iwo Jima, and the day the Fourth Marine Brigade entered Belleau Wood.

Auxiliary members help carry out the purposes of the League. Their members as well as Leaguers may be seen almost any day in the wards of our veterans hospitals, visiting the sick and wounded under their volunteer program. Both assist our veterans with rehabilitation work, too, and their trained service workers often assist Marines in obtaining their veteran rights.

Perhaps the Marine Corps League performs its most important service on the local level through programs of benefit to the communities. Many detachments, recognizing a need, embark on special programs to help advance their towns and cities. Others have adopted one of the League's national youth programs, the Young Marines, or the Youth Physical Fitness. These programs seek the mental, moral, and physical development of our youngsters.

The Marine Corps has continuously stood in the forefront of our country. The Marine Corps League stands at the forefront, too, serving in our hospitals, helping our communities, working with our youth, and assisting our Marines and veterans. Its members realize some of the greatest rewards of life, those of friendship and the sense of individual and group fulfillment.

### Membership Entitlements

- Membership card
- Subscription to the *Marine Corps League* magazine
- MCL lapel pin
- Participation in League affairs
- Vote at the national conventions
- Representation in legislative matters
- Low-cost group travel service
- Low-cost group health and life insurance
- Unique "gung-ho" merchandise

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**  
**ALAMO DETACHMENT 315**  
**P.O. BOX 831641**  
**SAN ANTONIO, TX 78283-1641**  
*Address Service Requested*



**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSES NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP + 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF ENLISTMENT/COMMISSION \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF DISCHARGE/RETIREMENT \_\_\_\_\_  
 SERVICE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OR SSN \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby apply for **REGULAR MEMBERSHIP** in the **ALAMO DETACHMENT 315** of the Marine Corps League, and enclose **\$35.00** for one year's membership. I hereby certify that I have served more than 90 days as a U.S. Marine or that I have served more than 90 days as Naval Medical Personnel with Marine FMF Units and have earned the Marine Corps Device (clasp) worn on Service Ribbon and have earned the Warfare Device authorized for FMF Corpsmen, that the character of my service has been honorable, and if discharged I am in receipt of an Honorable Discharge. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of my service and Honorable Discharge upon request.

(SPONSOR) \_\_\_\_\_ (APPLICANTS SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_

**OATH OF MEMBERSHIP: REGULAR MEMBERS**

I \_\_\_\_\_, in the presence of Almighty God and the members of the Marine Corps League here assembled, being aware of the symbols, motto, principles and purposes of the Marine Corps League, do solemnly swear that I will uphold and defend the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America and the Marine Corps League. I will never knowingly wrong, deceive or defraud the League to the value of anything. I will never knowingly wrong, injure or permit any member of any member's family to be wrong or injured if to prevent same is within my power. I will never propose for membership one known to me to be unqualified or unworthy to become a member of the League. I further promise to govern my conduct in the League's affairs and in my personal life in a manner becoming a decent and honorable person and will never knowingly bring discredit to the League. So help me, God.

<<<< OR >>>>

I hereby apply for **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** in the **ALAMO DETACHMENT 315**, of the Marine Corps League, and enclose **\$35.00** for one year's membership. I hereby certify that I espouse the principles and purposes of the Marine Corps League.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSES NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP+4 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (SPONSOR) \_\_\_\_\_ (APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**OATH OF MEMBERSHIP: ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

I \_\_\_\_\_, in the presence of Almighty God and the members of the Marine Corps League here assembled, being fully aware that as an Associate Member I will not be permitted to hold and elective office or to vote on Marine Corps League policy, a membership application or on election of officers, do solemnly swear that I will uphold and defend the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America and the Marine Corps League. I will never knowingly wrong, deceive or defraud the league to the value of anything. I will never knowingly wrong, injure or permit any member's family to be wronged or injured if to prevent same is within my power. I further promise to govern my conduct in the League's affairs and in my personal life in a manner becoming a decent and honorable person, and will never knowingly bring discredit to the league. So help me, God.

Mail completed application and \$35.00 check payable to Alamo Detachment, Marine Corps League to Adjutant/Paymaster, Alamo Detachment, MCL 315, P.O. BOX 831641, San Antonio, TX 78283-1641