



The Scuttlebutt



Alamo Detachment



JULY 2012

Vol. 20 Issue 07

HONOR – COURAGE – COMMITMENT COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE



MARINES AND ASSOCIATES,

As you know by now, there was no Scuttlebutt for June. Due to computer problems our editor Carlos Vargas was unable to publish the June Edition. Some of the June items of interest are: the MCL Department of Texas State Convention was held in Temple in June. I am proud to say that our Alamo Detachment received the first place award (Category two) for Monthly Membership and Activities. Thank you to all the members who participated in activities and events throughout the year to earn this honor for the Detachment. The Brazoria County MCL Detachment (Grandbury, TX) donated \$2,000 for our Marines Helping Marines Program at the State Convention. The donation is a great help as MHM funds are lower than desired. Its summertime and things tend to slow down this time of the year, but we have a busy schedule. We have already planned a Kickapoo Casino fundraiser for September. The trip on

July 16 had a full bus and those taking part have already requested another trip. Thank you Bob Otto for setting up the trips.

I met Judy Carlile from the Wreaths Across America organization. She has invited us to participate in their activities. If we participate we will get a monetary return for our efforts. That is always good for the Detachment. I have asked Judy to speak at our meeting on 28 July 2012.

Marine John Rodriguez has organized the now yearly memorial ceremony for Corpsman HN John E. Kilmer for August 13, 2012 at the San Jose Burial Park Cemetery. HN Kilmer was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for heroically tending to wounded Marines of the 1st Marine Division in Korea August 13, 1952. He was 22 years old. It would be a good gesture if the Detachment donated a wreath for the ceremony.

The American Wounded Heroes, Inc has invited us to participate in 5th annual golf classic on 13 August 2012 at the Canyon Springs Golf Club. All interested golfers can get details on our website www.alamodetachment315mcl.org.

The Detachment led by Associate member Sandy Graham has organized a family weekend for the Wounded Marines at SAMMC. We thank the Bridalgate Realty in Bandera, TX for allowing us to have their ranch house facility for the weekend free of cost. Two groups from Houston have volunteered to help. One group will cook and feed the Marines and the other will provide musical entertainment. The weekend of 3-5 August should be a complete success as it has been in the past. We have also been invited by the Republic of Vietnam's Vietnamese American Veterans Association to their musical and dancing event on 25 August 2012 at the St. Pius Catholic Church.

I received information on the MCL National Youth Physical Fitness Program. It is a wonderful program for schools k-12, JROTC, boy/girl scouts, and other youth organizations. The program is free and is designed to suit every student in every school in the USA.

In addition to these subjects, we will have updates on preparations for the 2012 Marine Corps Ball, Thanksgiving and Christmas plans.

Join us at the meeting on Saturday and get in on the fun. I am open for suggestions on an SOS breakfast for the Detachment and/or the Wounded Marines. Maybe a BBQ when the weather cools.

Welcome to our new Marines and Associate members. Check out our website www.alamodetachment315mcl.org.

Thanks to Associate Member Angelique Salas and Senior Vice Orlando Garza.

As always, don't forget that our Marines and other members of the military are in harm's way. Keep them and their families in your prayers.

Semper Fidelis,
Felix Conde Jr
Commandant

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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.

DEADLINE: for submitting news articles is the 15th of each month.

The monthly meetings of the Alamo Detachment are held 0900 on the 4TH 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

MINUTES OF 23 JUNE 2012

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, ALAMO DETACHMENT 315
U.S. NAVY & MARINE CORPS RESERVE TRAINING CENTER
3837 BINZ-ENGLEMAN RD, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

Meeting opened at 0905.

Roll call of Officers: Commandant, Paymaster, Chaplain, Judge Advocate and Sgt at Arms were present.

Correspondence: Commandant handed out information on the National Convention being held in August 2012 in Mobile, AL.

Paymaster report was given.

Chaplain Report: He reported on those members ill or in distress. Associate member Sandy Graham's mother is ill.

Report of Officers:

Discussed the Detachment website and that all members should log-on to the internet and check it out. The website is: AlamoDetachment315MCL.org and Alberto & Angeline Salas have put much effort in trying gathering information to put on it.

The Commandant then talked about the MCL Youth Physical Fitness Program. We have been remiss in not trying to get it implemented in the area schools. Discussed the need to be a member of the Fiesta Commission and obtaining the detachment's own Fiesta medal. Detachment challenge coins are also needed for the members.

The bus trip is scheduled for July 16, 2012 for the Marine birthday Ball expenses. The Detachment will be obtaining new shirts for those members that need another one.

Report of committees:

Scholarships: The scholarship committee has met and there are five recipients of a scholarship from the Detachment. They will be notified that the checks are to be presented at the July meeting.

VAVS: Marine Manuel Zertuche reported on the VAVS. He asked about the requirement that those volunteering at the VA hospital be assigned a specific duty at the hospital.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: The Ladies Auxiliary was asked if they wanted to meet at the Marine Annex at the same time the Detachment meets and use the conference room in the office area. They are presently meeting at Grady's on Fredericksburg Rd.

The Wounded Marines weekend at the Bandera Bridlegate ranch needs drinks provided for their weekend on 3-5 Aug 2012.

There will be a ceremony at the San Jose Burial Park for MOH John E. Kilmer on Aug 13, 2012 at 18300 and everyone is welcomed to attend.

A reunion of the USS Salas will be held in October 2012.

Marine Louis Herrera asked about having Elizabeth Franklin of the Bexar County Veterans Office attend one of our meetings and give a short presentation of their activities.

We will be giving Mark Webster a certificate and plaque at one of our meetings for all his efforts that he has been doing in supporting out detachment and devil Dog fundraisers.

VFW Post 7110 will be having a memorial service for Marine LCpl Joseph Farias on Sunday, 24 June 2012.

The Sr. Vice came in late for the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1000.

Submitted

Robert K. Otto

Judge Advocate

Happy Birthday June & July Members

June 2 – Scott Guller; 04 – Nicki Frey; 05 Raul Marroquin; 12 – Paul Elizondo; 16 - Aureliano Puente; 24 - Joe Chavez; 24 – Douglas Holloway; 25 – Elia Reyna; 26 – Manuel Trevino
July 08 - Diana Figueroa.

The older we are, the better we were!

REMEMBERENCE CEREMONY

A Rememberence Ceremony will be held to honor Medal of Honor recipient John E. Kilmer. John Kilmer was a Hospital Corpsman, U. S. Navy, attached to 1st Marine Division during the Korean War. Corpsman Kilmer was killed 13 August 1952 while repeatedly moving from one position to another administering aid to the wounded Marines and expediting their evacuation even though he was painfully wounded.

Date: 13 August 2012

Time: 1830

Place: San Jose Burial Park (North Entrance)
8235 Mission Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210)923-0272

POC: John A. Rodriguez

(210) 533-8073

(210) 362-8985

Attached is a flyer for the Remembrance Ceremonies at San Jose Burial Park for MOH John E. Kilmer.

Each year the veteran's of San Antonio gather to honor of MOH John E. Kilmer on his birth date. This year it will be held on 13 Aug 2012 at 1830.

John and Nellie Rodriguez have done this for the past several years and it has grown to become quite large with the US Navy Corpsmen from Ft Sam Houston in attendance and an honor guard from VFW Post 76.

Everyone is welcomed to attend these impressive ceremonies.

MEMBER IN HOSPITAL

Sunday night 24 June Josie and I helped to get Jack Babcock to the Emergency Room at University Hospital. Later he was admitted for a series of tests. The conclusion is that he will need surgery. (Gall Bladder I think) Today more tests were performed on him and surgery is scheduled for Wednesday. I'm not sure of the time as his daughter will inform me as soon as they know.

Please keep him in your prayers so that everything will be Okay.

I.m not sure if visitors are a good idea at this time but for information purposes his room number is 621 Bed 2.

Submitted by Joe Chavez

DETACHMENT STAFF MEETING

Staff,

I have scheduled a staff meeting for 28 August at 1300 at Maria's restaurant. Please let me know is you will attend.

Agenda items:

Participating in the Wreath Across America program. I hoping Judy Carlile can attend the staff meeting.

Ceremony for HN John E. Kilmer on 13Aug2012.

Research using National Gun Club as a fundraiser

Presentation to Mark Webser and scholarship recipients

Bridalgate weekend for Wounded Marine Families.

American Wounded Heroes, Inc. Golf Classic

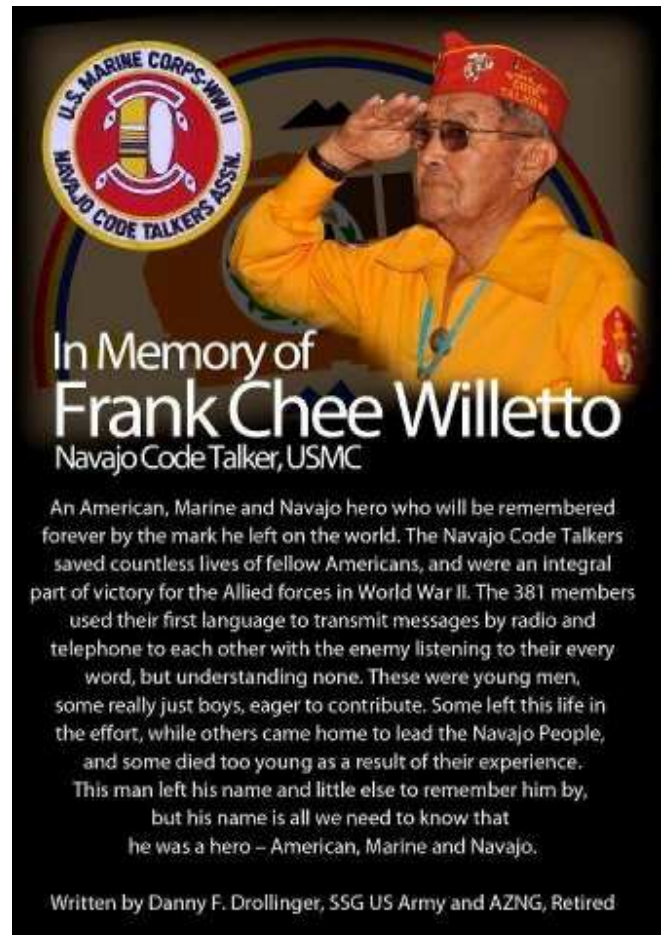
MCL National Youth Physical Fitness Program

If you have any other items you'd like to add please let

me know.

Semper Fi,

Felix



REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

DATE: AUGUST 13, 2012

TIME: 1830

PLACE: GRAE STIE BLOCK 9, SECTION 1 OF
SAN JOSE BURIAL PARK @ NORTH ENTRANCE
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78214

TO HONOR MEDAL OF HONOR RECEIPIENT
JOHN EDWARD KILMER
U. S. NAVY CORPSMAN

POC:

JOHN A. RODRIGUEZ

210-533-8073

210-362-8985



John Edward Kilmer



Nickname Jackie

Born August 15, 1930 Highland Park, Illinois

Died August 13, 1952 (aged 21) Killed in action in Korea

Place of burial San Jose Burial Park, San Antonio, Texas

Allegiance United States of America

Service/branch

United States Navy

Years of service 1947 – 1952

Rank Hospitalman

Unit 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division

Battles/wars Korean War

Awards Medal of Honor

John Edward Kilmer (August 15, 1930 – August 13, 1952) was a United States Navy sailor and a recipient of America's highest military decoration — the Medal of Honor — for his actions in the Korean War.

Kilmer quit high school at seventeen to enlist in the Navy on August 16, 1947 from Houston, Texas. He enlisted as an Apprentice Seaman, and attended Hospital Corps School, San Diego, California. After graduation in April 1948, he advanced in rate to Hospitalman Apprentice, and then Hospitalman on September 1, 1950.[1]

Kilmer was assigned to the hospital ship *USS Repose* (AH-16) when war broke out in Korea. His enlistment term expired in August 1951, but he soon rejoined the Navy. After running afoul of a superior,

Kilmer chose to be transferred to the Fleet Marine Force. After completing instruction at the Field Medical School at Camp Pendleton, California, he joined the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, Fleet Marine Forces.[1]

On August 12, 1952, Kilmer took part in the attack on "Bunker Hill" in Korea. He attended to the wounded during the battle and was himself mortally wounded after using his body to shield another man from enemy fire. For this action, he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.[1]

On June 18, 1953, Hospitalman Kilmer's mother, Lois Kilmer, was presented with her son's Medal of Honor by Secretary of the Navy Robert Bernard Anderson.

Medal of Honor citation

Hospital Corpsman Kilmer's official citation reads:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action against enemy aggressor forces. With his company engaged

in defending a vitally important hill position well forward of the main line of resistance during an assault by large concentrations of hostile troops, HC Kilmer repeatedly braved intense enemy mortar, artillery, and sniper fire to move from 1 position to another, administering aid to the wounded and expediting their evacuation.

Painfully wounded himself when struck by mortar fragments while moving to the aid of a casualty, he persisted in his efforts and inched his way to the side of the stricken marine through a hail of enemy shells falling around him. Undaunted by the devastating hostile fire, he skillfully administered first aid to his comrade and, as another mounting barrage of enemy fire shattered the immediate area, unhesitatingly

shielded the wounded man with his body. Mortally wounded by flying shrapnel while carrying out this heroic action, HC Kilmer, by his great personal valor and gallant spirit of self-sacrifice in saving the life of a comrade, served to inspire all who observed him. His unyielding devotion to duty in the face of heavy odds reflects the highest credit upon himself and enhances the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for another.

LUCKY EAGLE CASINO
Kickapoo Casino
Bus Trip
Monday
10 September 2012

Sponsored by
The Alamo Unit, Ladies Auxiliary
of the
Alamo Detachment, Marine Corps League

The Ladies Auxiliary Unit of the Alamo Detachment, MCL is sponsoring a bus trip to the Lucky Eagle Casino. Join us for a fun day at the Kickapoo Casino and try your luck. Cost per person is \$25.00 and the Casino gives a \$15.00 voucher when you check in at the front desk.

Bus will depart from St. Patrick Catholic Church parking lot at 6:30 AM and arrive at the casino around 9:30 AM. The bus will leave the Casino at 5:00 PM and arrive at the St. Patrick church parking lot at approximately 7:30 PM.

There is seating for 55 people and the first people paying for a seat will be going on the trip. Get you reservations early.

The Ladies Auxiliary, MCL sponsors the Semper Fidelis Award that is presented to one outstanding JROTC Cadet every year in each JROTC unit at the high schools around Bexar County. This award is a very prestigious award among all JROTC units in the nation. The Auxiliary also helps Marine and Navy Corpsmen, veterans and families in San Antonio with socials, scholarships, and other assistance that may be needed throughout the year.

Join us on September 10, 2012 for a day at the Lucky Eagle Casino in Eagle Pass. You may be one of the lucky ones that will be a winner and you will be able to mingle with your friends and neighbors while trying for the big jackpot.

For information and to make your reservation contact:
Mary Rose Elizondo at 533-9831, Shirley Otto at 623-4433,
Cecilia Zertuche at 313-5373, or Diane Figueroa at 534-3313.

DETACHMENT MEETING

**SATURDAY 28 JULY 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***

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