



The Scuttlebutt



Alamo Detachment



FEBRUARY 2010

Vol. 18 Issue 02

HONOR – COURAGE – COMMITMENT COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE



Marine, FMF Corpsmen, and Associate Members,

This is my first chance to speak to you as your new commandant. First, I would like to thank you for allowing me to serve you and our Detachment. And, I want to thank my fellow 2010 Detachment Officers for stepping up and accepting their important positions. I will work to make this year one of growth and success for the Alamo Detachment. I believe that any organization thrives best when its members work together. I also believe that fun should be part of any project. It is up to all of us as members to bring new ideas for the betterment and success of our Detachment. I look forward to working with all of you to make this year one of helping each other, helping our San Antonio Marine community, and good camaraderie.

The upcoming meeting in February (02/01/2010) is very important for all of us. During the meeting we will review and approve the Alamo Detachment 2010 Budget. The committees for this year's activities will be set. There are many activities in the San Antonio area that we can participate in and enjoy. We have Fiesta Week, Veterans Day, Memorial Day, Memorial Day at the National Cemetery, and of course, the Marine Corps Birthday Ball to look forward to. We also have a very good "Marines Helping Marines" program helping our wounded Marines and Corpsmen that needs to be kept alive and working. Please attend the meeting and voice your opinions and ideas.

It is up to all of us to make the Alamo Detachment a great organization that attracts more Marines to want to become members.

Semper Fi,
Felix



Officers being installed by Past Department Commandant Carlos Vargas. Sgt-at-Arms Edward Valdez, Paymaster Isidro Amador, Adjutant Humberto Reyes, Detachment Commandant Felix Conde, Chaplain William Boyle, Judge Advocate Robert Otto and Sr. vice Commandant Joe Carrasco.

**DETACHMENT MEETING
MONDAY 01 FEBRUARY 2010
U.S. NAVY & MARINE CORPS RESERVE TRAINING CENTER
3837 BINZ-ENGLEMAN RD.**

Attitude adjustment begins at 6:30 PM – MEETING STARTS at 7:30 PM

**ALAMO DETACHMENT
OFFICERS – 2009**

COMMANDANT

Felix Conde – 253-9148
fcondejr@aol.com

SR.VICE COMMANDANT

Hector Cerda -
hector.cerda@amedd.army.mil

JR. VICE COMMANDANT

Joe Carrasco – 534-5359
carrascosemperfi@satx.rr.com

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Robert K. Otto – 623-4433
rkotto@world-net.net

ADJUTANT

Humberto C. Reyes – 734-5967
Hreyes5416@aol.com

PAYMASTER

Isidro Amador – 224-2816
i.amador@yahoo.com

CHAPLAIN

William J. Boyle, Jr. – 447-7998
milminguns@aol.com

SGT-AT-ARMS

Edward Valdez - 674-8881
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DETACHMENT E-MAIL

mcl-alamo315@netzero.com

WEB SITE

www.detachments.com

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The ~~S~~cuttlebutt is published monthly by the 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.
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The monthly meetings of the Alamo Detachment are on the first Monday of each month except on holidays when the meetings will be re-scheduled to the second Monday.

Until further notice the Detachment meetings will be held at the Marine Corps Reserve Training Center, 3837 Binz Engleman Rd., situated inside the Brooke Army Medical Center complex. Use the BAMC gate on Binz-Engleman Rd.

**U.S. NAVY AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE TRAINING CENTER
3837 BINZ-ENGLEMAN RD., SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

OPENING CEREMONY: COMMANDANT ROBERT OTTO CALLED MEETING TO ORDER AT 1930 ACCORDING TO RITUAL.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: ALL OFFICERS WERE PRESENT.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP: NONE

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS PUBLISHED.

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

PAYMASTER'S REPORT: PAYMASTER'S REPORT WAS ACCEPTED AS PUBLISHED SUBJECT TO AUDIT.

REPORT OF MEMBERS SICK OR IN DISTRESS: JOHN RODRIGUEZ'S WIFE NELLIE WILL UNDERGO SURGERY WEDNESDAY FOR BREST CANCER.

REPORT OF OFFICERS: NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION WERE AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING LADIES OF THE DETACHMENT AUXILIARY: IRENE BABCOCK, BETTY LANDEZ, HENRIETTA VARGAS, MICKEY REYES, NELLIE RODRIGUEZ AND LILLIAN RANGEL.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: MARINE CARLOS VARGAS PREFORMED THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY. THE FOLLOWING NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS WERE INSTALLED:

COMMANDANT – FELIX CONDE

SR VICE COMMANDANT – HECTOR CERDA

JR VICE COMMANDANT – JOE CARRASCO

JUDGE ADVOCATE – ROBERT OTTO

PAYMASTER – ISIDRO AMADOR

CHAPLAIN – BILL BOYLE

SGT AT ARMS – EDWARD VALDEZ

ADJUTANT – HUMBERTO REYES

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE: MARINE JACK BABCOCK PRESENTED A CHECK TO THE ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS CASA – CHILD ADVOCATES OF SAN ANTONIO. THE CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$758.00 CAME FROM DONATIONS FROM DETACHMENT MARINES. MANY THANKS TO JACK AND IRENE BABCOCK AND TO SCOTT GULLER WHO MADE AN EXTRA EFFORT IN RAISING THIS AMOUNT.

JACK BABCOCK WILL BEGIN ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THIS YEAR. JACK AND IRENE WILL MATCH EVERY DOLLAR DONATED.

THE 1ST MARINE DIVISION WILL HOLD THEIR REUNION IN SAN ANTONIO IN AUGUST.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED ACCORDING TO RITUAL AT 2020.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

HUMBERTO C REYES - ADJUTANT



**Unless you're dead,
You're not A
FORMER MARINE**

Happy Birthday February members

05 – Belinda Rischner, 08 – Jose C. Martinez, 08 – John A. Rodriguez, 18 – Val Martinez, 27 – Mannuel Zertuche.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

While the C-5 was turning over its engines, a female crewman gave the G.I.s on board the usual information regarding seat belts, emergency exits, etc.

Finally, she said, 'Now sit back and enjoy your trip while your captain, Judith Campbell, and crew take you safely to Afghanistan'

An old MSgt. sitting in the eighth row thought to himself, 'Did I hear her right? Is the captain a woman?'

When the attendant came by he said 'Did I understand you right? Is the captain a woman?'

'Yes,' said the attendant, 'In fact, this entire crew is female.'

'My God,' he said, 'I wish I had two double scotch and sodas. I don't know what to think with only women up there in the cockpit.'

'That's another thing, Sergeant,' said the crew member, 'We No Longer Call It 'The Cockpit'

'It's The Box Office.'

EYEGASSES FOR RETIREES: Retirees may receive standard issue glasses each year from the Naval Ophthalmic Support and Training Command (NOSTRA). To obtain go to the NOSTRA Web site www.med.navy.mil/sites/nostra/Pages/default.aspx and select the "How to Order: Retirees" link for information. If you are retired military and eligible for other medical services, you are authorized to receive annually one clear pair of Bifocals and one tinted pair of Bifocals if prescribed by your Optometrist/Ophthalmologist. If you choose not to request Bifocals, you can receive one pair of Distance Vision and one pair of Near Vision spectacles. One pair of Distance Vision tinted spectacles is authorized if prescribed by your Optometrist/Ophthalmologist. Selectable frames MS9/S91A/Half Eyes/FS9 for all can be viewed on the website.

If you are less than 50 miles from a military health clinic with optometry services, you should take your prescription for spectacles to them so that they may measure you for proper fit. They will order your spectacles from the appropriate facility. If you are more than 50 miles from a military health clinic with optometry services follow these instructions to order your glasses.

- Open form DD771 at www.med.navy.mil/sites/nostra/order/Documents/DD771_2008.pdf and save it to your computer. This form is created to save the information you type into it.
- Fill out the top section with your "name, "retiree", and "last 4", along with your shipping and contact information.
- About halfway down the form, indicate which standard issue frame you desire. Make sure to save the form with the information you added in your computer.
- Print the partially completed form, and take this with you to your eye exam.
- Ensure that the examining facility writes the prescription, and includes your pupillary distance (PD) on the form.
- If your examining facility needs eye size, bridge or temple information, they can find instructions on how to determine this info at www.med.navy.mil/sites/nostra/order/Pages/Fitting.aspx.
- If you currently have Standard Issue frames provide the frame size and temple length. This can be found inside the frame.
- Forward one copy of the completed DD771 form along with your mailing address, a daytime phone number, and email address if available to NOSTRA.
- You can email your order to: NOSTRA-CustomerService@med.navy.mil; or
- You can Fax your order to: (757) 887-4647. Make sure you write: "Retiree Order" on the fax. Call NOSTRA Customer Service at (757) 887-7611 / 7152 / 7299 / 7476 right after you send your fax to insure it was received and that all the information is included to fabricate your orders; or
- You can mail your order to: NOSTRA, 160 Main Road, Ste 350, Yorktown, VA 23691-9984
- If you have any problems or questions call NOSTRA Customer Service Department or email: NOSTRA-CustomerService@med.navy.mil. Customer Service hours are M-F, regular business days, from 0630 to 1700 EST.
- There must be a DD771 for each request for eyewear. Note that orders are subject to a DEERS eligibility check.

[Source: NOSTRA website Jan 2010 ++]

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