



The Scuttlebutt



Alamo Detachment



MAY 2010

Vol. 18 Issue 05

HONOR – COURAGE – COMMITMENT COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE



MARINES, CORPSMEN, ASSOCIATE MEMBERS,

April has passed and Fiesta 2010 is over. I want to thank all our members who helped with all the festivities. Marines at the Alamo went well even with a late start. The BBQ for the Marine Band was a success thanks to all the member support. I also want to thank the Marines from the Marine Patients Affairs Team (MPAT) for their all out support at the BBQ.

At the May 3rd meeting we will discuss preparations for our participation in the Armed Forces Parade in Floresville on May the 15th. The parade is on a Saturday at 1900, I hope we have maximum participation from the Detachment. Due to the short time for preparations, the Detachment will not be able to march in the Kirby parade on May 1st. Other events for discussion at our next meeting are the Marine Corps Ball in November and much needed fund raisers.

Since our last meeting BAMC/MPAT has received four wounded Marines. Our Marine Helping Marine "Team" will continue to our weekly visits. You are very welcomed to participate. With warm weather coming and operations intensifying there will certainly be more casualties. Please keep our Marines and all our service personnel in harm's way in your prayers. Keep their families who make such a great sacrifice in your prayers as well.

Come to the meeting and take part in your Detachment's activities, you will be glad you did.

NEXT MEETING: May 3, 2010 at 1900 in the Marine Annex behind the Navy/Marine Corps Reserve Center at BAMC.

Semper Fi,
Felix Conde Jr, Cmdt

**DETACHMENT MEETING
MONDAY 03 MAY 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

Bring yourself, bring a new member!!!

Once a Marine, Always a Marine

The MAY meeting will be held at the new MPAT building next to the Reserve Training Center

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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-Engelman Rd.

**MINUTES OF 5 APRIL 2010
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, ALAMO DETACHMENT 315
U.S.NAVY AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE TRAINING CENTER
3837 BENZ-ENGLEMAN RD, SAN ANTONIO TEXAS**

OPENING CEREMONY: COMMANDANT FELIX CONDE CALLED MEETING TO ORDER AT 2030 ACCORDING TO RITUAL.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: ALL OFFICERS WERE PRESENT

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP: APPLICATION FROM MARINE TROY E TALLENT WAS ACCEPTED AND APPROVED BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. A REGULAR INITIATION CEREMONY WAS CONDUCTED BY COMMANDANT FELIX CONDE.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS PUBLISHED.

CORRESPONDENCE: RECEIVED LETTER FROM THE VETERANS OF GREATER SAN ANTONIO INVITING THE DETACHMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A PARADE IN FLORESVILLE ON APRIL 9.

ALSO RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE CITY OF KIRBY TO PARTICIPATE IN A PARADE ON MAY 1 2010.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER: PAYMASTER'S REPORT WAS ACCEPTED WITH CORRECTIONS AND SUBJECT TO AUDIT.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT: JOHN RODRIGUEZ'S BROTHER PASSED AWAY. JOHN' WIFE IS RECOVERING FROM CANCER TREATMENT. JACK BABCOCK CHECKED IN WITH CHARLES FREY. JACK SAID THAT CHARLES CONDITION REMAINS THE SAME.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS: MARINE CARLOS VARGAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE FIESTA MARINE CORPS BAND BBQ, GAVE A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THIS EVENT. WE ARE EXPECTING ABOUT 100 MARINE BAND MEMBERS AND 35 YOUNG MARINES.

THE 'MARINES HELPING MARINES' PROGRAM AT THE ALAMO WILL HAPPEN ON 22 APRIL AT APPROXIMATELY 1300. WE WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE NAVY COMPLETES THEIR PROGRAM.

THE APRIL FUNDRAISER CHAIRMAN, JOE CHAVEZ, SAID THAT THE EVENT HAD TO BE RESCHEDULED TO MAY 22 2010 DUE TO ALL THE ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE OCCURRED THESE PAST FEW WEEKS. MORE INFORMATION WILL BE FORTH COMING AT THE NEXT MCL MEETING.

JOE CHAVEZ MADE A MOTION TO CHANGE THE DETACHMENT ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AS PRESENTED DURING THE MARCH MCL MEETING. 2nd BY CARLOS VARGAS. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION WAS MADE BY VAL MARTINEZ TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION FROM THE CITY OF FLORESVILLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FLORESVILLE PARADE.

MOTION PASSED. THE PARADE WILL BE HELD ON MAY 15 2010. MORE DETAILS WILL BE PRESENTED AT OUR NEXT MCL MEETING. UNIFORM WILL BE MCL COVER, WHITE SHIRT AND BLACK OR BLUE TROUSERS.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ROBERT OTTO AND 2nd JACK BABCOCK TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION FROM THE CITY OF KIRBY TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR PARADE ON 1 MAY 2010 AT 1100. MOTION PASSED. UNIFORM WILL BE MCL COVER, WHITE SHIRT AND BLACK OR BLUE TROUSERS.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE: RICHARD MUNOZ PASSED INFORMATION ON NEW MILITARY ID CARD PROCEDURES. IN THE NEAR FUTURE, ALL MILITARY ID CARDS MUST BE FINGER PRINTED SO THAT THE CARDS MAY BE SCANNED BY BASE ENTRY GUARDS. CHECK WITH YOUR MILITARY ID SECTION.

NEW BUSINESS: JOE CHAVEZ MADE A MOTION TO PURCHASE 150 ALAMO DETACHMENT CHALLENGE COINS WITH 100 COINS TO BE GIVEN TO THE "MARINES HELPING MARINES" PROGRAM. THE REMAINING 50 COINS TO BE SOLD TO MCL DETACHMENT MEMBERS FOR \$5.00. 2nd BY BILL BOYLE. MOTION PASSED.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: THE RONALD MC DONALD CAUSE HAS ASKED THE DETACHMENT TO HELP DECORATE A CHAIR WHICH WILL BE AUCTIONED AT BAMC. THE COMMANDANT SAID THAT THE DETACHMENT WILL COMPLY WITH THE REQUEST.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2140 UNTIL
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
HUMBERTO C REYES, ADJUTANT



ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET!!!

Welcome Marine Troy Eugene Tallent. Troy was initiated into the Alamo Detachment during our April meeting and was welcomed aboard by all members present.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAY MEMBERS

04 – Werner “Ronnie” Reininger, 04 – Irene Gomez, 11 – Anita Estrada, 20 – Troy E. Tallent, 21 – David Landgrebe, 21 – W. Dub Smothers, 30 – Evelyn Bouley.

The following story was taken from the Express-News in San Antonio, Texas. In case anyone missed it.



TOM REEL/tree@express-news

Cpl. Matthew Bradford re-enlists in the Marines at Fort Sam Houston. He will mentor other wounded soldiers at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Wounded warriors earn nation’s gratitude

A Marine’s inspiring dedication exemplifies the Corps’ motto.

Marine Cpl. Matthew Bradford is an inspiration. Whatever obstacles you face, whatever problems you have, consider those that Bradford has encountered — and overcome.

As Express-News staff writer Scott Huddleston reported, Bradford was on patrol in Iraq in 2007 when a roadside bomb severely wounded him. He lost his sight. The severity of his injuries required doctors to amputate his right leg below the knee and his left leg above the knee.

Like thousands of other casualties of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Bradford came to Fort Sam Houston’s Center for the Inrepid for rehabilitation. With the help of the center’s

staff, the support of family and friends and — most of all — a steely determination, he learned to walk again with prosthetic limbs.

That would have been enough. But Bradford did more than recover. On Wednesday, he made history by becoming the first blind double amputee to re-enlist in the Marine Corps. He’s headed for Camp Lejeune, N.C., where he’ll work as a mentor with other wounded Marines.

There could scarcely be anyone more qualified for the job. Bradford exemplifies the Marine Corps motto, Semper Paratus — always faithful.

Bradford’s story is amazing. It is not, however, unique. For their courage and sacrifice in service to their nation, he and others like him have earned the eternal gratitude of the American people.

Work zone ahead — ease up on the pedal!

By Senator Carlos Uresti/Detachment member

Perhaps you were driving through life too fast last week to notice it was National Work Zone Awareness Week. Don’t worry. It’s not too late to slow down, stop fiddling with the radio dial, put the cell phone away and watch where you’re going. You could save a hefty traffic ticket — perhaps even your life.

For many drivers, a highway construction zone is no reason to ease up on the accelerator, and that’s a mistake. These areas demand caution, and caution doesn’t come with speed and inattention.

Work zones are dangerous places, for both motorists and highway crews. According to the Texas Department of Transportation:

In 2008, 175 people were killed in highway construction and maintenance zones in Texas.

More than four out of every five work zone fatalities are motorists traveling through the work zone.

Thirty-four percent of all work zone fatalities for 2008 were drug and alcohol-related and 71 percent of work zone fatalities were male.

One in three work zone crashes is a rear-end collision.

Still not convinced? Remember that traffic fines double in work zones, so for health and personal financial reasons, these areas need your undivided attention.

Each April, TxDOT joins with the Federal Highway Administration, national transportation associations and other states’ transportation departments for National Work Zone Awareness Week — a time to remember victims and raise awareness of safety precautions for workers and motorists in these areas.

It’s particularly important in Texas, where TxDOT maintains some 80,000 miles of highway, with more than 1,000 construction or maintenance projects underway at any given time.

National Work Zone Awareness Week was observed April 19-23, but you probably drove right through it with nary a glance. There’s no reason to keep it a one-week affair. Let’s be safe and observe work zones all year round. For more information about work zone safety go to

www.txdot.gov/safety/tips/work_zones.htm.

The Marine Band Cookout...

It’s over until next year and it’s time to thank everyone who donated money, food items and their hard physical work skinning, cooking, slicing and serving all this good chow. I was going to go down the line item by item but to save space I’ll just name all those that I can remember and hopefully I don’t forget anyone. Here goes:

Alamo Unit our favorite Ladies Auxiliary Belinda Rischner, her sister and nieces, Betty Landez, Micki Reyes and Henrietta Vargas. Non members Vickie Guller (Scotts wife), Patricia Rodriguez (wife of Ret. Maj. Humberto Rodriguez), Maria J. Olivarez (friend of Commandant Felix Conte), and Josie Rodriguez (Joe Chavez’ girlfriend) If I left any of the ladies out please let me know.

Detachment Members...Humberto Reyes, Oscar Landez, Joe Chavez, Louis Herrera, Esteban Chavarria, Joe Carrasco, Jack Babcock, Felix Conde, Theodore Gonzalez, Scott Guller, Raul Marroquin, Richard Munoz, Bob Otto, Ralph Perryman, Lee Rux, Robert Campos (Cen-Tex Det.), Rudy Canales (donated hotdogs, hamburger, sodas and everthing that went with them) and my co-Chairman Alex Rosel. The Marines from the Patient Affairs Team and 4th Recon. Bn. I hope I didn’t forget anyone. Carlos

Spring Detachment Fundraiser



The first Detachment Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, May 22, 2010 at the South Presa Street Ice House, 3415 S. Presa St. The location is centralized and easily reached via I-37 South, exiting on Fair

Ave. This event is crucial in that we have to replenish our depleting general account. Funding of our various Veteran Programs come from this account. With limited funds available, it limits our support of important needed programs.

For this Fundraiser we will have to depend on the generosity of our Members, supporters and friends for all food and other items. We are confident we can count on each of you in the true spirit of Semper Fidelis.

NEED LIST:

1. Brisket.....250lbs
2. Kielbassa Sausage ...10 Boxes
3. Pinto Beans cooked...34 lbs
4. Rice cooked.....30 lbs.
5. Potato salad12 gals
6. Onions lg. Whole...25 lg
7. Sliced Jalapeños...4 gals
8. Sliced Pickles.....4 gals
9. Bread37 loafs
10. Party Paks.....500
11. Take out Plates....500

Please be thinking how you can help. We will have this list in sign up form at the next Detachment meeting. You can also contact Co-Chairman Jack Babcock at 224-4505 or Co-Chairman Humberto Reyes at 734-5967 to volunteer your help. Thank you once again Marines and Friends, Fundraising Chairman , Joe R. Chavez

OFFICERS, UNIFORMS AND PARADES

Enclosure Three (3) Section V – Uniform code – Marine Corps League

V. Marine Corps League Covers

A. All members of the Marine Corps League are **Authorized** the red cover. Members elected to National office, or appointed to National Staff/Committees are **Authorized** to wear gold covers. The National Commandant will wear a white cover. Members elected to or appointed on the Department (State) level are **Authorized** to wear red with gold crown covers.

I see all this Authorization on the wearing of the Marine Corps League cover but have not found anything on the **Having** to buy or **Having** to wear a Marine Corps League cover, yet we fine members for not wearing one to meetings. Personally I think it would be nice if every member did wear a MCL cover to the meetings, especially our elected officers. All we can do is ask .

PARADES

We were invited to march in two parades, one in Kirby on Saturday 1 May 2010 and the other on Saturday 15 May in Floresville. The Kirby parade has been scrapped due to the short time for making preparations. Plans for the Floresville parade will be discussed at the May meeting, so come prepared with suggestions on fixing up a float. If anyone knows where we can borrow a trailer that we can decorate so that the Ladies Auxiliary and the League members that can't walk may ride. We also need five members to march with the banner and the Detachment colors.

UNIFORM

There is a variation of uniforms authorized for wear by the members of the Marine Corps League and a red "T" shirt is not one of them. Parades were intended for marching and strutting

your best, in other words to show off and that is the reason we should wear an authorized uniform. The following pertains to MCL uniform regulations:

Enclosure 3, Section VII – Special Uniform Authorization
Members of the Marine Corps League are authorized to wear **ONLY** those uniforms that are outlined under "**UNIFORM MALE**"; "**UNIFORM-FEMALE**"; "**ASSOCIATE MEMBER UNIFORM**" and "**CEREMONIAL UNIFORM**" No other variation(s) of the prescribed uniforms are authorized. Any Detachment/Department wishes to wear a uniform, other than that prescribed, a written request accompanied by color photographs (front view, side view and rear view of the uniform requested), must be sent to the National Commandant for approval. In case of inclement weather (rain, snow, sleet or cold) the local detachment or department commandants may authorize appropriate outer wear to be worn over the Marine Corps League uniform.

The male short sleeve shirt uniform would be ideal for the Floresville Parade:

MALE UNDRRESS – (SHORT SLEEVE)

Standard cover – with Devil Dog patch if authorized.

Devil Dog collar (optional) Name Tag (optional).

Sunburst insignias.

Marine Corps League shoulder patch (left sleeve) – **Devil Dog shoulder patch** (left sleeve) when authorized or U.S. flag 2" x 3 1/2 " if not member of MODD.

Marine Corps League ribbons or Department of Defense authorized medals, ribbons or devices (**NOT MIXED**)

White shirt open collar, military creases(to be airline pilot style with two breast pockets with button down flaps and epaulets).

Trousers, blue, dress (with NCO stripe)

Belt – Marine Corps web with brass buckle.

OR

Trousers – black (optional)

Belt – 1 3/4 " black with Marine Corps emblem on square gold buckle or belt, black, dress (optional)

Socks – black

Shoes – black, plain toe



Let's look our best on parade day.
See you at the meeting Monday.

**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