



The Scuttlebutt



Alamo Detachment



JUNE 2010

Vol. 18 Issue 06

HONOR – COURAGE – COMMITMENT COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE



MARINES, CORPSMEN, ASSOCIATE MEMBERS,

June is here and by the time you read this MCL Department of Texas Convention will be ongoing in El Paso. This will be the first convention held in West Texas in a long while.

The parade in Floresville on May 15th went well for our "marchers and riders." I know I am bias but I thought our "float" was the best in the truck division. I want to thank the Marines who took time to represent the Alamo Detachment in the parade. I am looking forward to participating in more events such as this.

The Detachment fundraiser held on May 22nd was a success as usual, thanks to all the volunteers and we had quite a few. A special thanks to our ladies who participated, they made a big contribution in making the fundraiser a success. The fundraiser chairman, Joe Chavez, did an excellent job of coordinating the event.

At our upcoming meeting we will discuss an upcoming fundraiser dance and plans for the 2010 Marine Corps Ball. Our Marines Helping Marines "Team" is working on a summer fun weekend for our wounded Marines. Also, we have been asked to participate in honoring and celebrating the 90th birthday of a "Tarawa" Marine on July 9th. Your Alamo Detachment needs your participation, take time to join us.

Please keep our Marines in harm's way and their families in your prayers.

NEXT MEETING: June 7, 2010 in the Marine Annex behind the Navy Marine Corps Reserve Center at BAMC.

Semper Fi,
Felix Conde Jr, Cmdt

**DETACHMENT MEETING
MONDAY 07 JUNE 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 JUNE meeting will be held at the new MPAT building next to the Reserve Training Center

**ALAMO DETACHMENT
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The Scuttlebutt 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-Engelman Rd.

**MINUTES OF 3 MAY 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 1930 ACCORDING TO RITUAL.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: CHAPLAIN BILL BOYLE WAS ABSENT DUE TO ILLNESS.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP: APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP BY MARK ANTHONY HERNANDEZ WAS ACCEPTED AND APPROVED BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. COMMANDANT FELIX CONDE CONDUCTED THE INITIATION CEREMONY.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS PUBLISHED.

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

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

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT: NO REPORT.

REPORT OF OFFICERS: NO REPORTS.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES: MARINE JOE CHAVEZ GAVE A REPORT ON THE CHANGES TO THE DETACHMENT BY-LAWS WHICH WILL HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE DETACHMENT "MARINE OF THE YEAR" SELECTION CRITERIA. THE PUBLISHED CHANGES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT THE NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING.

FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN ROBERT OTTO HAS SENT THREE APPLICATIONS AND IS WAITING FOR THE APPLICATIONS TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED.

JOE CHAVEZ HAS VOLUNTEERED TO CHAIR THE **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE. AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN** ROBERT OTTO IS GETTING THE BOOK READY TO TURN IN AT THE CONVENTION NEXT MONTH.

VAVS CHAIRMAN JOSE MARTINEZ IS COMPILING THE VOLUNTEER MAN HOURS NEEDED FOR HIS REPORT.

JOE CHAVEZ REPORTED ON THE STATUS OF THE MAY 22 FUNDRAISER. JOE REQUESTED DONATIONS OF BRISKET AND SAUSAGE. A LIST OF ALL ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE FUNDRAISER WAS CIRCULATED. A CALL WAS MADE FOR ALL MARINES TO STEP FORWARD TO MAKE THIS FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS.

MARINE CORPS BALL CHAIRMAN HECTOR CERDA GAVE A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE PLANS FOR THE MARINE CORPS BALL. THE CHAIRMAN PASSED OUT HARD COPY'S OF ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION INCLUDING SUGGESTED MEAL OPTIONS. A VOTE ON THE PROPOSED MARINE CORPS BALL PLAN WILL BE CONDUCTED DURING THE NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING IN JUNE.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: "VETERANS OF GREATER SAN ANTONIO" CHAIRMAN, VAL MARTINEZ, GAVE A REPORT ON THE FRANK TEJADA STATUE. VAL IS WORKING ON RAISING \$60,000.00 TOWARDS THIS EFFORT.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: COMMANDANT FELIX CONDE GAVE DETAILS ON THE FLORESVILLE PARADE.

NEW BUSINESS: ROBERT OTTO GAVE INFORMATION ON THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION WHICH WILL BE HELD IN JUNE FROM 3 JUNE THRU 6 JUNE. ROBERT ASKED FOR NAMES OF ALL MARINES PLANNING TO ATTEND. THE CONVENTION WILL BE HELD IN EL PASO. FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT ROBERT OTTO.

HECTOR CERDA ASKED THE QUESTION ON WEATHER WE SHOULD BEGIN HOLDING OUR MEETINGS ON SATURDAY MORNINGS INSTEAD OF MONDAY EVENINGS. THE SUGGESTION WAS TABLED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JOE CHAVEZ TO PRESENT MARK WEBSTER WITH AN ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP IN THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE. MOTION WAS 2nd BY JOSE MARTINEZ. MOTION PASSED. MARK WEBSTER HAS BEEN A SUPPORTER ON MANY OF THE DETACHMENT'S FUNDRAISING EFFORTS.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE: NONE

ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2105 UNTIL 7 JUNE 2010

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

HUMBERTO C REYES, ADJUTANT



ROLL OUT THE CARPET...

For Mark Anthony Hernandez, Mark joined us at the May meeting and was initiated and welcomed aboard by all members present. Marine Mark belongs to an Marine motorcycle club, we hope he brings them all over, motorcycles and all.

Oorah!!!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY JUNE MEMBERS

02 – Scott Guller, 04 – Nicki Frey, 05 – Raul Marroquin, 12 – Paul Elizondo, 16 – Aureliano Puente, 24 – Joe R. Chavez, 24 – Douglas Holloway, 25 – Elia Reyna, 26 – Manuel Trevino and 30 – Richard Munoz.

"Growing old is no more than a bad habit which a busy man has no time to form" - *Andre Maurois, French author*

OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES ...

To the family of Werner "Ronnie" Reiningger on the loss of their mother, Mrs Dellrose D. Reiningger passed away on 19 May 2010, Mrs Reiningger was born on 09 October 1908. May she rest in peace.



MEMORIAL DAY...

Hope everyone that had a chance went to one of the many ceremonies that were held throughout San Antonio and paid respects to our brothers who have gone before us.

1,000th GI killed in Afghan war was on 2nd tour

By PAUL J. WEBER, Associated Press Writer

KERRVILLE, Texas – The 1,000th American serviceman killed in Afghanistan had already fallen once to a hidden explosive, driving his Humvee over a bomb in Iraq in 2007. The blast punched the dashboard radio into his face and broke his leg in two places. Marine Cpl. Jacob C. Leicht didn't survive his second encounter with a bomb this week. The death of the 24-year-old Texan born on the Fourth of July marks a grim milestone in the Afghanistan war.

Leicht, who spent two painful years recovering from the Iraq blast, was killed Thursday when he stepped on a land mine in Helmand province that ripped off his right arm. He had written letters from his hospital bed begging to be put back on the front lines, and died less than a month into that desperately sought second tour. An Associated Press tally shows Leicht is the 1,000th U.S. serviceman killed in the Afghan conflict. The first death — nearly nine years ago — was also a soldier from the San Antonio area. "He said he always wanted to die for his country and be remembered," said Jesse Leicht, his younger brother. "He didn't want to die having a heart attack or just being an old man. He wanted to die for something."

The AP bases its tally on Defense Department reports of deaths suffered as a direct result of the Afghan conflict, including personnel assigned to units in Afghanistan, Pakistan or Uzbekistan.

Other news organizations count deaths suffered by service members assigned elsewhere as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, which includes operations in the Philippines, the Horn of Africa and at the U.S. detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Leicht's brothers told the AP that the military also told the family that his death put the toll at 1,000.

When military officers went to tell Leicht's parents that their adopted son had died in combat, sheriff's deputies had to help navigate them to the 130-acre family ranch tucked impossibly deep in the Texas Hill Country.

It was here that Jacob Leicht chopped thick cedar trees and hiked the rugged limestone peaks, growing up into an imposing 6-5, 200-pound Marine with a soft heart. He watched "Dora the Explorer" with his brother's children and confided to family that he was troubled by the thought of young civilians being killed in battle. But for Leicht, born in a Lemoore, Calif., Navy hospital, the battlefield was the destination. He threw away a college ROTC scholarship after just one semester because he feared it would lead away from the front lines.

"His greatest fear was that they would tell him he would have to sit at a desk for the rest of his life," said Jonathan Leicht, his older brother.

When Jacob Leicht's wish finally came true, it didn't last long. His first deployment was to Iraq in 2007, but he was there just three weeks when Jesse Leicht said his brother drove over two 500-pound bombs hidden beneath the road.

One detonated, the other didn't. The blast tore through the Humvee, shooting the radio into Leicht's face and knocking him unconscious. He felt something pinch his thumb, and the gunner's face was filleted so badly by shrapnel that medics couldn't keep water in his mouth.

None of the five people were inside the vehicle died. Jesse Leicht said an Iraqi interpreter, the only one on board who wasn't seriously injured, dragged his brother from the mangled vehicle. The blast snapped Jacob Leicht's fibula and tibia, and the recovery was an agonizing ordeal of pins and rods and bolts drilled into his bones.

But all Jacob Leicht could think about was going back. He launched a campaign for himself at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, writing letters and making phone calls about returning to combat. More than two years later, he was finally healthy enough to serve again.

Nine days before his brother stepped on a bomb in Afghanistan, Jesse Leicht enlisted in the Marines. Using Facebook to reach a friend stationed at a base not far from his brother, Jesse asked the soldier a favor: If you see Jacob, let him know I signed up like him. "Hopefully," Jesse Leicht said, "he got the word."

RIP R. Lee Ermey, 1944-2010

By C. J. Del Grosso

It's with a heavy heart that I find myself writing this about someone I've admired for many years. Ever since "Full Metal Jacket", R. Lee Ermey embodied the image of a hard-ass Marine for most of us. He was a person whose personal life was as interesting as the characters he portrayed. Serving in the Marines from 1961-1972 as a staff sergeant, he was later given the honorary rank of gunnery sergeant because of his ongoing support of military personnel everywhere, and because of his gritty portrayal of Gunnery Hartmann. He had a decorated career before being medically retired in 1972 because of the numerous injuries he sustained in his years of service. Ermey's service awards can be seen here: Ermey succumbed to complications associated with pneumonia at 3:14 AM at his home in San Diego. His nearly sixty film appearances will continue to inspire and cement his legacy for many years to come. Give 'em hell, Gunny!



FLAG DAY...JUNE 14

The Stars and Stripes originated as a result of a resolution adopted by the Marine Committee of the Second Continental Congress at Philadelphia on June 14, 1777.

HAPPY 233!!!

Department of Texas 2010 Convention

3-6 June 2010

Location

Airport Holiday Inn

6655 Gateway West, El Paso, Texas 79925

Hotel Rooms at Airport Holiday Inn

(Room rate includes breakfast for each day)

\$75.00 + City Tax (Single/Double Occupancy)

Rooms need to be reserved no later than 12 May 2010

in order to lock in room rate.

Reservations

Phone (915) 778-6411 or (915) 342-5322

(Or you may email emma.hinojos@thespiritofelpaso.com)

**Please provide your reservation specialist with your Room Block Code “USM”
)**

Banquet

**\$30.00 Per person: Roast Beef or Chicken breast served in a wine
sauce.**

Registration Fee

MCL and MCLA Members \$5.00 per person

ALAMO 315 MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

The members of Alamo Detachment 315 are respectfully requested to complete the following short questionnaire. The purpose of this survey is to assess your willingness to participate as an Officer or as a volunteer in various areas of need. This is crucial for the successful operation of the Detachment. By knowing your interests, your area of expertise and your willingness to participate, it is our goal to make your membership more meaningful to you.

Name: _____ Spouse's Name _____

Address: _____ City _____

Phone # _____ Cell _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Your Education Data: High School _____ College _____

Profession: _____

Work History: _____

Hobbies: _____

Marine Corps League areas of interest (Check as many as you wish)

___ Toys for Tots

___ Memorial Day

___ Rose Program

___ Youth Programs

___ VAVS

___ Scholarship Program

___ MHM Harm Program

___ Legislative

___ Birthday Ball

___ Staff Officer

___ Committee Volunteer

___ Convention

Other: _____ Other: _____

Thank you for your cooperation in completing this questionnaire. It will be held in strictest confidence.

You may mail to:

Alamo Detachment 315

Attn: Sr. Vice Commandant

P.O. Box 831641

San Antonio, Texas 78283-1641

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