March 2009

ALAMO SCOUTS Newsletter

The U.S. Sixth Army Special Reconnaissance Unit of World War II

ALAMO SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

Tucson, AZ

"More than any place that I've ever been, including my home, we were close. No question, if somebody got shot everybody would come out or nobody would come out. There wouldn't have been nobody left--and you don't have that infinite faith in many people."

-Tom Rounsaville

http://www.alamoscouts.org

Alamo Scouts Reunion, Update - 2009

When: May 13-17, 2009.

Host: George Eaton.

Where: Rock Island/Moline, Illinois.

Hotel: Stoney Creek Lodge, Moline IL

Rate: We have blocked 25 rooms for 13-17 May. The rate is $109+ tax for a standard or deluxe king or queen. Check-in is at 3pm and check-out is at 11am. We are in walking distance to John Deere Commons and several good restaurants. The hotel has a bar, full hot breakfast, recreation areas, etc. The Stoney Creel Lodge is at, 101 18th Street, Moline, Illinois 61265

Reservations: To make a reservation call **309-743-0101** and mention the Alamo Scouts rate. Hotel web site is **www.stoneycreekinn.com** then click on the Quad Cities property. We encourage everyone who wants to attend the 2009 reunion to make your hotel room reservations early.

Airport: Moline (MLI) - a good airport not much more expensive than Chicago, which is a 3-hour drive. The motel provides free shuttle from Moline Airport.

SCHEDULE of Events:

Wednesday, May 13th: Travel Day: Start arriving at 3pm. Hospitality Suite opens at 4pm.

Thursday, May 14th: John Deere Day- Historic Site; Butterworth Center; Pavilion. We will take a charter bus to Grand Detour, IL to see the original John Deere blacksmith site. We will then drive back to the Quad Cities and visit the Butterworth Center- John Deere's family mansion. We will end up at the John Deere Pavilion in Moline to see the equipment exhibits and gift shop. The Pavilion is on the site of John Deere's original plow factory. The Pavilion is within walking distance back to the hotel. Depart 10am, Return 4pm Cost: $25 plus lunch. Dinner on your own.

John Deere created the first self-scouring plow blade in 1837 in Grand Detour Illinois. This was critical to the development of Mid-western farming because the local soils clung to the old style plows. With success, John Deere founded his first factory in Moline Illinois in 1848 using the water power provided by The Mississippi River. From here he developed an international agriculture implements company. Also in Moline is the Deere-Wiman house built by John Deere's son and the Butterworth House built by Charles Deere as a wedding gift for his son and daughter-in-law. Both have been maintained with gardens. The Tour will go to the Grand Detour site, then the Butterworth Center, and will conclude at the John Deere Pavilion, built on the site of the original factory.

Friday, May 15th: Tour Rock Island Arsenal, Quarters 1, Museum. Tour Rock Island Arsenal and historic Quarters One, the largest house in the Army and the second largest single family house in the Federal inventory. No cost for the tour. The Army will provide a bus. Depart at 10am and Return to hotel approx. 2:00 P.M. Lunch on your own in the Arsenal cafeteria.

Rock Island Arsenal has an American military history going back to Zebulon Pike's visit in 1805. A key headquarters and logistics site during the 1832 Blackhawk Wars, Rock Island also housed Fort Armstrong from

[Continued on next page]

1816-1836. In the Civil War a Confederate POW camp was established and soon after the war the Rock Island Arsenal began construction. The Arsenal was the largest public works project of the 19th Century. Quarters 1, the Commanders house, is the largest single family home in the Army inventory, and second only to the White House in the federal inventory. The tour will be led by George Eaton and will include a historic tour of the island, tour of Quarters 1, and a visit to the Rock Island Arsenal Browning Museum which houses an extensive collection of pistols and rifles in addition to Arsenal History.

The "Banquet Dinner" with be at the hotel. Happy Hour at 6pm, Dinner at 7pm. $50 to include wine on the table and cash bar. Dinner will be buffet style, beef or chicken. You do NOT need to decide ahead of time. Lieutenant General Dave Fridovich , Director of U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM) in Tampa, Florida.

Saturday, May 16th: 10am ASA Business Meeting in the Hospitality Suite. 12pm Lunch Cruise. Return at 1:30pm.

We will go on a narrated river boat cruise including a buffet lunch. A bus will pick us up at the hotel and take us to the boat, then bring us back to the hotel. Cost: $45 per person including lunch, cruise, and the bus.

Baseball? Jumers? Dinner on your own.

In the evening there is a baseball game with the AAA Quad Cities River Bandits, a St Louis Cardinals affiliate, or people can go to the brand new Jumer's Casino in Rock Island. Jumer's is 100% smoke free. Pay as you go. Baseball tickets are $8, $9, or $12. I usually get the $9 lower box seats.

Sunday, May 17: General departure.

Those who do not pre pay will not be served dinner.

For those who are going to the Banquet Dinner only; $50.00

The total cost per person will be $120.00, this figure includes all charges includes registration fees, no other charges by the ASA. (does not include Hotel)

Make your $120.00 check payable to **Alamo Scouts Association.**

Mail check to: **Russ Blaise**
E-mail me for address:
asa at alamoscouts dot com

Contact George Eaton with questions:
563-340-5400
Email: George.eaton@us.army.mil

MEMBERSHIP

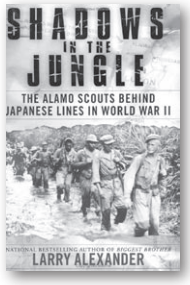
ASA membership is down this year, and it's important to keep your dues of $15.00 paid up. Without them, the ASA cannot maintain the Alamo Scouts Website; secure memorial plaques for the unit at historical and military institutions; fund special projects; support ongoing archival research; and procure historical unit-related memorabilia for educational purposes. Not to mention, covering the cost of printing and mailing the ASA Newsletter. After this newsletter we will be mailing them to paying members only. So Please, let's keep the Alamo Scouts on the front page of history. Remit your annual membership dues today. Get a five-year membership for $60.00 ($15.00 savings) or a 10-year membership for $120.00 ($30.00 savings).

Challenge Coin

The Alamo Scouts will soon have their own Challenge Coin. The first 100 coins will be available on a first-come first-serve basis at the 2009 Reunion in May, and may be obtained with a donation of $20 or more to the ASA to support ongoing programs. Also the Challenge Coins would make a great gift. Contact Russ for more information.

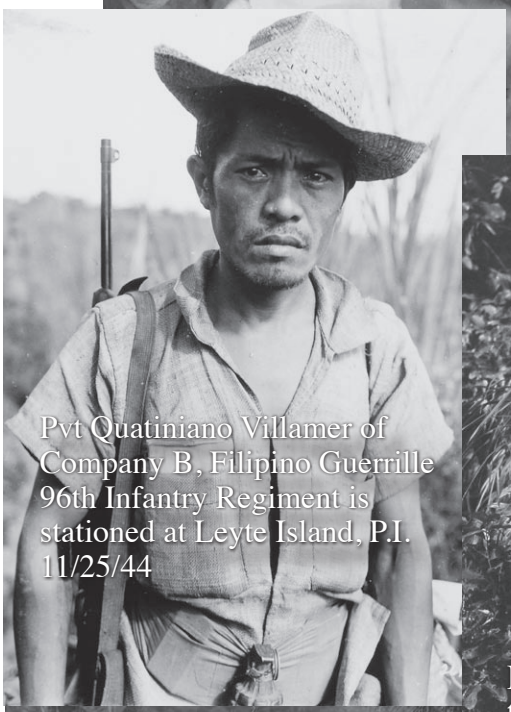
"SHADOWS IN THE JUNGLE" is Out!

From the National Bestselling Author of Biggest Brother, Larry Alexander. "SHADOWS IN THE JUNGLE," The Alamo Scouts Behind Japanese Lines in World War II. You can order a copy from amazon.com for $16.47, or from your local book store.

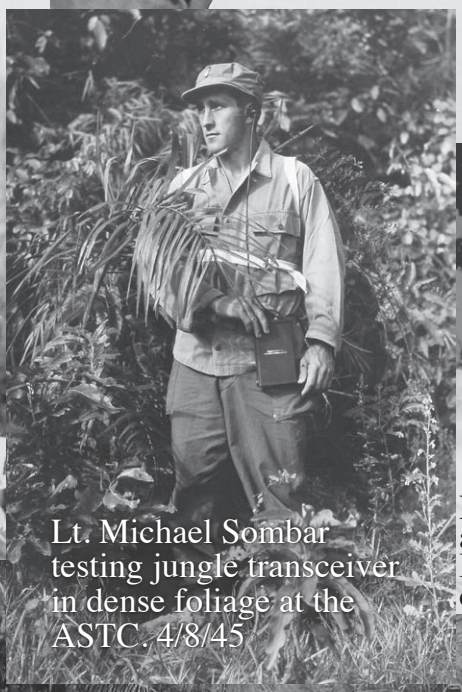


From the National Archives

Lt. Beckworth, (right) of the Alamo Scout School, shows Lt. Gen. Watler Krueger a new type mortar sight. 8/12/44



Pvt Quatiniano Villamer of Company B, Filipino Guerrille 96th Infantry Regiment is stationed at Leyte Island, P.I. 11/25/44



Lt. Michael Sombar testing jungle transceiver in dense foliage at the ASTC. 4/8/45

Lt. Gen Watler Krueger awards Col. Frederick W. Bradshaw with the Legion of Merit. 9/17/44

Trainees at the Alamo Scouts school, Fergusson Island, going through some mild calisthenics. 1/8/44

Littlefield to Appear on History Channel

Alamo Scout Bill Littlefield and ASA Historian Lance Zedric were in Jacksonville, Florida on March 4-6 for the filming of "Warriors," a weekly series appearing on the History Channel beginning March 12. Hosted by Green Beret Terry Schappert and produced by High Noon Entertainment, the 10-part series examines famous warrior cultures of the past. "The Alamo Scouts episode is the only episode that involves living people, and will likely be the season finale," said Lance. "During the filming I got to surprise Terry by driving onto the set in a 1941 military Jeep with Bill on board. Then I had the pleasure of introducing the two. The producers just let the camera roll." "It was a huge surprise and a great honor meeting Bill," said Schappert. "As a Green Beret, I understand the caliber of soldier it took to be an Alamo Scout. What a thrill. I'll never forget it."

With interest in the Alamo Scouts continuing to grow and more being learned about this extraordinary unit, especially on television, it's likely that thousands of new viewers will soon join the club... The ASA will alert members when air dates become available.

Bill Littlefield and Lance Zedric in a 1941 Willy's Jeep on the set of Warriors at Camp Blanding, Florida on March 5th... *Photo courtesy of Ray Bliss, Military Advisory Services.*

Alamo Scouts to be inducted into the Special Forces Regiment

The U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School at Fort Bragg, North Carolina will be inducting the OSS, First Special Service Forces, and the Alamo Scouts as Distinguished Members of the Special Forces Regiment. This will be taking place on April 22nd, 2009 during a Special Forces Symposium. All Alamo Scouts that would like to attend should contact Russ Blaise for more details.

Director
Colonel Robert S. Sumner (Ret), *pro perpetua*
November 15, 1921 - August 3, 2004

Executive Director	Secretary	Treasurer	2009 Reunion Host	Historian	Membership
Russ Blaise	Terry Santos	Audrene Hall Burress	George Eaton george.eaton@ us.army.mil	Lance Zedric	Russ Blaise

Alamo Scouts Association
Co-founders: Colonel Robert S. Sumner (Ret)
Command Sergeant Major Galen C. Kittleson (Ret)

Alamo Scouts Website
www.alamoscouts.org
Co-founders: Russ Blaise and Lance Zedric

2009 Alamo Scouts Membership Form

The Alamo Scouts Association is offering three types of memberships to those who wish to support the organization.

Annual dues are **$15.00**, and will be used to help maintain the Alamo Scouts Website; secure memorial plaques for the unit at historical and military institutions; fund special projects; and support ongoing archival research and procurement of historical unit-related memorabilia for educational purposes. Membership also entitles you to a membership card, newsletter, and attendance at our annual reunion. **We are now offering a 5 and 10 year membership. Get a five-year membership for $60.00 ($15.00 savings) or a 10-year membership for $120.00 ($30.00 savings).**

Please select the appropriate membership category & complete the information below.

_____ **Gold** Alamo Scouts, ASTC Graduates, Staff & Overhead Personnel

_____ **Silver** Spouses & direct relatives of Scouts.

_____
Relationship & Name of Scout

_____ **Bronze** All others who wish to support the Alamo Scouts Association

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

☐ 1 year membership - $15 ☐ 5 year membership - $60 ☐ 10 year membership - $120

Other family members who wish to join:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Relationship: _____

☐ 1 year membership - $15 ☐ 5 year membership - $60 ☐ 10 year membership - $120

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Relationship: _____

☐ 1 year membership - $15 ☐ 5 year membership - $60 ☐ 10 year membership - $120

Use the back of this form to add more members if needed.

Make check payable to: **ALAMO SCOUTS ASSOCIATION**

Mail your check with this form to: Russ Blaise

E-mail me for address:
asa.membership at alamoscouts dot com