January 2010

ALAMO SCOUTS Newsletter

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

ALAMO SCOUTS ASSOCIATION, Inc.

Tucson, AZ

http://www.alamoscouts.org

"I would have given my life for the members of my team, and I know they would have given theirs for me."

-Lt. William F. Barnes (Team leader)

REUNION 2010 – Seal Beach, California

Dates: June 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 Location: Seal Beach, California

The Pacific Inn - Seal Beach
600 Marina Drive
Seal Beach, CA 90740
(866) 466-0300
Local: (562) 493-7501
Fax: (562) 596-3448
Email: info@pacificinn-sb.com
http://www.pacificinn-sb.com

Call to make room reservations and mention the Alamo Scouts rate.
Room Rate: Weekdays: $119.90+ 12% tax = $134.29.
Weekends: $129.90+ 12% tax = $145.49.
Check-in is at 3pm and check-out is at 11am.
Free Continental Breakfast, Pool, Jacuzzi and Fitness Area.
All rooms have a balcony and WiFi connection. A four night stay comes to: $559.56. Two handicap rooms are available.

SCHEDULE of Events: We are still working out the final schedule, but we have planned a harbor cruise and a trip to the Gene Autry museum. We will mail out another update as we get closer to the reunion date.

Wednesday, June 16th: Travel Day: Start arriving at 3pm. Hospitality Suite opens at 4pm.

Thursday, June 17th: TBD

Friday, June 18th: Banquet Dinner. Time: TBD. Place: Cory's Restaurant, Long Beach.

Saturday, June 19th: ASA Business Meeting in the Hospitality Suite. Time: TBD

Sunday, June 20th: 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 per person.
The total cost per person will be TBD, the determined figure includes all charges including registration fees, banquet dinner, transportation. (does not include hotel or plane fare)

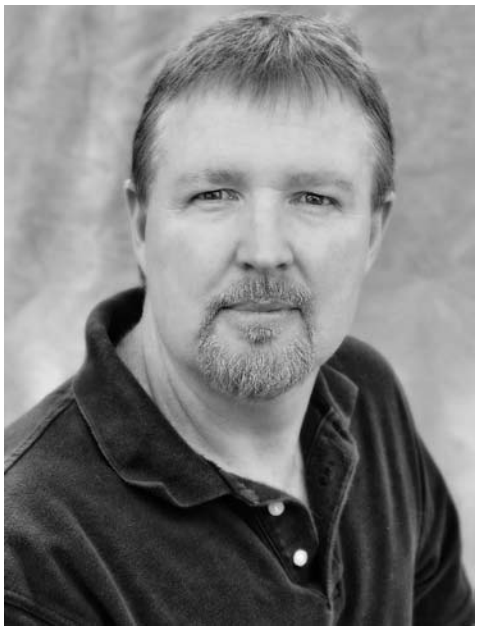
P.S. You can fly into the Long Beach Airport (LGB). The hotel will provided free shuttle to and from Airport. Other Airports: John Wayne Airport (SNA), Orange County, California and Los Angeles International (LAX), Los Angeles, California... No free shuttle provided. Seal Beach is 26 miles south from LAX, 15 miles north from SNA and 6 miles south from LGB.
• If you are planning an extended visit to Seal Beach, the Alamo Scouts rates will still apply. Jerry & Lauie Littlefield will be happy to help with any other plans if you decide to extend your trip.

For more information you can contact:
Reunion Host: Jerry Littlefield
(562) 439-7847 (Better to call)
Email: littlefieldjerry@gmail.com

Russ Blaise
(520) 977-6450
Email: asa@alamoscouts.org

Acronym definition: **TBD***, To Be Determined.*

Historian's Corner



ASA Historian, Lance Zedric

Read more from Lance on his blog:
http://www.lancezedric.com

Mergers and Acquisitions. That's what being a historian is all about. What? Isn't this supposed to be a brief update on what's new and exciting in the world of history as it pertains to the Alamo Scouts? Yes. Kind of. Actually, it's more like Acquisitions then Mergers. Let me explain. First, let's take Acquisitions. History is all about "acquiring" stuff. You know, marbles, baseball cards, gold, oil, hunting grounds, Hawaii, chunks of Mexico, the Sudetenland, Poland, whatever. With all moral judgments aside, it's the act of getting things. Huh? Are you still talking about the Alamo Scouts? Yes, please bear with me. So, what are Mergers? Webster's Dictionary defines a merger as the combining of two or more things to make one. Well, there you have it. I've been acquiring and merging. For example, a few months ago I acquired a Japanese flag and an Alamo Scouts dress uniform tunic from the family of Bill Nellist and merged it with a torso mannequin to make the beginnings of an Alamo Scout display which to take to schools and libraries for presentations (see photo). Then Russ and I acquired approximately 50 new photos of Alamo Scouts and PT boat crews to be merged with newly acquired war letters home, awards citations, and several Navy action reports mentioning the Scouts, to expand and enhance the ASA Archives. So what's next? As many of you know, Russ and I have been acquiring anything we can get our hands on to help make the ASA Archives something to be proud of, including any written material, photographs, war souvenirs, momentos, uniforms, equipment, money, whatever, in an effort to merge the story of the Alamo Scouts into its rightful place alongside other renowned units of World War II. Simple. Mergers & Acquisitions.

Bill Nellist' dress uniform tunic.

Silent No More

The oral history on the Alamo Scouts is progressing nicely and it is planned that the book will be available in time for V-J Day (Sept. 2) or Columbus Day at the latest. But as long as we're still getting information, we're not going to stop writing. So, you still have about a month to dig up old war letters, photos, and other stuff and get them off to Russ or me. And as long as we're on the topic of photos, we need shots of the following for the book:

Aubin, Armand
Cicippio, Dominic
Derr, George
Evans, Vance Q.
Frank, Benjamin
Gambill, Daily
Gomez, Paul
Griffith, Earl
Harkins, Charles
Hidalgo, John
Knaggs, Fred
LaChaussee, Robert
Leugoud, John
Meier, Carl
Miller, Carl F.
Morris, James
Packard, Warren
Patterson, Paul
Phillips, John
Schale, Fred
Stewart, Charles
Tucker, Clinton
Wentink, James
Whittlesey, Max

Searching for Johnnie Long

by ASA Executive Director Russ Blaise

Johnnie R. Long of Clay County, Texas, graduated from the 8th class at the ASTC in late July 1945, but the war ended while en route to his first mission as a member of the Grimes Team. Long writes in a 1946 letter to Mrs. A.M. Thompson, "The war ended while en route on first mission. I would have liked very much to have gone on at least one mission". Afterwards, he performed a beach reconnaissance mission in Wakayama, Japan with Henry L. Adkins team and served with a group of Alamo Scouts as the occupation force in Kyoto. In November of 1945, Johnnie went home and was never heard from again by his teammates.

For the past few years now Johnnie Long's name has come up. I searched the internet constantly, but always came up dry. One day I found a letter that he had written along with a cool photo of himself leaning against a tree holding a Thompson machine gun. I needed to find this guy. I called teammates Henry Adkins and Carl Bertoch for help. Carl said that Johnnie was a quiet fellow and that they had lost contact with him after the war. Henry said that on one occasion in the early 1950s he was out of town and saw a newspaper photo of Johnnie guarding a foxhole in Korea. This motivated me even more. I went back and compared the letter with the official ASA roster. There it was. His named was listed as "Johnny," the more common spelling. No wonder I could not find him. While working on the new book that Lance and I are doing, I did another internet search, this time with the correct spelling. There he was, plain as day. I sunk in my chair in front of the computer. It read, "Johnnie R. Long was Killed in Action on August 16th, 1950 in Korea." For days I walked around feeling like I had just lost a close friend. It was quite a letdown after all this time to learn what became of Johnnie. But it doesn't end there. Now I find myself searching for family members, with a little luck I won't have to worry about the spelling.

Johnnie R. Long poses with a Tommy Gun in Kyoto, Japan.

Lowell Wooten, Kenneth Cameron
Johnnie Long, Henry Adkins, Carl Bertoch
Adkins Team, *Kyoto, Japan.*

GRABBING SOME SHUT-EYE ON SOUTH KOREAN FRONT

WITH RIFLE READY, Pfc. Johnnie R. Long of Byers, Tex., watches for the North Korean foe while his buddies get some shut-eye on the South Korean front. *(U. S. Army Photo via International Soundphoto)*

Caption reads: WITH RIFLE READY, Pfc. Johnnie R. Long of Byers, Tx., watches for North Korean foe while his buddies get some shut-eye on the South Korean front. (U.S. Army Photo...)

Photo ran in the Tyrone Daily Herald of Tyrone, PA - August 12, 1950.

ALAMO SCOUTS IN KOREA & VIETNAM

Aubrey "Lee" Hall, Korea.

While the ASA is dedicated to preserving the history of the Alamo Scouts during World War II, it's also interested in recognizing those Scouts who deployed and served in the Korean War (1950-1953) and/or the Vietnam War (1961-75). That's right. We call them wars! When armed soldiers shoot at each other over a period of years, it's a war. With that settled, we'd like to hear from or about any Scouts, and there are several, who served in one or both wars. Photos are always nice, too. Contact Lance or Russ with details. Below are just a few of the many we've identified:

Korean War – Alfred Alfonso, Frank Bachrach, Milton Beckworth, George Derr, Aubrey Hall, Woodrow Hobbs, Robert LaChaussee, Johnnie Long (KIA), Robert McCready, Carl Meier, Tom Rounsaville, Jay Russell, Robert Shirkey, Andy Smith, James Steele, Chester Vickery, Irving Wait, Herbert Wolff, etc.

Vietnam War – Alfred Alfonso, John Dove, Aubrey Hall, Galen Kittleson, Robert LaChaussee, Warren Packard, Tom Rounsaville, Andy Smith, and Herbert Wolff.

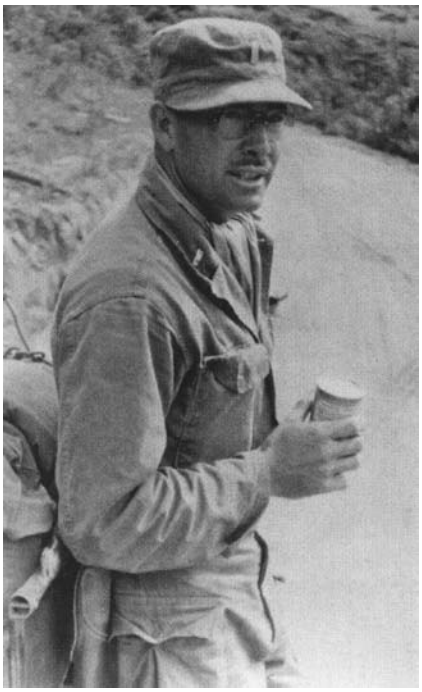
Korea & Vietnam – Alfonso, Hall, LaChaussee, Rounsaville, Smith, and Wolff.

*Alfonso also earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge three times. A rare feat indeed!
*Tom Rounsaville was the ground forces commander during the liberation of Europeans from Congolese rebels in Africa in 1965.
*Kittleson was called to duty in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1957 during the integration of Little Rock Central High School, and also was one of the raiders at Son Tay POW camp outside Hanoi in 1970.

**Although many former Alamo Scouts served in positions of great responsibility stateside or in Europe, the Middle East, Central America and Africa, other parts of Asia and elsewhere during the Korean and Vietnam Wars, we are focusing only on those who deployed to those theaters during the war. Also, we're interested in knowing of any Scouts who served elsewhere during a significant event or time, such as the crisis in Lebanon, the Berlin Airlift, etc.*

Frank Bachrach, Korea.

Robert LaChaussee, Vietnam.

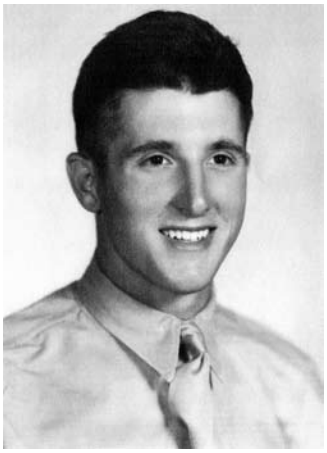


1LT Jay V. Russell, Loudspeaker Platoon Leader & Company Executive Officer, 1950-52, Korea.

New Photo Finds

Bernard Alperin

Henry Baker



William Rommel

Robert Shullaw

Glendale Watson

Vic Mateskon

Wilmot Ouzts

Franklin Rawolle

Alfred Jacobs

Samuel Jacobson

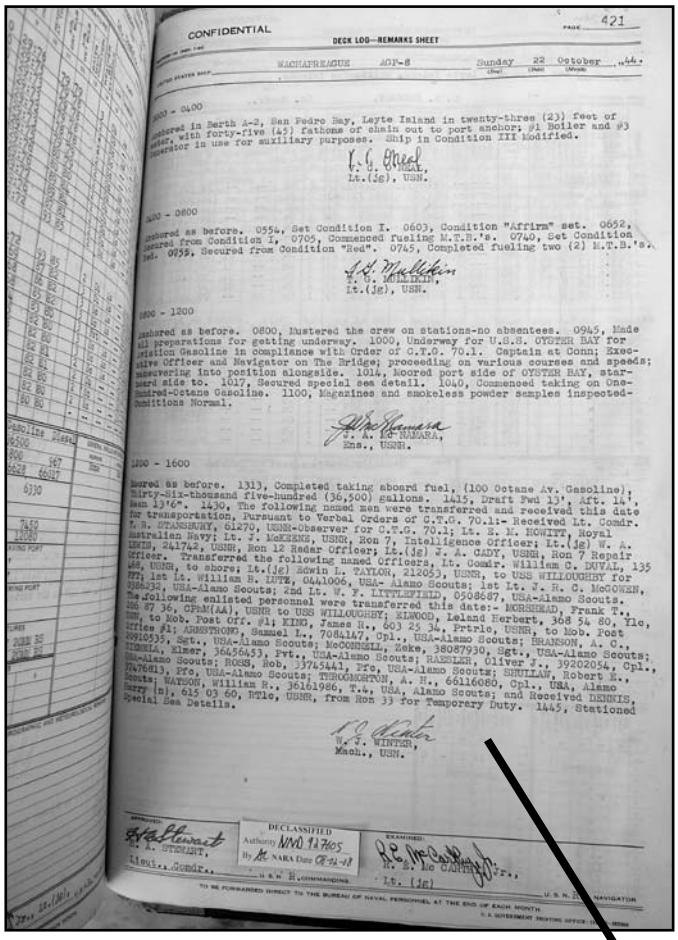
Daniel Jackson

James Farrow

Sidney Tison

Ora Davis

Littlefield & Lutz Teams on USS Wachapreague



CONFIDENTIAL

421

DECK LOG—REMARKS SHEET

WACHAPREAGUE AGP-8 Sunday 22 October 44.

0000 - 0400

Anchored in Berth A-2, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Island in twenty-three (23) feet of water, with forty-five (45) fathoms of chain out to port anchor; #1 Boiler and #3 Generator in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship in Condition III Modified.

L. G. Steel
Lt.(jg), USN.

0400 - 0800

Anchored as before. 0554, Set Condition I. 0603, Condition "Affirm" set. 0652, Secured from Condition I. 0705, Commenced fueling M.T.B.'s. 0740, Set Condition "Red". 0755, Secured from Condition "Red". 0745, Completed fueling two (2) M.T.B.'s.

A. H. Mallchin
A. H. MALLCHIN,
Lt.(jg), USN.

0800 - 1200

Anchored as before. 0800, Mustered the crew on stations-no absentees. 0945, Made all preparations for getting underway. 1000, Underway for U.S.N. OYSTER BAY for position Gasoline in compliance with Order of C.T.G. 70.1. Captain at Conn; Executive Officer and Navigator on The Bridge; proceeding on various courses and speeds; maneuvering into position alongside. 1014, Moored port side of OYSTER BAY, starboard side to. 1017, Secured special sea detail. 1040, Commenced taking on One-Hundred-Octane Gasoline. 1100, Magazines and smokeless powder samples inspected-Conditions Normal.

A. A. McNamara
A. A. McNAMARA,
Ens., USNR.

1200 - 1600

Moored as before. 1313, Completed taking aboard fuel, (100 Octane Av. Gasoline), Thirty-Six-thousand five-hundred (36,500) gallons. 1415, Draft Fwd 13', Aft. 14', Mean 13'6". 1430, The following named men were transferred and received this date for transportation, Pursuant to Verbal Orders of C.T.G. 70.1:- Received Lt. Comdr. T. R. STANSBURY, 61270, USNR-Observer for C.T.G. 70.1; Lt. E. M. HOWITT, Royal Australian Navy; Lt. J. McKEENE, USNR, Ron 7, Intelligence Officer; Lt.(jg) W. A. LEWIS, 241742, USNR, Ron 12 Radar Officer; Lt.(jg) J. A. CADY, USNR, Ron 7 Repair Officer. Transferred the following named Officers, Lt. Comdr. William C. DUVAL, 135468, USNR, to shore; Lt.(jg) Edwin L. TAYLOR, 212053, USNR, to USS WILLOUGHBY for FFT; 1st Lt. William B. LUTZ, 0441006, USA- Alamo Scouts; 1st Lt. J. R. C. McGOWEN, 0386232, USA-Alamo Scouts; 2nd Lt. W. F. LITTLEFIELD, 0508687, USA-Alamo Scouts. The following enlisted personnel were transferred this date:- MORSHEAD, Frank T., 206 87 36, CPhM(AA), USNR to USS WILLOUGHBY; ELWOOD, Leland Herbert, 368 54 80, Ylc, USN, to Mob. Post Off. #1; KING, James R., 603 25 34, Prtrlc, USNR, to Mob. Post Office #1; ARMSTRONG, Samuel L., 7084147, Cpl., USA-Alamo Scouts; BRANSON, A. C., 20910535, Sgt., USA-Alamo Scouts; McCONNELL, Zeke, 38087930, Sgt., USA-Alamo Scouts; NIEMELA, Elmer, 36456453, Pvt., USA-Alamo Scouts; RAESLER, Oliver J., 39202054, Cpl., USA-Alamo Scouts; ROSS, Rob, 33745441, Pfc, USA-Alamo Scouts; SHULLAW, Robert E., 37476813, Pfc, USA-Alamo Scouts; THROGMORTON, A. H., 66116080, Cpl., USA, Alamo Scouts; WATSON, William R., 36161986, T.4, USA, Alamo Scouts; and Received DENNIS, Harry (n), 615 03 60, RTlc, USNR, from Ron 33 for Temporary Duty. 1445, Stationed Special Sea Details.

W. J. Winter
W. J. WINTER,
Mach., USN.

DECLASSIFIED Authority NND 747405 By NARA Date 8-24-98

R. E. McCarthy Jr.
R. E. McCARTHY, Jr.,
Lt. (jg)

A. A. Stewart
A. A. STEWART,
Lieut., Comdr.,

U.S.N. COMMANDING

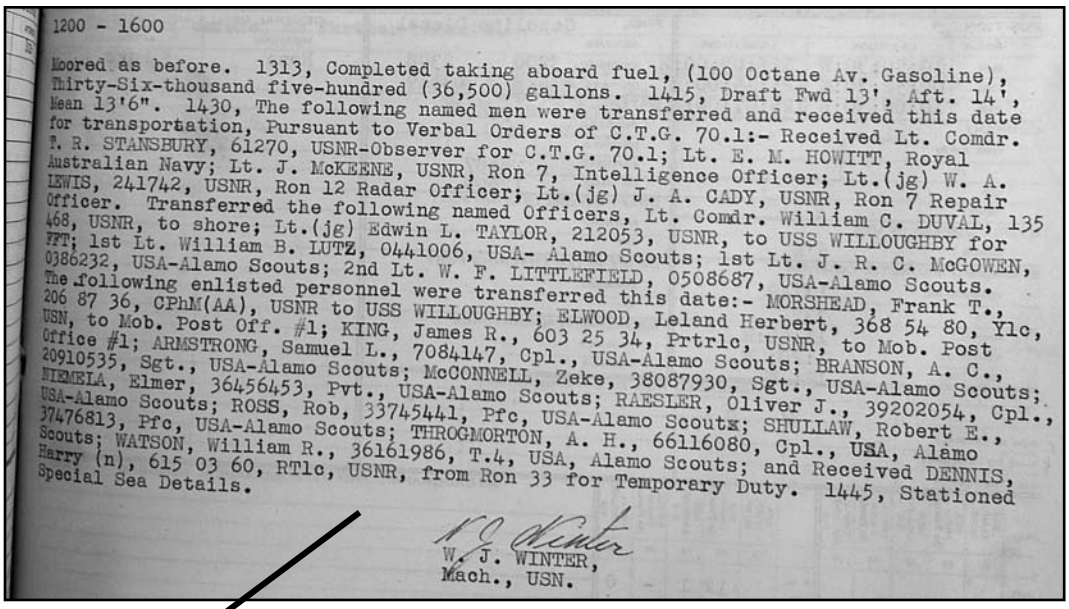
U.S.N. NAVIGATOR

TO BE FORWARDED DIRECT TO THE BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL AT THE END OF EACH MONTH

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

One of the most reliable ways of finding information on the location of the Alamo Scouts during a specific time is consulting U.S. Navy deck logs. The Navy was meticulous about recording who came aboard and departed their ships, and at what times. It seems that the bigger the boat (aircraft carriers, battleships, destroyers, cruisers, LSTs, etc,) the better the record keeping. The smaller the boat (especially PT boats) the less detailed the comings and goings were reported—if at all.

The photo (left) was obtained from the deck log of the USS Wachapreague, a PT tender that was home to Alamo Scouts teams en route to Leyte from New Guinea. Nellist, Rounsaville, Dove, and Littlefield Teams, along with other operational scout teams were aboard the Wachapreague when it left PT Base 17 at Woendi Island on 13 October and arrived off Leyte on 20 October, the day of the major landing there.



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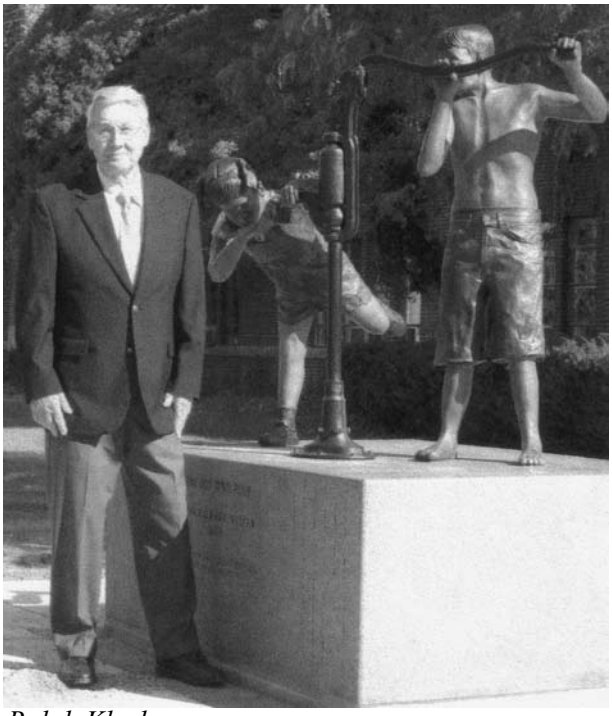
W. J. Winter
W. J. WINTER,
Mach., USN.

The log entry, dated 22 October 1944, states that Alamo Scouts William B. Lutz, John McGowen, Wilbur Littlefield, Samuel Armstrong, Alva Branson, Zeke McConnell, Elmer Niemela, Oliver Roesler, Bob Ross, Bob Shullaw, Allen Throgmorton, and William Watson were transferred to shore between noon and 4 p.m. The next day Littlefield Team was off on a mission to Tanauan. What is not stated is that on the night of 22 October Nellist Team left the tender on a secret mission to Mindanao. Leave it to an Alamo Scout to slip out undetected!

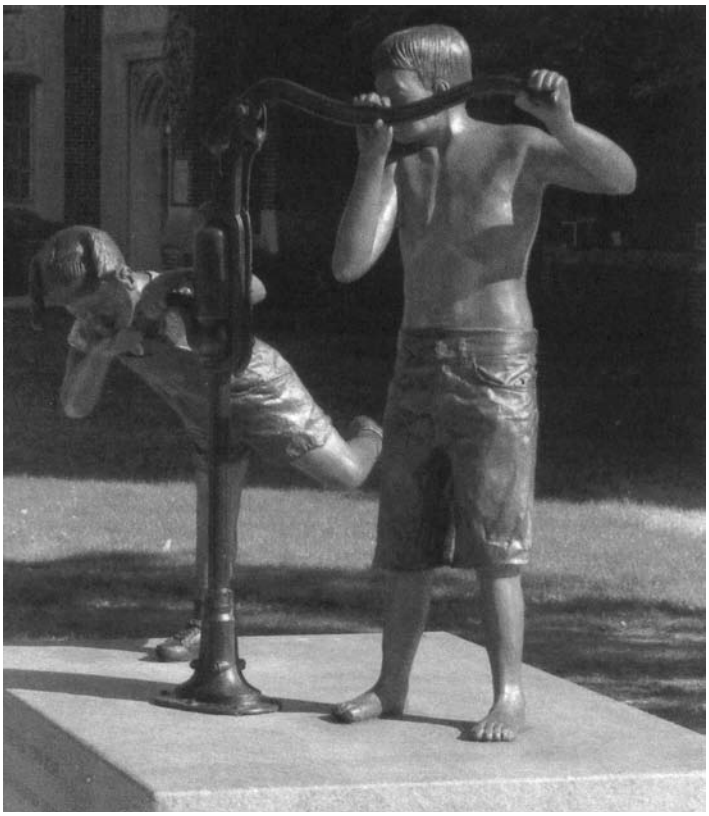
In the News…

Landmark scene in Perrysburg revived in bronze

This fall World War II PT boat veteran and ASA member Ralph Kleeberger completed a life-size bronze sculpture, "The Town Pump", and donated it to his hometown of Perrysburg, Ohio. The inspiration for Ralph's nine-year project was the town's old water pump that was scrapped in the 1940s for the war effort. The sculpture is on display at the Perrysburg schools' Commodore Building two blocks from the site of the original pump. "It was a center of interest," recalled Ralph. "I wanted it to be where it could be seen."



Ralph Kleeberger



Congratulations to Ralph and his wife, Lee Anne. We all had the pleasure of meeting them at last year's reunion. We hope to see them in Seal Beach.

World War II Slang

SNAFU	Situation Normal All F****ed Up!
GUNG HO	(Chinese) meaning "work together".
DOGFACE	Common G.I.
SEARS-ROEBUCK	New Lieutenant
ACK ACK	Artillery
FUBAR	F***ed Up Beyond All Recognition!
BIG CHICKEN DINNER	Bad conduct discharge
JERRY CAN	Gas can
The G.I.s	Diarrhea

ASA Membership

The ASA peaked at 99 paying members in 2009. Last year we introduced two additional membership options, including five and 10-year memberships. A few chose the 10-year option, but a whopping 35 people went with the five-year plan. Those who need to renew for 2010 can still take advantage of the extended membership options. Current annual dues are $15.00. The five-year membership is $60.00 ($15.00 savings) and the 10-year membership is $120.00 ($30.00 savings). The membership application is included with this newsletter for those members whose still owe dues for 2010. If you know someone who would like to become a member; whether a relative, a friend, or just someone who is interested in supporting the Alamo Scouts, have them go online and fill out a membership application at: http://www.alamoscouts.org/membership/application.htm

NECROLOGY

Peter Vischansky
January 1, 2009
Dove/Ileto Teams

Robert LaChaussee
April 24, 2009
Grad 7th Class

John U. Holder
April 30, 2008
9th Class

Fred H. Schale
April 10, 2005
Overhead

Laurence F. Sollman
November 5, 2003
Overhead

Max M. Whittlesey
October 19, 2001
Grad 7th Class

Clarence C. Pearce
October 13, 1999
Overhead

Lawrence N. Kokenge
July 18, 1997
Overhead

Harold E. Culver
April 21, 2009
Grad Unknown class

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

Executive Director	Secretary	Treasurer	2010 Reunion Host	Historian	Membership
Russ Blaise	Terry Santos	Audrene Hall Burress	Jerry Littlefield	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