



# THE ALAMO CHAPTER DISPATCH

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## Awards

See details on page 9.

For more information on awards programs, contact:

Melissa Guerrero  
Chair, Awards Committee  
AUSA Alamo Chapter  
(210) 272-1615

## Upcoming Events

### AUSA 2011 Annual Meeting & Exposition

10/10/2011 - 10/12/2011  
Washington, D.C.  
Walter E. Washington  
Convention Center

## Save the Date

**Annual Meeting Future Date**  
22 – 24 October 2012

**Winter Symposium Future Date**  
22 – 24 February 2012

## Command Sergeant Major Neil Ciotola

### Command Sergeant Major U.S. Army Installation Management Command

Command Sgt. Maj. Neil L. Ciotola is a native of New Jersey. He enlisted in the Army on the Aug. 3, 1976 and attended One Station Unit Training as an Armor Crewman at Fort Knox, KY. The sergeant major's overseas assignments include three tours in the Federal Republic of Germany, and two in the Persian Gulf.



**Command Sgt. Maj. Neil Ciotola**

His stateside assignments include tours at Fort Hood, TX; Fort Stewart and Fort McPherson, GA; Fort Knox, KY; and Fort Lewis, WA. He has served in a variety of duty positions to include tank driver, loader, gunner, tank commander, tank platoon sergeant, cavalry troop first sergeant, battalion and theater Army headquarters master gunner, operations sergeant major, infantry battalion (BCT) command sergeant major, cavalry squadron (OSUT) CSM, CSM of the 1st Battalion 33rd Armor and CSM of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, CSM for the 1st Cavalry Division, and CSM of III Corps and Fort Hood.

Command Sgt. Maj. Ciotola has attended various military schools to include the Primary Noncommissioned Officers Course, the Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course, the Battalion Training Management System Course, the Leadership and Management Development Course, the Nuclear Biological and Chemical Defense Course, M60A3 Master Gunner Course, the Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course, the M1/M1A1 Master Gunner Course, Airborne School, Air Assault School, the Operations and Intelligence Course, the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, and the Command Sergeants Major Designee Course at Fort Bliss, Texas.

He became Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command Nov. 2, 2009.

## ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

AUSA is a private, non-profit educational organization that supports America's Army - Active, National Guard, Reserve, Civilians, Retirees and family members. AUSA Chapters worldwide develop programs and activities that provide community support for America's Army through individual and corporate members.



# Corporate Member Sponsorships

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You or your company can be a table or soldier sponsor at the 04 November 2011 quarterly membership luncheon. The cost to sponsor a table of 8 is \$104. The cost to sponsor a soldier is \$13. Reservations may be made by completing this form and faxing or mailing the request to the address below. Payment for all reservations must be received prior to 31 October 2011 in order to confirm your reservation. Purchase your luncheon tickets on line at [www.alamochapterausa.org](http://www.alamochapterausa.org), or for tickets and information, contact:

Barbara S. Hagen, Alamo Chapter of The Association of the United States Army  
12019 Rose Blossom  
San Antonio, Texas 78247-4333  
E-Mail: [barhagen@flash.net](mailto:barhagen@flash.net)

Phone: 210 494-6266

Fax: 210 494-2607



Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**TABLES:** Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ corporate table(s) for us at \$104 each. We would like to donate \_\_\_\_ of our seats for our soldiers to use. My check for \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

**INDIVIDUALS:** Please reserve \_\_\_\_ individual ticket(s) for me at \$13 each. We would like to donate \_\_\_\_ of our tickets for our soldiers to use. My check for \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

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## Meeting Information

**Speaker:** Command Sergeant Major Neil Ciotola

**Location:** Sam Houston Club

**Time:** Friday, 04 November 2011, 1130 Hours

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## Message from the President

Dear Friends,

I wanted to tell you how thrilled I am to be succeeding Brad Freeman as Chapter President. I have already learned that we have a group of fabulous volunteers that are doing a lot of important work for our Soldiers, their Families and their Survivors. I have already seen what important work the Chapter is doing and pledged to continue. To name but a few, we are:

- Sponsoring and Contributing to events that honor those we support
- Providing scholarships to ROTC students
- Partnering with other non-profit activities
- Supporting chains of command in recognizing their extraordinary Soldiers
- Supporting Army unit deployment and reunion ceremonies
- Supporting mentorship programs for Army

We are also continuously on the lookout for new opportunities to contribute value, and to accept the services of new talent that is interested in volunteering. So, if you are interested, give us a hand with your ideas and your help!

Sincerely, Steve  
Stephen M. Speakes  
AUSA Alamo Chapter President



**Stephen M. Speakes**  
President  
AUSA Alamo Chapter

*AUSA Alamo Chapter Website*

Check out our new chapter website at <http://www.alamochapterausa.org/>. As always, if you would like to receive *The Alamo Chapter Dispatch* newsletter electronically, email the editor, Therese M. Baer, PE at [tbaer@baereng.com](mailto:tbaer@baereng.com).



Presented by  
the Alamo Chapter of



Mid July LTG (RT) Stephen Speakes (The Alamo AUSA President elect) asked me to attend a planning meeting with a group trying to organize a Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Run in San Antonio for September 11<sup>th</sup> 2011. At this meeting I was introduced to Mark Nohrenberg and Chris Hall with the company of Waddell & Reed, Deborah Foster and Rodney Hubbard with the SAFD, Sgt. Jonathon Reyna with the WWR, and John Purnell the race director. As we sat together discussing everything that would need to be done in order to put this on in 59 days with 7 volunteers, I thought to myself "there is no way". With the addition of Bethany Reese with AUSA, Matt Potter with the SAPD, and Mark Purnell with Radio Ola, we decided to give it a try.

It was the first time the city hosted the race, which is named after a New York firefighter who ran five kilometers from the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel to the World Trade Center on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. Stephen gave his life inside the twin towers.

After countless hours of planning and begging the city to come out to the event we had all become very discouraged seeing only 43 runners signed up two weeks before the event. We asked ourselves if we should call it quits and return the money to the sponsors. Once again we decided to keep going. Over the following weeks we watched the runners start to pour in day of the race totaled 515.

The race started with Firefighters from San Antonio and other departments started the race, followed by 28 of our local Wounded Warriors. The Firefighters all ran in full bunker gear (approximate weight 80lbs)-making the Texas heat even more unbearable. Hundreds of other racers hit the pavement after the Wounded Warriors and the Firefighters as the ceremonial Fire Department bell rang 343 times in honor of the fallen Firefighters of 9/11.

It was an inspiring moment that most could only describe as "humbling": Firefighters in full gear, racers clad in red, white and blue, waving American flags as they darted past an actual piece of the World Trade Center on display outside the Alamo, centered between two SAFD ladder trucks.

It was enough to make anyone proud to be an American.

-Sheli Harmon

Alamo AUSA Board of Directors 2009-2012

Vice President of Corporate Membership



Over 500 runners, and thousands of patriots all packed the Alamo Plaza for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001

Chuck Brewton and Fred Reyna with the Texas State Guard proudly display Chucks 1943 Willy's MB at the AUSA membership booth

## 10 years later

### Commemoration Ceremony

San Antonians converged outside the Alamo on Sunday morning to reflect on the 9/11 tragedy 10 years after the terrible attack on the twin towers of the World Trade Center.

Representatives from nearly all branches of the military, law enforcement and public safety officials commemorated the anniversary with a series of speeches and prayer and reading of a letter from President George W. Bush.

"Where were you?" was the underlying message as attendees reflected on the tragic day in American history.

As tourists and runners gathered in the pavilion, it was a beautiful example of joining together as Americans to pay our respects and revive our faith and love of this great nation.



The San Antonio Young Marines captured this moment on video- check it out on YouTube- Search **SSgt Scott Roberts**

SSgt Scott Roberts, a Marine wounded in Afghanistan, fought to finish the Tunnel To Towers 5K in San Antonio, TX with the support of over 300 spectators who followed and cheered him on the last half mile of his journey. The Texas State Guard lined the street and saluted the young Marine as he crossed the finish line.

"This was an amazing and unforgettable moment! Marine SSgt Scott Roberts united and touched all our hearts. A true inspiration to us all. Thanks to all our armed forces, police and firefighters who give it their all to protect and keep us all safe. Thank you for your service".



ALAMO



# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual FOR THE SOLDIER Golf Tournament 26 June 2011



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## News in the Brief

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1st Lt. Faren Campbell (left) places a wreath at the graveside of LTC Karen Wagner at the Fort Sam Houston

National Cemetery during a special ceremony on Sept. 11. The Alamo Chapter of AUSA supported the ceremony by purchasing the wreath and candles. LTC Karen Wagner died Sept. 11, 2001 while serving at the Pentagon. At the time of her death, Wagner was an Army Medical Department staff officer in the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel on the Army Staff. Photo by Ester Garcia



Alamo Chapter Board Members Dennis Lafferty and Barbara Hagen present a wreath at the Memorial Day ceremony at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery on 30 May 2011.



The U.S. Army All-American Bowl will celebrate its 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on January 7, 2012, at the Alamodome. This is the classic East vs. West match-up of the finest high school football players in the nation. Traditionally, members of the Alamo Chapter volunteer to serve as City Hosts for the visiting football players, coaches and band members. All this involves is about half of a day when you greet your person at the airport and escort them to the in-processing at the Grand Hyatt. In addition to meeting some of the most talented high school student in the country, you get a free All-American Bowl shirt, tickets to the game and other promotional items. For more information and to reserve your spot this year, contact Dennis Lafferty at [p3@satx.rr.com](mailto:p3@satx.rr.com).

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# News in the Brief

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Steven Lamoureux from Boy Scout Troop 23 receives a plaque from AUSA board member Andy Beckey to recognize his achievement of earning the coveted Eagle Scout award. Joining Steven for the ceremony is his mother Laura Lamoureux.



Kayanna Wade from Cole High School ROTC receives a plaque and \$3000 for winning the Meloy Scholarship from Eddie Williams, Alamo Chapter Scholarship Coordinator. Joining Kayanna are her parents Jimmy and Sandy Wade.



Gretchen Newcomer receives a plaque and \$1000 for winning the Past Presidents from Eddie Williams, Alamo Chapter Scholarship Coordinator. Her father, COL Newcomer and grandfather Rudy Roitz joined Gretchen for the ceremony. Nicolette Garcia (not pictured) also one a \$1000 Past President scholarship.

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## News in the Brief

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Colonel Andy Beckey, (USA-Retired) representative of the Alamo Chapter AUSA presents a Model 1887 Hospital Corps Surgeon Knife to CAPTAIN DAVID M. BOLAND for his award winning paper on "The Battle of Hattin." CAPTAIN BOLAND is attending the 18 May 2011 Captain Career Course graduation ceremony.

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Brad Freeman, 1<sup>ST</sup> Vice President of Alamo Chapter AUSA presents a Model 1887 Hospital Corps Surgeon Knife to Captain Erin Boggs for her award winning paper on "The Battle of Marne". The presentation was made during the 8 September 2011 Captain Career Course graduation ceremony at the AMEDD C&S.

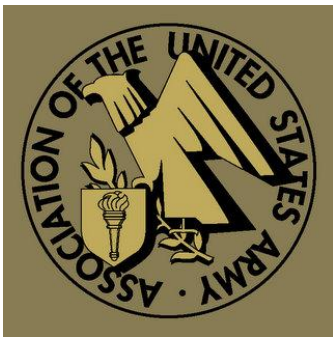
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# Alamo Chapter **WINS** Best Overall Chapter



**Alamo Chapter AUSA Awards for 2010-2011 Annual Meeting:**

**Best Overall Chapter  
Chapter of Excellence  
President's Club Gold  
Star Chapter  
Superior Chapter  
Army Birthday  
Best Chapter Website  
Corporate Member Support  
Family Programs  
Greatest Government Civilian  
Membership  
Merit Chapter  
Support to Recruiting Command  
Support to ROTC  
Support to the Institute of Land  
Warfare  
Take the Hill**



Alamo Chapter, AUSA  
P.O. Box 340226  
Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234-0226

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**Com Sgt Maj Neil Ciotola**  
**AUSA Luncheon Speaker**  
Sam Houston Club  
Friday, 04 November 2011  
1130 Hours

## Alamo Chapter Officers 2011

LTG (Ret) Stephen Speakes, **President**  
COL (Ret) Bradley D. Freeman, **First Vice President/Pres Elect**  
CSM (Ret) Dennis Lafferty, **VP Individual Membership / CAR**  
Ms. Sheli Harmon, **VP Corporate Membership**  
Ms. Barbara Hagen, **VP Programs**  
Ms. Therese M. Baer, PE, **VP Communications / Newsletter**  
COL (Ret) Sid Trawick, **Secretary**  
Mr. George M. Allen, **Treasurer**  
COL Gilley G. Richardson, **Chaplain**  
CSM (Ret) Dennis Lafferty, **TS State President - South**

[Stephen.Speakes@usaa.com](mailto:Stephen.Speakes@usaa.com)  
[bradley.freeman@us.army.mil](mailto:bradley.freeman@us.army.mil)  
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[sheliharmon79@gmail.com](mailto:sheliharmon79@gmail.com)  
[barhagen@flash.net](mailto:barhagen@flash.net)  
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[gilpastor@aol.com](mailto:gilpastor@aol.com)  
[p3@satx.rr.com](mailto:p3@satx.rr.com)

## Unit Advisors and Board of Directors

### **UNIT ADVISORS**

CSM Donald Freeman  
LTC Kerry Reyna  
CSM Donna Simmons  
CSM Richard Torres  
CSM David Woods  
CSM James Diggs  
SGM Eric Lobsinger  
SFC Miguel Verdinez  
Chuck Brewton

### **2008-2011 ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

LTC (Ret) Kirk Frady\_ [Kirk.Frady@lackland.af.mil](mailto:Kirk.Frady@lackland.af.mil)  
COL (Ret) Richard Agee [richard\\_agee@bah.com](mailto:richard_agee@bah.com)  
BG (Ret) Joe Prasek [f.prasek@us.army.mil](mailto:f.prasek@us.army.mil)

### **2009-2012 ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Ms. Sheli Harmon [sharmon@hiltonsanantonioap.com](mailto:sharmon@hiltonsanantonioap.com)  
Mr. Doug Dupre [dfdatty@aol.com](mailto:dfdatty@aol.com)  
Ms. Sharon Ferguson [sferguson2@satx.rr.com](mailto:sferguson2@satx.rr.com)

### **2010-2013 ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Ms. Melissa Guerrero [mguerrero@eisenhowerbank.com](mailto:mguerrero@eisenhowerbank.com)  
BG (Ret) Bill Putty [bputty@puttya.com](mailto:bputty@puttya.com)  
BG (Ret) Richard L Ursone [rursone@deloitte.com](mailto:rursone@deloitte.com)