

MUSTANG MATTERS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 63RD OFFICER CANDIDATE WING ASSOCIATION

Volume XI, Number 1

April 2016



COMMANDER'S CORNER —

Hello. All Members and Friends of the 63rd Officer Candidate Wing Association

Well, we've wrapped up a very successful reunion in Montgomery (see separate article) and taken the first step toward the 2017 Reunion, by selecting the site. Seattle was the choice of most voters, with San Diego next and New Orleans in 3rd place.

Our professional Reunion planner (Tom Hansen - 63B) has tentatively set the date for between mid-April and mid-October in 2017. He has some places in mind, but will meet face to face with several hotels by the end of April, 2016.

After the last reunion, in addition to a lot of positive feedback, I received several suggestions for things that would add to the Reunion. Tom and the rest of the staff would like to receive any thoughts that you might have, to add to the quality and efficiency of the Reunion.

I would also like to ask all of you to encourage any other OCs, who are not members, to think about joining our organization. I know that there are some non-members who think that we have too much structure for their tastes, but as I have pointed out to several, it is this structure that has allowed us to enhance and further the heritage and memory of our OCS experience. I don't think that there are many people who have gone through the OCS experience, either as a Candidate or a spouse, who don't view it as a positive, life-changing experience. With the structure that we have, we have been able to donate: the benches to Lackland AFB in honor of OCS, memorabilia to the Enlisted Research Center Museum at Maxwell AFB, and provide support to organizations such as the Gold Star Mothers. (Be sure to read Marty McDonald's summary of our support to the Gold Star Mothers Memorial in another article in this issue.)

The Wing Staff would like to hear from anyone who has ideas for OCS Memorial or charitable projects that would help to enshrine the OCS experience.

Also, if your class is having an individual "Class Reunion," please inform Pat and Fred Holmes (63B), f4flh@yahoo.com so they can put it in our Mustang Matters.

Remember, It's **"See You in Seattle in Seventeen!"**

— JERRY NOLAN, 63A

FREE PICTURES —

The OCS web site now has downloadable group pictures from the 2015 reunion in Montgomery, AL. You can go the web site and click on the menu item "Albums". That will cause the "Holmes Photos" menu item to drop down. When you click on this, you will next see the reunion pictures in their respective groups. You can download any or all of these pictures to a flash drive and take it to your local drug store for printing. The posted size is 7 x 5 for the larger groups and 5 x 7 for the singles and couples.

If you need help, please contact me through the ocsweb e-mail address.

Enjoy.

FRED HOLMES, 63B/C

Webmaster: www.usafocsalumni.org

63RD OC Wing Officers

CC – Jerry Nolan 719-649-9851
CV – Jim Clutter 618-623-7391
DO – Jack Steele 916-773-7880
DComm – Tom Lubbers 937-325-4013
Compt – Joe Scarlett 719-593-9468

Website – www.usafocsalumni.org

REUNION '15 REVIEW—

For those of you who were there, you already know that Tom Hansen has done it again. (But, for those of you who weren't there, you will have another chance to participate — in Seattle in Seventeen.) Our reunion, directed and organized by Tom, in Montgomery during October was a fantastic success. Lots of folks arrived on Wednesday to just get a head start on the festivities. Registration went smoothly and the well-stocked Hospitality Suite, that Tom and Peggy kept going throughout the Reunion, provided a great place for meeting old friends and retelling old stories.



Colonel Scott Lockwood
Commandant, Officer Training School

On Friday, the first formal event of the Reunion was a visit to Officer Training School. Col Lockwood's briefing was both informative and entertaining. Most attendees came away with the feeling that this segment of training for the future Officer Corps was in good hands and was flexible enough to meet both the needs of the Air Force and a new generation of officers. Our tour guides did a great job keeping us informed and on track.

The Friday evening "Welcome Reception" was a lively and fun way to renew old friendships. Somehow or other, most of those attending the "Reception" managed to fit into the hospitality suite and keep the festivities going well into the evening.

Our tour on Saturday morning was full of memories and nostalgia. The Enlisted Research Center Museum had many relevant displays and the staff was very professional. Most of all, they were very receptive to the additional information that many of our members offered.

Saturday afternoon, we had a beautiful day, although a bit breezy, for a River Cruise along the Alabama River. It seemed like everyone enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and change of pace the cruise presented.

Sunday found us at our Association Business Meeting.

-Jim Clutter, the Association Vice Wing Commander, who was in charge of the Association's election of new officers for the Wing Staff, announced that there were no changes and that the current Wing Staff will continue in office until our next reunion in Seattle. See the first page of "Mustang Matters" for a list of Wing Officers and their telephone numbers.

-Jack Steele, Association DO, reported that there were no proposed changes to our current Constitution or Association policies.

-The list of potential cities for our next reunion was narrowed to three choices: Seattle, San Diego, and New Orleans. (These were later put to a vote of the entire organization and the winner was Seattle. The exact dates have not been determined, but will probably be between April and October in 2017.)

-Our business meeting was concluded and members met in their own Class Meetings.

Sunday evening, we all participated in the Farewell Banquet. The food and service were good and the evening went smoothly with a very good group providing background music that we could all relate to.

Monday at breakfast was full of farewells and a few more stories. Tom had arranged one final tour at the nearby Hyundai Factory, which participants described as really interesting, adding that it did away with old perceptions of what factories were like.

Remember, if you missed the Montgomery Reunion, you can make up for it in 2017 in Seattle. "It's Seattle in Seventeen." If you have any suggestions on how we can make the "Seattle in Seventeen" better, please let us know. You can email me at ocsassocjnolan@aol.com or call (719) 633-7859.

— JERRY NOLAN, 63A

GOLD STAR MOTHERS —

During our recent reunion in Montgomery, Alabama, a collection was made to support the Gold Star Mothers in their effort to raise funds to build a National Monument in Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, D.C. to honor the sacrifice and service of Mothers and Families of our nation's fallen warriors. The 63rd OCS Wing is proud to announce that your donation of \$1,100.00 was forwarded to the National organization. We collected \$575.00 in checks and \$525.00 in cash. Thank you for your generosity. Anyone desiring to make additional donations can forward a check as described below.

— MARTY McDONALD, 63A



GOLD STAR MOTHERS NATIONAL MONUMENT FOUNDATION PRESENTS THE GOLD STAR MOTHER AND FAMILY MONUMENT

An opportunity to honor those who have given so much.

This national monument will be placed in Arlington National Cemetery to educate and honor the sacrifice and service of Mother and Families of our Nation's fallen warriors.

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING THIS 501(c)3 NOT-FOR-PROFIT PROJECT.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

G S M N M F

84 Westbrook Drive
Moorestown NJ 08057

www.gsmmonument.org

youngic83@yahoo.com

andrew@gsmmonument.org

856-235-6918

610-328-1557

OCS CHALLENGE COIN PROJECT —

This project is designed to raise funds for our Association's future OCS Memorial projects and/or reunions. It is available to any Army Air Corps/Army AF/USAF OCS graduate or family member. The cost is \$15, which includes engraving your class number on the coin and postage, or \$10 without the engraving.

The following coins are available with the class already engraved: 53C, 57A, 59A, 60B, 61C, 62B, 63A, 63C & 63D.

Also, we have White OCS ball caps for \$20, OCS Patches for \$10 and Lapel pins for \$5.

You can send your orders, with your Class Number, and a check or money order made out to "Tom Hansen" to the following address:

97D Chinook Lane
Steilacoom WA 98388



OCS ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT—

Balance Sheet as of February 29, 2016

Savings Account	\$4,458.29
Checking Account	\$1,367.30
9 Month CD	\$0.00
Total	\$5,825.59

Statement of Income February 1 - 29, 2016

	Balance Feb 1, 2016	Interest	Income Deposits	Other	Expenses	Transfers	Balance Feb 29, 2016
Savings Account	\$3,935.19	\$0.33	\$522.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,458.29
Checking Account	\$1,367.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,367.30
9 Month CD	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$5,302.49	\$0.33	\$522.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,825.59

Expenses February 1 - 29, 2016

Date	Check #	To:	Amount	Purpose	Status
18-Feb	1109	Jerry Nolan	\$240.00	Purchase of additional shirts	Suspense
Total					

Allocation of Funds February 29, 2016

	Reunion	Memorial Fund	General Fund	Total
Savings Account	\$3,123.00	\$300.00	\$1,035.29	\$4,458.29
Checking Account	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,367.30	\$1,367.30
9 Month CD	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$3,123.00	\$300.00	\$2,402.59	\$5,825.59

— JOE SCARLETT, 63B



PRESERVING OCS HISTORY: LACKLAND USAF AIRMAN HERITAGE MUSEUM TO OTS HERITAGE MUSEUM

After the San Antonio 50th Anniversary Reunion, we were told that by December of that year the very recent OCS Historical display in the Lackland Museum would be taken down and stored, as their emphasis had changed to highlighting the wide range of enlisted AFSC's in the USAF Enlisted Corps. Since we were already contacting OTS about a visit during our next reunion in 2015, I discussed the possibility of them requesting some or all of the OCS display as part of their limited heritage display. This was not only based on OTS replacing OCS, but during WW II Army AF OCS had a sub-element called OTS for commissioning professional type officers, such as medical, legal and religious trained personnel. Additionally, OCS was stationed at Maxwell Field for about a year before ending up at Lackland AFB. The Commander of OTS was in agreement and he assigned one his staff to be a project officer. Even though both bases were in the same command, it took almost two years of Lackland Museum foot dragging and necessary jumping through administrative hoops for OTS to get approval for a Heritage site account. Once that was established, the Lackland museum relinquished the majority of their OCS display to the OTS account. During our reunion visit to OTS, we became part of the dedication of their new Heritage Site building, which currently has the OCS historical data making up about 60 percent of the material on display. We also presented an encased OCS Guidon from Class 63D, the last class of OCS (See article below). — **TOM HANSEN, 63B**



Tom Hansen cuts the ribbon for the official opening of the OTS Heritage Museum



2013 OCS display at USAF Airman Heritage Museum, Lackland AFB.



2010 OCS Display at USAF Airman Heritage Museum, Lackland AFB

PRESERVING OCS HISTORY: PRESENTATION OF OCS GUIDON TO OTS HERITAGE MUSEUM

In June 1963 Joan (Jodi) Lesnikowski graduated with Class 63D, the last class of Officer Candidate School. She was the Guidon Bearer for her class and the guidon pennant remained in her possession after graduation. In later years she was pleased to discover that she still had the pennant in a box and told her friend Janiece Cummins that she was proud of having been the Guidon Bearer of Class 63D.

Joan Lesnikowski retired with the rank of Captain. She served from December 1954 to January 1975 and was stationed at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam January 1971 to December 1971 working as a Transportation Officer with the 14th Aerial Port. Joan was buried at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery on April 2, 2014 with military honors and escorted by Patriot Guard Riders.

After Jodi's death March 7, 2014 Janiece was executrix of her estate. She contacted Jerry Nolan to let him know that the pennant was among Jodi's effects and offered to return it to the 63rd OCS Wing Assn. Fred Holmes, as Historian, accepted the project to obtain and deliver the pennant. After a US Post Office hiccup between California and Texas, the pennant arrived in early May. Fred then arranged with a local shop to have the pennant mounted in a wooden frame under glass. Following that, it was a simple matter to hand carry it to the 2015 Reunion in Montgomery. Official presentation was made by Jim Clutter, 63rd OCS Vice Wing Commander to OTS Commander Col Scott M Lockwood.

Capt Carlos Mateo serves as OTS Heritage Museum Curator at Maxwell AFB. Capt Mateo and his staff have done a very impressive job of

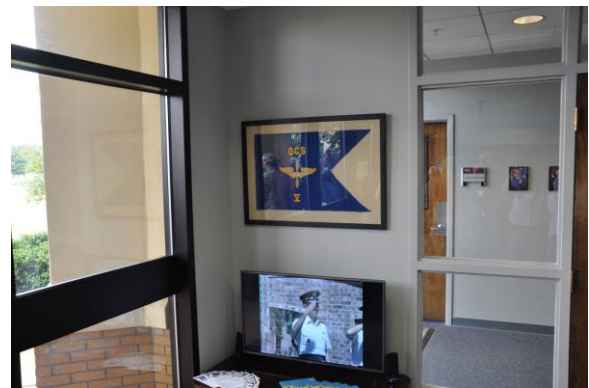


Col Scott M Lockwood (OTS Commander) accepting the pennant.

gathering the OCS historical materials from Lackland AFB and arranging and displaying them in the OTS area. There are several photos of the area on our OCS website.



Capt Carlos E Mateo (OTS Heritage Museum Curator) and Capt Troy Milburn (Museum Project Officer) with the pennant



Guidon pennant in place



Fred Holmes (Historian) and Jim Clutter (63rd OCS Vice Wg CO) showing off the display



Display highlighting OCS rank



63RD OFFICER CANDIDATE WING ASSOCIATION

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Be sure to visit the web site at www.usafocsalumni.org