

MUSTANG MATTERS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 63RD OFFICER CANDIDATE WING ASSOCIATION

Volume 1, Number 1
June 2006



The Beginning:

Welcome to the inaugural issue of MUSTANG MATTERS. In this edition, we will review OCS Wing Assn matters since its formation in September, 2005. This includes such areas as the production and adoption of our Constitution and By Laws, Elected Officers, appointed positions, a recap of the Colorado Springs Reunion and progress in the production of a merged roster of all the '63 year group classes, both Candidates and Commissioned Staff. Also on tap: a recap of the business meeting at the Reunion; Financial Information, info relating to Association Memorial/Museum projects, and a welcome message from the Wing Commander, Tom Hansen. Enjoy!

COMMANDER'S CORNER

In early January, we completed our Officer/Director Roster with the addition of Director at large BG Larry Mitchell (63D) and Brian Tilbury (63B) as our JAG. Brian has practiced law since retirement and has experience with forming other associations. Sad to say, Gary Kent (63A) submitted his resignation as Director of Operations for personal reasons, but he has agreed to remain on board as the Class Communicator for 63A. Gary was instrumental in developing the initial goals and documentation to form the Association and we thank him for his continued dedicated efforts. He recommended Jack Steele (63D) as his replacement. Jack has accepted and was approved by the Board of Directors. Finally, I have appointed Mike Annast (63A) to be the new Museum/Memorial Committee Chairman.

For those who attended the Colorado Springs Reunion, you know what a success that was. We owe a great deal of thanks to Jerry Nolan and his Reunion Committee for their efforts. See the item elsewhere herein for a recap of that reunion. As a result of the well-attended event, the Association's financial status is in very good shape with over \$2,000 in our coffers. Ed Sanford (63A) has the lead for the next reunion effort in Tucson, AZ, and is working hard to match or exceed the Colorado Springs event!

This is our first 63rd OCS Wing Association Newsletter. It is being sent to our members and to other classes with whom we are in contact. Our goal is to keep you in the info loop about every six months.

Our Director of Communications, Jay Earnshaw (63A), and Asst Webmaster, Fred Holmes (63C), are working on a combined membership roster and modifications to the current website to protect individual contact information...primarily e-mail addresses.

Finally, we have authorized the Association Chaplain to spend up to \$50 for cards, flowers and/or memorial donations for sick/deceased class members. For larger

amounts, he must get the approval of the Wing Commander.

If you are aware of a classmate who is in the hospital or has taken the last flight, please contact Bob Stephenson (63D) at bobbyandmar@msn.com or 719-630-7292.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Operating Funds: \$1,016.49
Reunion Funds: 1,200.00 (\$200 committed to Colorado Springs Committee)
Memorial Funds: 300.00

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The official version, after final review and tweaking, was published on the OCS website. It is available there now for your review and for printing out, if you don't already have a copy.

Know your association

WEB SITE

The four classes of 1963 sponsor a website at <http://www.usafocs1963.org>.

Here you can find information on the 63rd Office Candidate Wing Association. The site contains lists of graduates who have passed on, bios and photos of many of the classes, and links to the other graduating classes we have been able to find so far. There is also photo coverage of the 2003 and 2005 reunions and scans of the *Shavetails* for classes 62D through 63D.



Long may it wave!

COLORADO SPRINGS 2005 REUNION

It wasn't all work and, if you missed it, you missed a great time! We had tours, golf, outstanding food and fellowship. It was thought to be an excellent example of the synergy resulting from a combined reunion of all the '63 classes.

Day I started with a tour of the Cheyenne Mountain Complex and ended with visiting the reunion hospitality room to tell war stories, and catch up on family news and the latest gossip. Other day tours included a trip on the cog railway to the top of Pikes Peak, the Air Force Academy campus, Garden of the Gods, and golf at the AFA. Fortunately (or not), these all included a lunch that did not require "a little known fact," joke, or recitation of "memory work." In retrospect, a little harassment might have been a help in reducing our waistlines, just as back in the day!!

Evenings yielded more food! On Day II, we had a nice informal buffet dinner on the hotel's inside plaza allowing for more great socializing. Day III's evening meal was an outstanding one, including Western-style food and entertainment at the Flying W Ranch.

On the fourth day, events slowed down somewhat with a breakfast business meeting to discuss the future of our organization's possibilities. We reviewed potential projects to establish an OCS display in the Lackland Historical Museum, memorial benches for the SEA Airpark on Lackland, and potential memorial efforts at the National Air Museum at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. We agreed to pursue each of these projects, leaving it up to the officers and board to establish the priorities and gather and deploy the necessary resources. It was brought up that the Lackland Museum needed volunteer manpower, about one day per month, to make it happen. We encourage any classmates in the SA area to take on this project. Regarding a proposal to organize the last four classes in some way to carry out these projects, as well as planning and implementing future OCS Class Reunions, we reviewed, amended, and approved the draft Constitution and Bylaws. By doing so, we formally began the 63rd Officer candidate Wing Association.

Elected were: Tom Hansen, (63B), Wing CC; Bob Harmon (63B), Vice Wing CC; Gary Kent (63A), DO; John Earnshaw (63A), Dir Comm; and Joe Scarlett (63B), Comptroller. We also approved the use of the official OCS Seal as our Association's emblem, pending AF approval. Gary later resigned as Wing DO for personal reasons and Jack Steele (63D) stepped up as the new Wing DO. Fred Holmes (63C), our website guru and future newsletter editor, reviewed the status of the website and solicited additional material. He also outlined improvements he and his daughter Michèle made using funded donated by our classmates. (Fred later passed on the newsletter to John (Jay) Earnshaw, who is responsible for the publishing of the current document.) We sincerely

need to find a way to express our thanks and appreciation for Michèle's professional job on the website. If you haven't seen it yet, you really should see it as soon as you can. Fred is, of course, only the 'pretty face' of the operation and Michèle the real worker bee!

Vis-à-vis reunions; the group decided to plan them for every two to three years and take into consideration the best time of the year to meet at the different locations selected. Sites considered for the next reunion were Dayton OH and Tucson AZ...Tucson won.

On the last day, we concluded with the semi-formal banquet. Before the meal, we had a lady photog try to get us into total group and individual class formations. Turned out, she needed a lot of help...but after she convinced the 'reticent' "It's Not Unusual" Tom Jones (63C) that he could not stand in the rear, we were able to smoothly move ahead.

The meal was a highly satisfactory affair and even included appropriate remarks by Chuck Link (63D) and antics of the 'shy', self-appointed auctioneer, Tom Jones. To his credit, he helped

pick our pockets for approximately \$300 to help fund future memorial projects. Kathy Morrissey (Bush) (63D) presented the golf awards and also read a super OCS poem written by Mary Small (63D). Tom Hansen reviewed the results of that morning's business meeting...and then the dancing of the evening away began, including escorting our spouses to and from the restrooms. Lastly, but by no means least, all of the attendees want to thank Jerry Nolan (63A) and his committee members, Joe Scarlett (63B), Dick Welling (63C), and Chuck Ulmer (63D) for their super work arranging the hotel, meals, tours, hospitality room, etc. They did a superior job, setting high standards for future reunions, and we can all be 'OCS proud' of their efforts on our behalf!



SEP 05 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Tom Hansen opened the meeting by providing a recap of activities since the San Antonio reunion. He discussed the committees formed and their actions up to the moment.

First items considered were the draft Constitution and By-Laws. Major items were membership criteria, initiation fees and dues, tri-annual Reunion, and adding a membership classification for OCs who attained flag rank. The group decided to keep membership criteria as is, not require fees/dues for now, be more flexible as to interval times of reunion, and add a Director-At-Large class of membership. The group then approved the draft of the governing documents with additions.

Second item of business was the election of officers. Spirited balloting resulted in the slate of officers being elected. (See website for the Association Roster.) Support positions were then opened for nomination and/or

volunteers. Appointed were Ed Sanford (63A) as Historian, Bob Stephenson (63D) as Chaplain, Dave Mason (63C) as Public Affairs Officer; and Brian Tilbury (63B) as JAG/Legal Advisor.

Item three was reports on Memorial and Museum projects. Gary Kent (63A) reported on initiatives by the current OC group attempting to coordinate an Officer Candidate inscription on the new AF Memorial in Arlington, VA on behalf of all AF OCs. We were informed that unit inscriptions would not be used initially but might be used later on a secondary site yet to be developed. Tom Hansen reported the difficulties he experienced moving forward on an OCS display in the Lackland Historical Museum. Key to the project was a volunteer to work directly with the Curator on a monthly basis to pull such a display together. He then led the discussion on possible memorial benches to be gifted to Lackland for their SE Asia Air Park. It was decided to raise funds to purchase at least one such bench with a backrest. It was also decided that whether it was one or more benches involved, it was not necessary to indicate which classes were involved in the donation unless a class raised sufficient separate funds to fully pay for a bench.

Item four resolved that if we get the necessary approval to use the AF OCS patch that is the one the Association would use appropriately.

Fifthly, after a lively discussion that eliminated DC, Dayton, and Branson, it was decided that Tucson would be the site of the next OCS Reunion.

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REUNION 2007 COMMITTEE UPDATE

Ed Sanford and Tom Hansen recently completed their hotel survey for Tucson, Arizona and, after narrowing the selection down to the top three for further negotiations,

Ed made the decision to go with Inn Suites of Tucson. The Reunion will be held 11–15 November 2007, and we will have a hotel with free breakfast, airport shuttle service, meeting rooms and hospitality suite in the \$80–90 range selected shortly. Optional tours envisioned include: Pima Air & Space Museum (Ed is a docent there, so look for a special tour!), AMARC (Bone Yard), D-M AFB, Sabino Canyon National Park, Desert Museum, Tombstone, Gas Light Dinner Theater, and a wives shopping trip to artsy Tubac, Arizona. Additionally, this reunion will be advertised as being open to any AF OC who would like to attend.

CURRENT MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL PROJECT UPDATES

We have re-opened discussions with the Lackland Historical Museum about developing an OCS display in their current facility. Dorian Dewind (63A), with assistance from Paul Ledford (63A) and Bill Long (63B), has taken the lead and is currently working out a game plan with a receptive Curator, Mr. Fernando Cortez. Once we have developed the display concept and resulting requirements, we will make a concentrated effort to get other classes involved to make this a successful multiple class program project.

We attempted to determine whether the OTS unit at Maxwell AFB might have any OCS memorabilia from when they closed down OCS in 1963 at Lackland AFB. During these discussions, the Commander of OTS and his staff indicated they would like to develop some type of on-going relationship with our Association as part of their desire to teach their new officers various aspects of Air Force history, to include other Officer Training programs. Mike Brooks (63A) has taken the lead for this discussion, and Tom Hansen visited with the OTS/CC early in February. They were briefed on and discussed our participation in developing a history of AF Officer Training display, as well as providing representatives for various events involving the current officer trainees. There are also several prior OCS Instructors located in the Montgomery area who can help in these efforts, and we have welcomed them as full members of the Association.

We have developed a plan to raise funds for one or more OCS Memorial benches for Lackland's SEA Air Park. While we will initiate this within our own membership, we will also attempt to reach out to other classes to bring them on board to help support this project and other similar projects.

We have received info on the requirements to put memorial items in the AF Museum Memorial Park at Wright-Patterson AFB. Since they are about to renovate their Memorial Park, we look to lower the priority of this project until we determine our ability, along with the other classes, to raise money for such projects. However, we hope to eventually raise sufficient funds for some type of OCS Memorial at a time when we might hold one of our reunions there in the future.

