

MUSTANG MATTERS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 63RD OFFICER CANDIDATE WING ASSOCIATION

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COMMANDER'S CORNER: Well, it's time to start thinking reunion again, and we have a location, dates and an organization to help us run it – Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. out of Norfolk VA. They have an excellent reputation, with many positive recommendations from a full range of military unit reunions they have operated. That, along with a chance to lock-in a base room rate of \$99 in a Crystal City hotel right across the river from the heart of DC, sealed the deal for me. See the Reunion

article below for more info. When this newsletter goes out, it will also be distributed to contacts from 20 other OCS classes, as our website continues to be found by other AF OCs. I discussed becoming a 501(3)(c) non-profit organization with our Assn JAG, but we came to the conclusion that time and effort wasn't worth it for the amounts of funds we might be dealing with in the future. We continue to lose classmates at the rate of one every two months, but our class communicators, working with our Chaplain, have ensured timely responses for their final services. We have several OCS logo items left over from the Tucson Reunion, and will have them available at the next one. However, if you don't think you can make the DC event, but would like one or more of the items (White Ball Caps w/OCS Badge \$15, OCS Badges \$10 and OCS Lapel Pins \$5) contact me at c130hans@msn.com or 253-380-5261. Hope to see many of you next year for a great reunion. Oscar Tango

Tom Hansen, 63B

63RD OC Wing Officers

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FINANCIAL REPORT - We have \$572.00 in General Operating Funds, \$1,000 in Dedicated Reunion Funds and \$2,437.00 in the Memorial Fund for a grand total of \$4,009.00. We are on or well below all of our projected budget items for CY 2008.

REUNION UPDATE: Mark your calendars for 9-12 October 2009 (Columbus Day Weekend), Doubletree Hotel Crystal City, Arlington VA 22202 (2 blocks to Pentagon Metro Station). Single/Double room rate, with estimated taxes, \$109.00. Banquet, Reception, Hospitality and Business Meeting Rooms provided at no charge. Hotel Airport shuttle from/to near-by Reagan National Airport. Discounted self parking of \$12/day (limited street parking available), and we can bring in our own beverages and dry snacks for the hospitality room. Tentative schedule of events would be Check-in & Welcoming Reception on 9 Oct, City & Other Tours on 10th, Memorial Tour Day (starting with a service at the AF Memorial) on 11th and Business/Class meetings in the morning, possible afternoon tour and Farewell Banquet that evening of the 12th. If we have the interest and a reasonable course available, we will run a golf tournament on the 9th, which most likely require the golfers to come in a day early. Since it is the DC area, you can expect the food to be the other most significant expense. All tours will be optional, and we would expect to go out later this Fall to survey the Association members on what tours they are interested in having available. Final Schedules and costs will be finalized in the first quarter 2009, and will be sent out by the end of March in our next newsletter.

MEMORIAL PROJECT UPDATES: The OCS Memorial benches should be ready sometime in November. We will coordinate the site locations about 30 days prior to actual installation in Lackland's new Memorial Park.

While the Museum OCS display project has been on some what of a hold, due to the lack of a good source for an acceptable case, the Curator has just offered the use of a display case that was recently donated by the NCO Academy. Additionally, he has suggested that we can get a cubicle display wall, similar to other displays in the museum, built by a local Boy Scout as an Eagle Scout project. We will just have to provide the funds for the wall materials, for which we currently have sufficient funds available. Initial contact with the local Scout Master confirms this viable, low cost approach to nailing down a spot in the Lackland Museum. Our game plan now is to get a basic display in place, and then look at ways to enhance it in the future. If any reader has an type of OCS memorabilia they would like to have considered for use in this display, please contact Dorian de Wind at 512-301-5143 or ddewind@austin.rr.com.

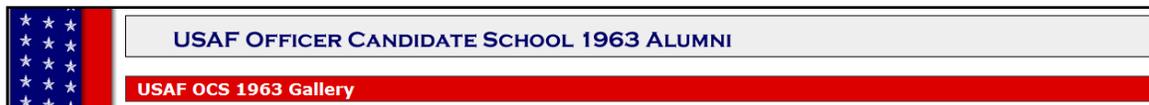
Bob Karre, 63C

OCS WEB SITE NEWS: For those who view the web site, whether frequently or infrequently, you may have noticed that we have added some items of historical interest.

The biggest “surprise find” is a previously unknown newspaper published by and for the OCS group when they were in Miami in the early 1940’s. The first edition is currently posted in the album entitled 1943 OCS NEWSLETTERS. More will be added the next time someone goes to the History and Research Center at Lackland AFB.

Joe Salvo of Class 43-C brought his Shavetail to the 2007 Reunion for all to see. He has donated his Shavetail to the OCS Museum Project. It has also been posted on the web site along with a 49-B Shavetail made available by Miaram Goolsby of that class. We have also added Shavetails from Classes 56-B, 56-C and 56-D.

The following is intended to inform or remind users of the appropriate steps to efficiently view / enlarge pages / photos in the Photo Gallery and make even the smallest text readable on any computer screen. From the Home page, select the ‘Photo Gallery’ menu item on the left side and ‘left click’ on it to open the USAF OCS 1963 Gallery.



1. On the right side of the page, left click on the ‘Sub-album’ you wish to view. (For example, left click on 43C Shavetail.) This will open the first page of that sub-album.
2. Next, left click on any page or photo you desire to view. You will then see an enlarged view of that single page or photo that you have selected.
3. Left click on that enlarged page or photo a second time and it will further enlarge to enable you to view all the details as well as read all of the text that was earlier too small to view.
4. To move to the previous photo, simply left click on the << (double left-pointing arrow). Likewise, to move to the next photo, simply left click on the >> (double right-pointing arrow).

We hope this will enhance your viewing enjoyment of our one-of-a-kind web site.

Fred Holmes, 63C

OFFICER TRAINING

I recently received a newspaper article in the mail that I think might interest you:

Article Headline: “ GRUELING WEEKS” – Sidebar quote: “I don’t think anything in the world would prepare you for this. No matter how many stories you hear, I don’t think anyone can appreciate how difficult it is and how mentally taxing it is.”

Becoming an AF Officer – Arrival Day is organized chaos. Upperclassmen help by processing the students in the new class. They direct them to their dorm rooms and inform them of the proper decorum, which includes a hearty helping of “Yes, sir” and “yes, Ma’am.” The new class is broken into three squadrons. Before they even unpack, training is under way. Each gets a handbook filled with quotes and information for the period that they will be the second class. They’re responsible for learning all that inside the handbook and repeating it on command. In between stations on arrival day, they stand in the hallways with only their heels touching the wall. They’re reading their handbook and reciting the quote of the day and the Airman’s Creed. The next day the students are awakened at 4:50 a.m. and told to fall out in the hallway with pants and shirts on. They are then sent back to put on their shoes, then again to brush their teeth. Then they are marched to the parade field and lined up by squadron. The upperclassmen file in behind them. The School Commander welcomes the new class in the dark. It’s cold and windy. Some are wearing shorts. He tells the students that the individual no longer applies. They now have to work as a team to get thru the program and to be successful officers. Later, come haircuts, shots and uniforms, then comes dorm orientation – or learning how to fold their gear and how items should be placed in the room, locker and drawers. A First classman states, “Things are coming at them constantly, they’re trying to remember it all, everything they’re being asked today, they’ve learned in the last 24 hours. What we’re trying to do right now is help them come together as a team.” The Upper class squadron commander tells his group, “The Tigers have been the honor squadron twice in a row, and he would like to repeat that honor again. That means they have to be tops in everything.” “You want to be officers, don’t you, he asks the Underclassmen.” “Yes, sir, they shout back in unison.”

Were these comments about Army Air Corps OCS in 1943, or AF OCS in 1956? No, they come from a three-page article in the Montgomery Advertiser News this April, about today’s AF Officer Training School at Maxwell AFB, AL. The number of “grueling” weeks is 12 vice the 26 we endured. Today more than a third of AF officers are OTS graduates. OTS has two programs: Basic Officer Training and Commissioned Officer Training. The basic program is for those with no prior service or enlisted airmen. Commissioned training is for medical, legal or religious professionals. Training is described as intense, both physically and mentally, but the attrition rate is *low*. During their first six weeks, the students can’t leave the base, visit family or wear anything but the new Airman Battle Uniform. Later, they earn privileges as they progress such as leaving the base or wearing khakis and a polo shirt. POLO SHIRT !!!! OTs are assigned career specialties before they arrive, but all complete the same training at Maxwell. Pilot and Navigator candidates get their specialties based on their AFOQT score. The program includes 180 hours of academics on airpower, anti-terrorism and regional studies. Additionally, they go thru 80 hours of field exercises, including a weeklong deployment exercise. Oh well, they must be doing something right, as my “90 day wonder” son just came out on the Colonel’s list, and is attending Harvard on a year long AF Fellowship.

Tom Hansen, 63B



Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum



Banquet

2007 Reunion – Tucson, Arizona



Reception Dinner



Sabino Canyon Tram Tour