

# MUSTANG MATTERS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 63<sup>RD</sup> OFFICER CANDIDATE WING ASSOCIATION

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**FINANCIAL REPORT** - After reimbursing the Reunion Fund and the Memorial Fund for OCS coin purchases, we again have \$1,000/Reunion Fund, \$1,900/Memorial Fund & \$400/General Fund for a total available of \$3,300

**MEMORIAL PLAQUE FUND DRIVE:** See the proposed design below for an OCS Memorial Plaque to be dedicated and placed in the Memorial Park of the National Museum of the US Air Force during our 2011 Reunion in Dayton OH. We are looking

## 63<sup>RD</sup> OC Wing Officers

CC - Tom Hansen ..... 253-380-5261  
CV - Mike Annast ..... 706-896-6461  
DO - Jack Steele ..... 503-677-3968  
DComm - Tom Lubbers ... 307-635-3255  
Compt - Joe Scarlett ..... 719-593-9468  
Website - <http://www.usafocs1963.org>

Silver Stripes to Golden Bars



Army Air Forces/US Air Force  
Officer Candidate School 1942-1963

Dedicated to Our Fallen Comrades

to raise about \$2,000, which covers the plaque, installation, perpetual care and donation to the Museum Foundation. If each of the 63rd OC Wg classmates would donate \$5, or bought an OCS Coin, that would insure we can meet that goal and use the memorial funds on hand to complete the Lackland Museum project. Remember, this plaque recognizes the entire AF OCS program and lost OCs from 1942 to 1963, so donations are welcomed and will be acknowledged from all OC Grads and family members. **Please make check and money order donations out to Joe Scarlett, and annotate them "OCS Memorial Plaque", send them to Joe at 161 El Dorado Ln, Colorado Springs CO 80919.** Thanks for your support of this OCS Memorial project.

**OCS CHALLENGE COIN PROJECT** - This project is designed to raise funds for our Association's future OCS Memorial projects. It is available to any 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. You can send your orders, with your Class Number, and a check or money order made out to "Tom Hansen" to the following addresses: 97 D Chinook Lane, Steilacoom WA 98388



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**50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION - ATTN: ALL AF OCS** - In May of 2013, our Assn. is planning a reunion to remember the closing of Officer Candidate School in 1963. As usual our event will be open to any AF OCS graduate from 1942-1963, and we would like to invite other classes, that hold their own reunions, to consider aligning their event schedules to join with us in planning and executing this event remembering the 50th Anniversary of the program's closure. For any classes interested in joining this project and making it an OCS Reunion to remember, please contact Tom Hansen at 253-380-5261 or c130hans@msn.com.

**RECAP OF THE OCTOBER 2009 REUNION** - Another magnificent reunion of old and new friends from the distinguished history of the Officer Candidate School is in books. Although the current economy probably kept the attendance to just under 100, the Wing continues to grow and each reunion attracts a more diverse group of classes. This year we were honored to have graduates from the 47E, 52C, 53C, 56D, 57A and 59A classes as well as graduates of the classes that make up the Wing Association. Our furthest travel award goes to Theodore Jones, 59A, and his wife who came all the way from Ecuador.

Unfortunately, golf did not work for this location. Who would believe that all three military installations in the D.C. area would have a golf tournament on October 9th. Regardless, the reunion got off to a great start with the CIA Tour. Our thanks to Dave Schorer, 63C, for setting this up. Over the next two days there were tours of the White House (thanks to Marty McDonald, 63A), a driving tour of the city which included the various memorials and the Udvar-Hazy Center of the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum at Dulles Airport. Unfortunately, one of the buses developed problems and this group never made it to Dulles. The Spirit of Washington lunch cruise was also very enjoyable. It provided good food in a relaxed atmosphere with good weather, and the opportunity to see many of the important landmarks from the perspective of the Potomac River was interesting.

At the Welcome Reception the hors d'oeuvres were plentiful and tasty, and the barbershop quartet's presentation was great. Needless to say, the barbershop quartet did not sing music from your grandchildren's IPOD, so their music actually had lyrics you could understand and we could relate to the music. Similarly, the combo that performed for the Banquet was easy listening and dance music fitting for our age group. One of the high points of the reunion was the trip to the Ronald Reagan Building to hear the Capital Steps troupe, which is comprised of former and current Congressional staffers who display great talent in writing and presenting a tasteful blend of musical and political comedy. They are hilarious and no one in the news is immune to their satire.

Due to the skillful coordination of Hank Beebe, 63C, the OCS Memorial Service on Sunday morning at the spectacular AF Memorial was a fitting tribute to our comrades who have died. We were especially honored to have Lt Col Robert Pulliam, one of our Tactical Officers at OCS, participate in laying the wreath to honor those we memorialized. We are most grateful for having the USAF Honor Guard, Chaplain, and the AF Memorial communications support available to us for the ceremony. This service was followed by a visit to the changing of the Guard at the Tomb of The Unknown Soldier, the World War II, the Viet Nam, Korean and various other Memorials on the Mall.

On Monday, we tackled the mundane but necessary breakfast business meeting. Tom, our fearless Commander, updated us on the various memorial projects that we have undertaken to honor and preserve the traditions and important contributions Officer Candidate Training made to the USAF Officer Corps. The two memorial benches, located at Lackland AFB in the memorial park, are completed and in place. Our thanks to Bob Karre, Class 63C, for spearheading this project. The proposed memorial project at the AF Museum at Wright Patterson AFB is our next goal. Officers for the next two years were elected by unanimous voice vote. The only change from the current officers is Tom Lubbers, Class 63C, will replace Jay Earnshaw as the Director of Communications. There was some concern raised as to the frequency of our reunions and the location of forthcoming reunions. After a period of discussion, it was recommended and approved that we stay with the current two year rotation, with the 2011 reunion being at Wright Patterson AFB and the 2013 reunion being in San Antonio to remember the 50th Anniversary of the closing of the AF OCS program. Again, our thanks go out to Hank Beebe, Marty McDonald, Dave Schorer and Paul Kelley, 62D, for their assistance in making this reunion a tremendous success.

*Dave Mason, WG/PA*



View of the WWII Memorial.

An exhibit at the Air Force Memorial site.



We were honored by the presence of LtCol (Ret) Robert Pulliam who was a member of the OCS Commissioned Staff in 1963.



63<sup>RD</sup> OFFICER CANDIDATE WING ASSOCIATION

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Be sure to visit the web site at <http://www.usafocs1963.org>**