



THE UNITED STATES ARMY OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2015

President's MESSAGE

CLOSING IN...ON TARGET

Just a few weeks and counting until the 2015 OCS Hall of Fame/OCS Alumni Reunion takes place at Fort Benning, Georgia. Things are falling in place rapidly and we are waiting expectantly for a great reunion to start on April 26, 2015. All you have to do is follow-up and make arrangements to attend.

As mentioned in past mail newsletters, the Headquarters for the 2015 Reunion will be at the DoubleTree Hotel in Columbus, GA. The special group rate is \$111 plus tax per night. This includes a delicious breakfast buffet each morning. If you want to come a couple days early or stay a couple days after the reunion, the rate will still apply.

All you have to do is contact the Doubletree Hotel and make your reservations by phone or online. Check the last page of this newsletter for contact information. You may also go to our website and click on the Reunion/HOF tab and select 'Hotel Information.' This will allow you to reserve your room online. To ensure group rate and room availability, please reserve your room by April 10, 2015.

The Registration Form for the 2015 the reunion may also be found on the OCS Alumni website. Click on the Reunion/HOF tab and select the 2015 Registration Box. You may download the form and mail back with check or credit card info, or register and pay online. Although you are able to select what event/meal/activity you want to attend, all registrants must select and pay the registration fee of \$75. This is the only way that OCS Alumni Association can provide hospitality and transportation to events for its members. Don't miss any of the meals, they are outstanding according to feedback from the 2014 attendees.

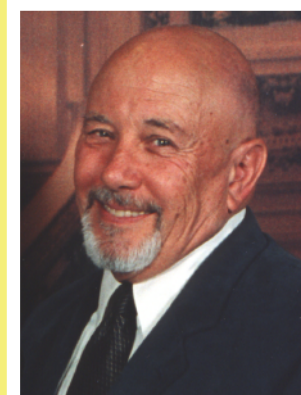
Another unique event is lunch with the candidates in the modern version of what we used to call the 'Mess Hall.' The meal is at the Army

Dining Facility at the current military rate. We also will be eating lunch with the candidates under the tent with the Columbus Cattlemen's Association's providing a steak lunch.

The updated Itinerary for the Reunion/HOF events can be found on the OCS Alumni web site as well as in this edition of the newsletter. The newsletter section can be found on the right hand side bar on any of the web site tabs and are downloadable. Don't miss the chance to see and hear the OCS Program of today.

The OCS Battalion and the OCS Alumni are working very hard to make this an outstanding event that you will remember. We look forward to having everyone join us! As always, we appreciate your support of the Alumni Association.

Al



Al Cartwright, LTC (Retired)
Alumni Board President

VISIT THE ALL NEW WEBSITE **OCSAlumni.org**



Hall of Fame & Reunion

UPDATED ITINERARY

OCS Alumni, below is the revised four day itinerary for the 2015 OCS Hall of Fame/OCS Alumni Reunion. Please note that the departure day has been changed from Wednesday, April 29, 2015 to Thursday, April 30, 2015. Sufficient input has been received indicating that there was not enough time for OCS Class Mini-Reunion get-togethers in the three day format. The Saturday, April 25, 2015, five K race and early registration have been cancelled due to lack of interest. Check the revised four day itinerary that has expanded activities during the day and Reunion Closing Buffet and Activities on Wednesday night.

For those of you who were prompt in reserving rooms at the DoubleTree, please contact the hotel to delete the room Saturday and add the Wednesday night stay. This will take just a minute and is an easy process. Thanks for helping the OCS Alumni Association make this the best reunion to date.

SUNDAY– APRIL 26, 2015

Noon to 1700 - Registration at DoubleTree Hotel
Noon to 1700 - Hospitality Room at Hotel
1730 to 1830 - Social Hour
1830 to 2030 - Reception Buffet
DoubleTree Banquet Room

MONDAY – APRIL 27, 2015

0900 to 0930 - Transport to Ft Benning
0930 to 1015 - Briefing on OCS at Nett Hall
1015 to 1100 - Tour of Wigle Hall,
New Memorial Walk and New OCS Battalion Area
1115 to 1145 - Dedication of OCS Arches
1145 to 1300 - Cattlemen's Steak Cook Out
1300 to 1330 - Transport to DoubleTree Hotel
1330 to 1515 - Free Time
1515 to 1545 - Transport to NIM
1600 to 1700 - OCS Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
1700 to 1800 - OCS Hall of Fame Reception
and Social Hour
1800 to 1830 - Transport to DoubleTree Hotel
1830 to 2300 - Dinner on Your Own,
OCS Class Mini-Reunion Events
and Hospitality Room

TUESDAY – APRIL 28, 2015

0900 to 0930 - Transport to Fort Benning Activities
0930 to 1130 - OCS Leader's Reaction Course Demonstration
1130 to 1230 - Lunch With OCS Candidates at DFAC Bldg 200
1230 to 1300 - Return to Hotel
1330 to 1500 - General Membership Meeting
1630 to 1700 - Transport to NIM
1700 to 1830 - Social Hour
1830 to 2200 - OCS Hall of Fame/Patterson Award
/OCS Alumni Banquet

WEDNESDAY – APRIL 29, 2015

0900 to 1700 - Class Mini Reunion Activities
0900 to 0930 - Transport to NIM and Ft Benning
0930 to 1500 - OCS Onpost Training Demos and
National Infantry Museum Tours
1500 to 1530 - Transport to DoubleTree Hotel
1530 to 1700 - Free Time
1700 to 1830 - Social Hour
1830 to 2030 - Buffet and Closing Activities
DoubleTree Banquet Room
2030 to 2300 - Hospitality Room

THURSDAY – APRIL 30, 2015 - Departure Day



Past & Present

HONORING THE MOST ELDER OCS CANDIDATE - TO THE YOUNGEST OCS CANDIDATE

One of the events that has become a feature of the OCS Alumni Reunions is a ceremony where the Youngest OCS Candidate in attendance is presented to the Oldest OCS Alumni Candidate in attendance at the reunion. This event has become a tradition at each OCS Alumni Reunion. As an association we strive to honor the history and traditions of the Officer Candidate Program of the United States Army. We work hard to promote greater recognition and appreciation for the military profession, especially the men and women who have trained at the U.S. Army Officer Candidate Schools since 1941. Our organization links those who served our Nation from the every modern generation. They represent all ranks, from Generals to 2d Lt's. Warriors all! They represent a seventy-three year tradition with some of the finest officers in the United States Army. Leaders all! Several years ago, we had the privilege and honor of presenting a 22 year old candidate who was just about to graduate, to Major (Ret) William B. Mounsey, 94, who graduated from OCS with Class Nr. 1-41. That was the very first OCS Class. Last year, Senior Officer Candidate Alysha Craven at 20 (the very next day she turned 21) was the youngest candidate; and a very Senior Alumni Candidate, Major General (Ret) Maurice Kendall, 92, performed the traditional ceremony. MG Kendall, an Infantry Officer, graduated from OCS in 1943 with OCS Class 214-43, only a year and a half after OCS started. He was highly decorated, to include a couple of Silver Stars. Other notable alumni honored since the tradition began are, Major (Ret) Jack Marshall, who graduated with OCS Class 3-41, and Major (Ret) Allen Metzger, 92, OCS Class 5-42. These were inspiring moments as the youngest candidate saluted and shook hands with the oldest alumni candidate. This moment represents two candidates reaching across over 7 decades of history, tradition, and lineage of over 200,000 candidates who became some of the finest officers in The United States Army. We are celebrating that moment once again at the 2015 OCS HOF/OCS Alumni Reunion Banquet in April.

IF YOU ARE A SENIOR ALUMNI OCS CANDIDATE AND ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND THE REUNION, WE NEED TO IDENTIFY YOU SO THAT YOU CAN BE RECOGNIZED AT THE BANQUET. THE INDIVIDUAL WHO GRADUATED LONGEST AGO WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE TRADITIONAL CEREMONY. PLEASE PLACE YOUR AGE AND CLASS NUMBER ON THE REGISTRATION FORM AND WE'LL CONTACT YOU UPON CHECK IN AT THE HOTEL.

OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOLS HALL OF FAME - CLASS OF 2015

On Tuesday, January 27, 2015, the OCS Hall of Fame Selection Board met at Fort Benning, GA, to consider 37 applicants for the 2015 Hall of Fame. The Selection Board consisted of: The Commanding General of the Maneuver Center of Excellence, Representatives from the Infantry School and Armored School, the Commander of the 199th Brigade (the unit the Officer Candidate Battalion is assigned to), the Commander of the OCS Battalion, and the President and VP (Admin) of the OCS Alumni Association.

The Treasurer of the OCS Alumni Association was permitted to observe. The Board proceedings are in the sign off process and the notification packet should be sent to those selected by mail, the first week in March 2015. Included in the packet is a letter from the OCS Alumni Association congratulating the selected individuals and inviting them stay at the DoubleTree hotel and join the OCS Reunion Activities also. Of course, the selected individuals are invited to join the OCS Alumni Association as well. Congratulations OCS Hall of Fame, Class of 2015, or as the modern Army says,.... 'Hooooaaahhh.'

2015 REUNION HOTEL RESERVATION

Reunion Hotel | Doubletree Hotel
Make your reservations today!

CLICK BELOW TO BOOK YOUR ROOM!

http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/C/CSGDDTD-ALU-20150425/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Group Name: OCS Alumni 2015 Group

Code: ALU

Check-in: 26-APR-2015 Check-out: 30-APR-2015

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Columbus

5351 Sidney Simons Blvd

Columbus, Georgia 31904

Phone Number: 706-327-6868

Alumni Notes ...

• We are creating a Speakers Bureau for OCS classes to facilitate speakers who are FREE of charge and can appear at formals and graduations. If this is something you are interested in volunteering your time to, in order further inspire these young men and women, please send a bio to Jan@OcsAlumni.org

• Check out these OCS yearbooks!

<http://www.benning.army.mil/library/content/Virtual/OCS/index.htm>

• **Coming Soon!**

OCS Alumni Store!

Featuring class rings, polo shirts, baby gifts, golf items & more!!

• Have you or an OCS friend received currently/or will receive an award? Have Interesting news - suggestions for stories? Send your information to Jan@OcsAlumni.org and you may be featured in an upcoming newsletter!

• Planning a mini class reunion? Send us your information to Jan@OcsAlumni.org and we will post on the website and social media outlets!

SOCIAL MEDIA



Facebook Profile Name:
OCS Alumni Association



Instagram Profile Name:
OCSAlumni



LinkedIn Profile Name:
US Army OCS Alumni Association



Twitter Handle:
@OCSAlum

VISIT THE ALL NEW WEBSITE OCSAlumni.org

Use your existing email and member number from the previous site or create your new profile. It is easy to recover your old profile or start a new one. Email info@ocsalumni.org for assistance. We are standing by to help. Share profiles, find old friends, and make new ones!



**Service is more than your duty.
It's who you are.**

If's who we are, too. Founded by military members to serve military families, USAA understands military life. We've served military members, veterans, who have honorably served, and their eligible family members for more than 90 years so you can be sure we understand your unique needs. And, just as you know what it means to serve our country, we're proud to serve you. USAA is free to join. You've earned it.

Learn more: Call us at 800-531-8521 or visit us online.

OCSAA Thanks USAA for their support!

If you're interested in being a sponsor for the 2015 Hall of Fame and/or Patterson Award Dinner, please contact Jan Hyneman at 706-593-2938 or Jan@ocsalumni.org



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